

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

St. Patrick Vietnamese community welcomes lunar new year



GREG BASTIN

Verbite Father Chau Pham is shown with the Tree of Spring at St. Patrick Church, Fort Wayne, as Bishop John M. D'Arcy celebrated Mass with the Vietnamese population and welcomed the Lunar New Year of the Rat Feb. 3. The Tree of Spring is a decoration adorned with red envelopes with inspirational messages to guide people through the year ahead.

Bishop D'Arcy stresses importance of sharing the faith

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne is a melting pot of cultures, and the Vietnamese lunar year celebration is an example of the changing face of Catholicism.

St. Patrick Parish, located at 2129 South Harrison St., caters to the Latino, Vietnamese and Anglo-American population in Fort Wayne's south side neighborhood. Walking into the Lyceum building, the juxtaposition of cultures was evident. Signs in both Spanish and English welcomed visitors.

On this particular Sunday, Feb. 3, however, a sign reading "Hoi Cho Tet" on the sidewalk in front advertised the celebration of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year. Tet marks the beginning of a new year on the lunar calendar and the beginning of spring. The New Year begins on the first night of the first moon after the sun enters Aquarius. This is sometime between Jan. 21 and Feb. 19 on the solar calendar. Sunday's festivities, organized by Father Chau Pham, pastor and a priest of the Society of the Divine Word, marked the beginning of the New Year for the Vietnamese community at St. Patrick's.

"The Lunar New Year of the Rat of 2008 is the biggest and greatest celebration during the New Year to the Asian people and especially to the Vietnamese," Father Pham wrote in a letter. "This is a time for all Vietnamese people to give their thanksgivings to God for what they have received from the past year and for what they will be granted in this new year."

Inside the Lyceum, families enjoyed traditional

LUNAR, PAGE 20

Rites of Election, Calling of Candidates celebrated in diocese

BY VINCE LABARBERA

The Rites of Election of Catechumens and Calling of Candidates will be celebrated in the cathedrals in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend the next two Sundays.

On Feb. 10, the First Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election will take place in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne at 2:30 p.m. On Feb. 17, the Second Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election will be held in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, also at 2:30 p.m.

Catechumens (those unbaptized) are preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of initiation — baptism, confirmation and Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil. Candidates (those baptized in another faith tradition) are preparing to receive confirmation and/or Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

During the liturgy, each catechumen/can-

didate and their sponsor will be presented for recognition to Bishop John M. D'Arcy, ordinary of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The catechumens and candidates are from local and area parishes of the diocese. All together, 550 to 600 catechumens and candidates from throughout the diocese — along with their sponsors, families and guests — are expected to attend the liturgies.

Prior to the ceremony, many of the catechumens and candidates will take part in an optional rite in their respective parishes that same weekend called the Parish Celebration for Sending Catechumens for Election and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop. The catechumens will sign their names in a Book of the Elect that will be available for Bishop D'Arcy to sign at the end of the Rite of Election — often referred to as the Enrollment of Names. Each candidate also is included in this rite but, out of respect for the validity of their baptism, normally do not sign the book.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Elmer Danch, a Serra Club of South Bend's founder 60 years ago, reminisces about the organization. Story on page 5.



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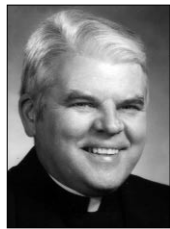
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Bishop encourages renewal, gift subscription to Today's Catholic



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

St. Patrick's: A church that has always welcomed the newcomer

I was off to St. Patrick, Fort Wayne, on a wintry Sunday for Mass with our beloved Vietnamese Catholics. There was a large crowd. Most were Catholics, but Father Chau Pham, the devoted pastor, told me that a few who were present were Buddhist. Some came from as far away as South Bend. The Mass was in both Vietnamese and English. Some of these people, the older ones, came from their native country by boat with great fear. They thought the next wave might be the end, and they hung on to their fragile boats raising their hearts in prayer.

Others came more recently by plane. They settled here and are a strong part of our diocese now. I met two young women who graduated from Marian High School and then went on to college. Some are married and working in professions. There were several young children who were students at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne.

A strong choir sang in their native language. No, I have not learned any of the very difficult Vietnamese language, but I did learn how to say "Happy New Year."

That was the occasion of my visit, the opening of the New Year. In the Vietnamese culture, it is a family event.

We remember that land and how it was ravaged by war. Father Chau said that the situation there is improved. However, there is not full religious freedom. They are building churches and Mass is being said, but permission is required from the Vietnamese government.

Waves of newcomers

St. Patrick was there looking down from his traditional position. He must have thought of the Irish whom he welcomed at this church well over 100 years ago and the Latin Americans who come from the south, Mexico mostly but other places as well; such as, Guatemala and Colombia and before that Cuba. But they come here to hear the word of God and receive the Eucharist. The prayerfulness, the song and their devotion was very beautiful. This is a people that believe in education and training. Family life is very strong. They were first converted by a Portuguese priest in the 16th century. Later, there was great evangelization by French missionaries. Now they are members of the beloved old St. Patrick Catholic Church in Fort Wayne, and it was

a joy to spend a wintry afternoon with them and see how at home they are at St. Patrick's.

We are most grateful to the Society of Divine Word, a congregation I knew well in my native New England, for giving us Father Chau as pastor.

Father Daryl Rybicki, who is the vicar for the area, was with us for concelebration. He has frequently worked for the pastoral care of minority groups in both South Bend and Fort Wayne. Father Eloy, who gives pastoral care to the Hispanics, also concelebrated.

A special gift

In many dioceses, and if I am not mistaken in every diocese in this state except our own, the diocesan newspaper has a mandate. What does that mean? It means that each parish is required to see that the newspaper gets into the hands of every single family. In some cases, it might be a mandate of 80 percent. This places another financial burden on the parish in the sense that if the people do not subscribe, the newspaper is delivered to the home anyway, and the parish must pay for it.

I have resisted that here. Our priests work so hard on the Annual Bishop's

**Our newspaper has won many awards
from the Catholic Press Association.**

**It gives news from up and down the diocese
and throughout the world.**

Appeal. Already we are close to \$5.4 million in the current appeal, and we hope to equal last year's, which was our second highest. Indeed, many parishes make it their annual fundraiser, because everything over their goal is returned to the parish. So I have always relied upon our pastors to urge their people to subscribe and have been reluctant to place a further burden on parishes.

Our newspaper has won many awards from the Catholic Press Association. It gives news from up and down the diocese and throughout the world. It reports regularly on Pope Benedict XVI. Controversies in and out of the church are reported fairly. Yet it only enters about 25 percent of our homes. If we could bring that up to even 35 percent, then our operation would be in the black. Everyone can help by giving one gift subscription to a family member or a friend.

The Rite of Election and the beginning of Lent

The next two Sundays, first in Fort Wayne and then in South Bend, we welcome the beautiful Rite of Election for those who are preparing for baptism at the

Easter Vigil and those other Christians already baptized who are preparing to enter the Catholic Church. It is one of the great moments in the life of the local church.

It is one of the spiritual measures of the parish — to be able to attract people to the church. We usually welcome over 500 people each year in these two services. But some are also received into the church at other times throughout the year. A parish draws people in many ways. A central way is the holy and prayerful and faithful celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharist should be celebrated with song and prayerful silence and homilies, which speak not of the priest's own faith and prayers and point not to the priest himself, but to Jesus Christ. Always liturgical documents must be faithfully followed.

Another means is when there are significant laity involved in the work of the parish. I always believe that a large portion of the RCIA talks should be given by the priest. Although a well-trained lay catechist is also appropriate. But never without the priest, who should always give some of the instructions.

When a number of laity are involved in the various apostolates and ministries of the parish, and most of all when the pastor is accessible, visible and approachable, all these things help a parish become a place of evangelization.

Evangelization is not only the seeking of those to be drawn to the faith, but it also involves seeking the Catholics — and they are many — who have stopped going to Mass or have drifted to other churches.

And then the young people

An often forgotten point we are finding is that where there is a strong outreach to young people, that very ministry becomes an instrument in drawing adults to Christ. So I look forward with joy to these two services. As always in this diocese, we do everything twice; but it is a privilege and a joy.

I am off now to Holy Angels Cathedral in Gary, Indiana, for the 25th anniversary of the episcopal ordination of Bishop Dale Melczek, a good friend who has been a devoted pastor of that diocese for many years. Holy Angels was also the parish that gave us a number of priests; such as, Msgr. Bill Lester, Father Tom O'Connor, Father Jim O'Connor and Father Ed Narcowich. I will pray for them all.

Alas, the Patriots went down; but the Giants deserved the game. They played a little harder, as the whole country stopped to watch this annual rite.

A blessed Lent to everyone. I will see you all next week.

CRS worker says agencies won't evacuate amid rising tension in Kenya

BY FRANCIS NJUGUNA

NAIROBI, Kenya (CNS) — A church aid worker said Catholic aid agencies in Kenya will not evacuate their staff, but he expressed concern over the increasing insecurity across the country.

"We will continue to keep a close eye on security issues and take action accordingly," said Ken MacLean, Kenya country representative for the U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services.

MacLean told Catholic News Service Jan. 30 that "CRS has staff members monitoring the situation in four of the most affected towns — Kisumu, Nakuru, Eldoret and Kericho."

Insecurity is at times preventing field visits, he said. But CRS, Caritas Kenya and the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development will not evacuate their workers, he said. CAFOD is the aid agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales; Caritas Kenya is the local affiliate of Caritas Internationalis, an international umbrella group of Catholic aid agencies.

MacLean added that the Interreligious Forum, with which the Catholic aid groups work, has recommended strongly the implementation of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission with the aim of addressing the underlying issues related to the violence.

"We ask Kenyans to choose peace and patience as the country's leaders resolve the political crisis," he said.

More than 800 people have died and more than 250,000 have been forced from their homes since the Dec. 27 presidential election; international observers claimed the election was rigged.



CNS PHOTO/PETER ANDREWS, REUTERS

Children mill about as women prepare food at a camp for displaced people in Eldoret, Kenya, Feb. 1. More than 250,000 people have been forced from their homes in the violence that occurred following Kenya's Dec. 27 presidential election.

Although some media have reported the violence is related to ethnic tensions, many Kenyans say the violence is related to an economic divide.

In a Jan. 29 statement, CRS said the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance committed more than \$2.8 million for emergency relief and reconciliation activities.

"Relief efforts will reach an estimated 190,000 people, with CRS working directly with church partners and local dioceses to carry out the response as well as coordinating efforts with other international aid agencies and local community-based organizations," CRS said.

Bishop Cornelius Arap Korir of Eldoret told CNS he was concerned with the reported escalation of the violence.

"The humanitarian response from both the Christian and secular world has been very positive. We can at this juncture only hope that this will continue until we

are through with this exercise of feeding and caring for the needy," he said.

Peter Kimeu, CRS' regional technical adviser for partnership, global solidarity and justice, said: "The violence must stop now, and President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga are key to stopping this violence. They must each reach out to their followers and demand an immediate end to all violent acts."

Kimeu told CNS Jan. 30, "These two leaders must also take extreme care in their statements, choosing words that can pave a road toward peace instead of inciting Kenyans with new questions, frustrations, anger and resulting violence."

Kimeu expressed hope that political leaders and their mediation teams would be truly committed to the peaceful resolution of Kenya's crisis. Former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has been working with both sides.

Sainthood cause opened for founder of first black parish in Brooklyn

BY ED WILKINSON

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (CNS) — The process to declare a former Brooklyn pastor a saint has begun.

The name of Msgr. Bernard Quinn, founding pastor of St. Peter Claver Parish in Bedford-Stuyvesant, the first parish established for black Catholics in the Brooklyn Diocese, will be sent to Rome to be considered for canonization.

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn officially approved the effort Jan. 13.

The same day Auxiliary Bishop Guy A. Sansaricq was the main celebrant of a Mass at St. Peter Claver Church. The congregation of 500 people included members of the Quinn family.

Joining him at the altar were retired Brooklyn Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, and Father Paul Jervis, the current pastor and main promoter of Msgr. Quinn's cause.

Another concelebrant was Msgr. William Rodgers, 85, a member of St. Peter Claver Parish who became the first black accepted into Brooklyn's diocesan seminary and the first to be ordained for the Brooklyn Diocese.

"It is time to begin the final review," said Father Jervis, who wrote "Quintessential Priest," the story of the life of Msgr. Quinn. "He is in a class all by himself. Join me in promoting his cause with interest and zeal. Today's Mass is a powerful springboard to launch the cause."

Father Jervis explained that the request for sainthood along with the details of Msgr. Quinn's life will be sent to the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes, which will study the merits of the case.

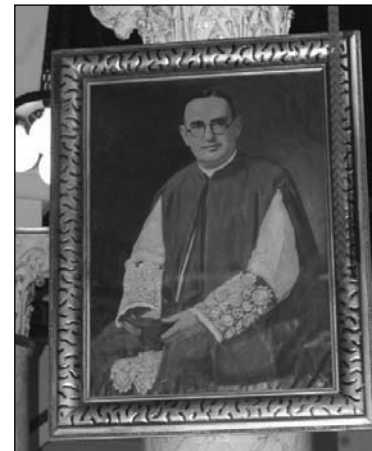
But, Father Jervis warned, there has to be an enduring interest. "Rome wants to see that you are interested," he said as he urged people to participate in promoting the good works of Msgr. Quinn with prayer and participation.

In the front row at St. Peter Claver Church were members of Msgr. Quinn's family, including his grandniece, Katherine, and her family, who flew in from St. Louis. Her grandfather, Charles Quinn, was Msgr. Quinn's brother.

On display in the church were items that belonged to Msgr. Quinn and have been preserved by members of the family, as well as newspaper articles about his life.

A clipping from *The New York Times* described the scene of the funeral held at St. Peter for Msgr. Quinn in 1940 — 8,000 people lined the streets around the church.

As a young priest, Father Quinn was drawn to serve black Catholics. When he approached Bishop Charles McDonnell about starting a parish for blacks in Bedford-Stuyvesant, he was told that recruiting chaplains to serve U.S. soldiers in World War I was a



CNS PHOTO/ED WILKINSON, THE TABLET

A painting of Msgr. Bernard Quinn, the late founding pastor of St. Peter Claver Church in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, N.Y., hangs from a pillar in the church during a Jan. 13 Mass celebrating the beginning of the process for his possible sainthood. Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn has officially approved the effort.

priority for the diocese.

He volunteered and served in France, where he nurtured a devotion to St. Therese of Lisieux, known as the Little Flower of Jesus. He visited the house where she was raised and became the first priest to celebrate Mass there at a time when it was a little-known shrine.

He later began a novena in honor of the Little Flower at St. Peter Claver. It brought together hundreds of white and black Catholics, in what Father Jervis called "the only place in the United States where whites joined their black brethren week after week in prayer, even though it was a time when blacks and whites were separate."

Father Quinn returned from the war in ill health after being gassed with poison. He suffered poor health for the rest of his life.

Upon his arrival back in the diocese, he received permission from Bishop McDonnell to start a new parish for black people in Brooklyn. He worked with the Colored Catholic Club and established the parish of St. Peter Claver in what had been a Protestant church that later was turned into a warehouse depot.

In his homily, Father Jervis referred to a pastoral letter written by Msgr. Quinn to the people of St. Peter Claver. In it, he said, "I love you, I am proud of every one of you, and I would willingly shed to the last drop my life's blood for the least among you."

In later years, Msgr. Quinn referred to himself as "an adopted son of the Negro race."

"In his quest to be an adopted son of the Negro race, he did not forsake his own Irish background," Father Jervis said. "But he was able to get under the skin of the black race. He could feel the pain of injustice and indignity that was systemic in society. Bernard Quinn identified his life with blacks without being the skin color of black."

AND THE WINNERS ARE ...



DON CLEMMER

Msgr. J. William Lester draws recipients for tickets to the April 20 papal Mass at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend received 150 tickets to the Mass and distributed the tickets by placing the many requests into a lottery for Msgr. Lester, with the assistance of Linda Furge of the diocesan Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry, to draw randomly and anonymously.

Pope asks religious to teach laypeople to appreciate Bible

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Marking the feast of the Presentation of the Lord and the annual celebration of the World Day for Consecrated Life, Pope Benedict XVI asked members of religious orders to help laypeople draw closer to the Bible.

The pope said that, as the Catholic Church prepares for the October world Synod of Bishops on the Bible, consecrated men and women should help other members of the church learn to pray with the Bible and to draw direction for their lives from the Scriptures.

The pope asked the consecrated men and women to "nourish your day with prayer, meditation and listening to the word of God. You who have familiarity with the ancient practice of 'lectio divina' (praying with Scripture) should help the faithful appreciate it in their own daily lives."

'It's the power of Christ working in our souls as we just sit before the Lord'

Sister Clare Marie explains eucharistic adoration to young people in The Rock

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — If your best friend was calling, would you hesitate to answer? From the Blessed Sacrament of the altar, Jesus calls us to visit him, yet how many of us hesitate in our response?

Felician Sister Clare Marie Klein, a middle school teacher at South Bend's Holy Family School, spoke about the importance of eucharistic adoration with a group of teenagers and young adults at a recent Sunday evening meeting of The Rock.

The Rock is a youth group made up of young people from Holy Family, Corpus Christi and St. John the Baptist parishes.

The young sister, not so far-removed in age from her audience, used a PowerPoint demonstration to illustrate her thoughts.

Sister Clare described eucharistic adoration as more than just a prayer.

"It is an invitation," said Sister Clare, "to experience a presence, beyond our wildest imagining. It's not just another hour, but a commitment to love, to trust, to behold the beauty of the Lord and allow him to love us."

Following a video clip, which showed many different images of the Blessed Sacrament set to music, Sister Clare discussed the connection between the sacrifice and the sacrament of the Mass.

"In Mass we have the chance to unite our lives in Christ," explained Sister Clare. "The Eucharist is a sacrifice inasmuch as it is offered up, and a sacra-



DIANE FREEBY

Sister Clare Marie Klein and Saint Joseph's High School junior Chet Boal discuss where to find sheet music online for use during eucharistic adoration.

ment inasmuch as it is received. In the Mass we offer ourselves to God, and God gives himself to us. The Mass will be fruitful in the measure of our surrender to the Father."

Sister Clare then asked the group if anyone had read Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God is Love"). As a very few hands went up, she illustrated another connection.

"We cannot love unless we've first been loved," said Sister Clare. "We cannot give unless we've first been given. We have to accept the love and the gift from God. We need to spend time

with the Word so we can love and give."

But why should teenagers, young adults, or anyone for that matter, go to eucharistic adoration? After all, it is not required by the church.

"Don't let that minimize its importance," stressed Sister Clare. "You can maintain a relationship with a friend by visiting them once a week, but doesn't that friendship deepen if you spend more time ... share more experiences with that friend? This is just what we do at adoration."

During a second video clip, the essence of the Catholic faith

was contrasted by the words sung by Christian rock band, Mercy Me. "I Can Only Imagine" brought home Sister Clare's point about making time for eucharistic adoration.

"You don't have to imagine, because we have Christ present here and now in the Blessed Sacrament," she said.

She challenged the young people, who today are busier than ever, to look at their priorities. If anything, it is because of this busyness that young people especially benefit from adoration.

"It's a simple form of prayer," said Sister Clare. "Remember, it's an invitation from the Lord. There's no manual, but it's the power of Christ working in our souls as we just sit before the Lord."

Gregory, a 20-year-old member of The Rock, said he has attended eucharistic adoration often with his family while growing up.

"For me, the most striking part of sister's talk was that you don't have to imagine."

Rachel, a 15-year-old freshman at Saint Joseph's High School said she tries to attend adoration once a month with members of The Rock, and other times with the Antioch youth group.

"It is really helpful for me," said Rachel. "I had been struggling with some things, and I gazed up and felt the Holy Spirit. I realized I need the Holy Spirit."

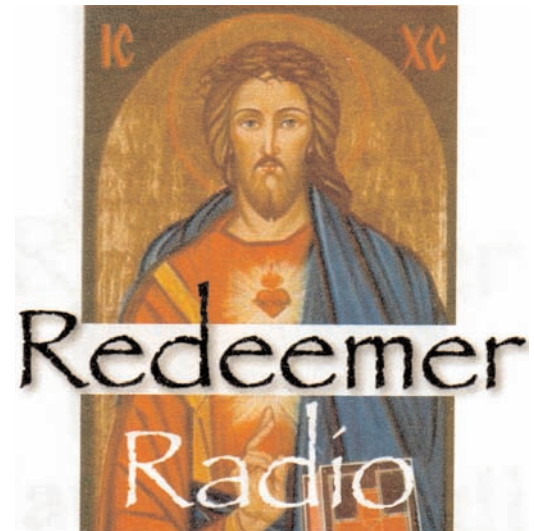
Area young people are invited to join The Rock youth group for adoration at Corpus Christi in South Bend Saturday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. An open gym and pizza will follow.

Corpus Christi offers eucharistic adoration every day from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., and after the last Mass on Sunday morning.

Toward the end of Sister Clare's last video presentation, viewers were given some advice before the credits rolled. It read, "Call your local Catholic Church and ask about eucharistic adoration. Don't hesitate. Jesus is waiting for you."

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South Bend Serrans celebrate 60th year

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

SOUTH BEND — Serrans, priests, religious brothers, sisters and many other supporters from around the state gathered at the provincial house of the Sisters of St. Francis in Mishawaka on Jan. 31, in the midst of a terrible snowstorm, to celebrate 60 years since Serra's beginning in South Bend and the first chartered club in the state of Indiana. Sixty years ago, 21 men met at the old Oliver Hotel in South Bend to organize a Serra Club that has been active ever since. This was remarkably only 13 years after four laymen, whose main objective was to encourage priestly vocations, started the first club in Seattle, Wash.

The anniversary began with a holy hour for vocations in front of the Blessed Sacrament and a Mass celebrated by diocesan Vocation Director Father Bernard Galic who filled in for Bishop John M. D'Arcy who was unable to attend. A luncheon and special program followed.

After the meal, first on the agenda was Serran Esther Cyr, who spoke of Serra's mission to pray, foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. She then read a proclamation from the State of Indiana congratulating the club for 60 years of outstanding service.

President-elect Dick Waroski also shared a congratulatory message from Glenn Tebbe, the executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference.

Afterwards the district director of Region 7, Tom Hauslanden, recognized Elmer Danch and Bernie Bauer, two of the founding fathers who were among the 21 men at the first meeting. He thanked them for all their years of prayer and service and presented them with 50-year pins from

Serra International, jokingly saying that there was no pin for 60 years since they were the first to achieve that status. They were also presented with Serra medals that had been recently blessed by Pope Benedict.

Father Galic then read a letter from Bishop D'Arcy. "Your mission of praying, promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life is of great importance to the spiritual welfare of our diocese," said the bishop.

After Father Galic, Elmer Danch took the microphone and offered a few remarks. "Why have we lasted so long is because we reach out and touch people. And why we touch people is because we are fired by the Holy Spirit," he said.

Danch spoke about the various programs sponsored by the club and in particular its recognition of altar servers. He was quick to add that two of them, Mike Heintz and Darryl Rybicki, went on and became priests of the diocese. He also went on to tell about the club's support of Holy Cross Sister Michele Toepp, daughter of Serrans John and Marilyn, who works with needy children in Mexico.

Finally, district governor, Dick Dornbos, presented Padre Serra Exemplary Awards to high school students, Meredith Alexander, Christopher Brennan, Thomas Everett and Elaine Polovick.

Dornbos also announced the All American Conference of Serrans from around the country that is to be hosted by the club at the Hilton Conference Center at Saint Mary's, June 18 to 22.

Father Paul McCarthy, the club's new chaplain, stressed the church's need to provide an atmosphere of holiness where young people will answer God's call. He then led the group in a final prayer.



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Thomas Everett, Elaine Polovick, Meredith Alexander and Christopher Brennan, high school students from Saint Joseph's and Marian, were the recipients of the Padre Serra Exemplary Awards. The award was presented at the 60th anniversary celebration of the South Bend Serra Club on Jan. 31.

Son's call to priesthood becomes vocation for parents, pope says

ROME (CNS) — A son's call to the priesthood often becomes a vocation for his parents as well, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"You were probably more surprised than anyone about what happened and is happening to your sons," the pope told the parents of students at Rome's major seminary Feb. 1.

"Trying to understand them and following their progress, you, too, dear fathers and mothers, often have found yourselves involved in a journey in which your faith is reinforced and renewed," he said.

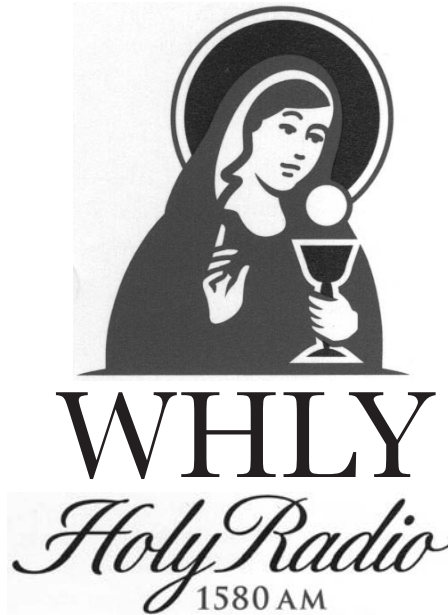
Pope Benedict led an evening prayer service at the Rome seminary in the presence of the staff, the students and many of their parents.

He told the parents that he knew many of them had another future in mind for their sons, and he imagined they had often reflected on the earliest signs of their sons' vocations or "in some

cases, on the contrary, on the years in which the life of your son seemed far from the church."

Pope Benedict said that now the parents are "participants in the marvelous adventure of your sons. In fact, even if it can seem that most people do not find a priest's life interesting, in reality it is the most interesting and most necessary adventure for the world, the adventure of demonstrating and making present the fullness of life to which all aspire."

Just before leaving the seminary, Pope Benedict told the seminarians that the bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, making their "ad limina" visits during the week to report on the status of their dioceses, had told him that although half the people in the Eastern part of the country claim to be agnostic "they have a great thirst for God and want to know him; they cannot live this way."



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- THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE ANY FAITH, AND DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD

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-Pope John Paul the Great (Redemptoris Missio)

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Pope, at Angelus address, appeals for peace in Kenya, Colombia, Iraq

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI appealed for “a rapid solution” to the violence unfolding in Kenya, an end to extortion and kidnappings in Colombia, and the seemingly endless “wickedness” carried out in Iraq. During his weekly Angelus address Feb. 3, the pope urged the thousands of pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square to join him in praying for “reconciliation, justice and peace” in Kenya. He said he hoped talks under way would “be successful and lead — thanks to the good will and cooperation of everyone — to a rapid solution of the conflict that has already caused too many victims.” More than 800 people have died and more than 250,000 have been forced from their homes since a Dec. 27 presidential election that international observers claimed was rigged. Pope Benedict also expressed his concern for the people of Iraq, who have been so “harshly tested.” Nearly 100 people were killed and up to 200 wounded Feb. 1 when two mentally disabled women reportedly were used as suicide bombers at two crowded outdoor markets in Iraq.

Mexican founder of Legionaries of Christ dies at age 87

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Father Marcial Maciel Degollado, founder of the Legionaries of Christ, died Jan. 30 at the age of 87 in the United States. Father Alvaro Corcuera, director general of the Legionaries, and members of Regnum Christi, an apostolic Catholic movement associated with the Legionaries, announced on the order’s Web site that Father Maciel had died and that in keeping with his wishes “the funeral will be celebrated in an atmosphere of prayer, in a simple and private manner.” Father Maciel, who founded the Legionaries in his native Mexico in 1941, was notified by the Vatican in 2006 that he could not publicly practice his priestly ministries after the Vatican investigated claims of sexual abuse made by former seminarians of the order. The Vatican also said it would not begin a canonical process against him because of his age and poor health. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith’s decision was approved by Pope Benedict XVI, though it was considered too lenient by Father Maciel’s accusers, now in their 50s and 60s.

Argentine officials urge Vatican to OK divorcee as representative

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (CNS) — The Argentine government has urged the Vatican to approve former Justice Minister Alberto Iribarne as the new ambassador to the Holy See amid allegations that his candidacy has been blocked because he is divorced. Iribarne, 57, was

MEN READ COLOR EDITION OF L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO



CNS PHOTO/MAX ROSSI, REUTERS

Men read the first color edition of *L'Osservatore Romano* at a newspaper stand outside St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican Feb. 2. The official Vatican newspaper, under the leadership of a new editor, underwent a makeover aimed at improving its content and layout.

appointed ambassador in December by President Cristina Kirchner, but the Vatican had not approved the appointment as of Feb. 4. Passionist Father Ciro Benedettini, vice director of the Vatican press office, told Catholic News Service Jan. 27 the Vatican had no comment. Speaking to reporters in Buenos Aires, Justice Minister Anibal Fernandez described Iribarne as an “exemplary person” and said “no one should ever be disqualified for having suffered the misfortune of an unsuccessful marriage.”

Evolution and creation: A recurring papal theme, often misunderstood

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican newspaper ran an illustration of a chimpanzee in late January. The odd thing about this chimp was that he was urbanely dressed in a sweater, tie and straw hat and looked as if he might be striding across the lawn at Oxford. The image was a grabber, though it didn’t have much to do with the accompanying article, a lengthy exposition of how evolution can be considered a means of divine creation. “Evolution and creation cannot be in opposition. God can have created a world with the capacity to change and evolve through natural causes,” it said. The article, by Italian biologist Fiorenzo Facchini, was another element of a debate that has kept percolating to the surface under Pope Benedict XVI. In commentaries, papal speeches, scientific conferences and philosophical exchanges, the Vatican has been focusing more and more on the relationship between God and evolution.

Italian cardinal hopes synod helps draw Catholics closer to Scripture

ROME (CNS) — Italian Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini, the retired archbishop of Milan and biblical scholar who repeatedly asked for a world Synod of Bishops on the Bible, said he hopes October’s synod on the topic will focus on practical pastoral initiatives to bring Catholics closer to the Scriptures. The Oct. 5-26 synod should be “a pastoral discernment” aimed at helping the church offer Catholics “authentic itineraries of worship, prayer and service” based on the Bible, he said in an article published in *La Civiltà Cattolica*, a Jesuit journal reviewed by the Vatican prior to publication. Cardinal Martini said the synod also should be an “examination of conscience” of how well the church has put into practice the teachings of the Second Vatican Council’s document on divine revelation, “*Dei Verbum*.” The cardinal said he hoped the synod would avoid “prolonged and abstract” discussions on matters already dealt with by the Second Vatican Council, such as the relationship between Scripture and tradition, or an examination of particular methods of biblical interpretation and scholarship.

Vatican official: Church should reconsider Communion in the hand

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments said he thinks it is

time for the Catholic Church to reconsider its decision to allow the faithful to receive Communion in the hand. Archbishop Albert Malcolm Ranjith Patabendige Don, the Vatican official, made the suggestion in the preface to a book about the Eucharist by Auxiliary Bishop Athanasius Schneider of Karaganda, Kazakhstan. Bishop Schneider’s book, “*Dominus Est: Reflections of a Bishop from Central Asia on Holy Communion*,” was published in Italian in late January by the Vatican Publishing House, though some of it had been released earlier in the Vatican newspaper. In the newly released preface to the book, Archbishop Ranjith wrote, “The Eucharist, bread transubstantiated into the body of Christ and wine into the blood of Christ — God in our midst — must be received with awe and an attitude of humble adoration.”

Pope names Auxiliary Bishop Tong as Hong Kong coadjutor

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Auxiliary Bishop John Tong Hon of Hong Kong as coadjutor bishop of the diocese. As coadjutor, Bishop Tong, 68, will automatically succeed Hong Kong Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-kian upon his retirement or death. On Jan. 13, Cardinal Zen turned 76, one year past the age at which bishops are required by canon law to submit their resignation. Bishop Tong is considered to be a specialist on the church in mainland China. For the past 28 years, he has headed the Holy Spirit Study Center, which studies and documents the church in China. The

bishop also has been a close collaborator of Cardinal Zen since 1996, when Pope John Paul II named them both as bishops of the Hong Kong Diocese. The diocese acts as an essential link to the church in mainland China, he said in the statement.

Up to 22 U.S. bishops could retire for age reasons in 2008

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With the Jan. 24 retirement of 77-year-old Bishop John J. Leibrecht of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Mo., up to 22 U.S. bishops, including four cardinals, could retire because of age this year. There are 14 active U.S. bishops, including four cardinals, who have already turned 75. Seven more will celebrate their 75th birthday in 2008. At age 75 bishops are requested to submit their resignation to the pope. Cardinal Adam J. Maida of Detroit turned 75 March 18, 2005. Cardinal Bernard F. Law, archbishop of St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome and a cardinal since 1985, turned 75 Nov. 4, 2006. Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York, whose 75th birthday was April 2, 2007, also celebrated 50 years as a priest last year. Cardinal F. James Stafford, a Baltimore native who marked his 75th birthday July 26, 2007, has been the Vatican’s major penitentiary since 2003. Pope John Paul II often asked cardinals to stay on the job after they reached the age of 75. Pope Benedict XVI has given no indication that he will change that practice. Even when a cardinal retires in his 70s, he remains an active member of the College of Cardinals, eligible to enter a conclave and vote for a new pope, until age 80.

Man held for Mexican cardinal's killing, but church claims cover-up

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — Mexican soldiers detained an alleged hired killer for the 1993 slaying of Guadalajara Cardinal Juan Jesus Posadas Ocampo, but church officials said the arrest is part of a long-standing government cover-up. Alfredo Araujo Avila, known as “Popeye,” was seized at a house in Tijuana Jan. 26 and taken to a high-security prison near Mexico City Jan. 28. Araujo is the 13th person to be arrested in connection with the killing, in which Cardinal Posadas was ambushed and riddled with bullets while he was sitting in his car at the airport in Guadalajara, Mexico’s second-largest city. Gen. German Redondo, commander of military operations in Tijuana, said Araujo has worked as a triggerman for the Arellano Felix drug trafficking cartel for more than two decades, and there has been a warrant out for his arrest for the Cardinal Posadas slaying since 1998. Araujo has links to Southern California gangs and is also wanted in the United States on various charges, Redondo said. However, church officials in Mexico City and Guadalajara said that the government’s case is full of holes.

Decatur pastor, student participate in D.C. march

DECATUR — Brittany Sanders and Father Dave Voors were among 100,000 fellow pro-lifers from around the country as they prayerfully protested the 1973 Supreme Court decision of *Roe v Wade* in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 22. Sanders, a sophomore at Belmont High School, Decatur, and parishioner of St. Mary of the Assumption, wants to have a part in bringing an end to this tragedy of legalized abortion.

A passion for life has been so strongly reinforced at St. Mary's by pastor Father Dave Voors in both his words and in his actions. As several students from St. Mary's planned to travel across the country to defend life, Father Voors was inspired to make the journey with them.

He proudly represented the diocese at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception as he concelebrated Mass with over 400 other priests and bishops at the prayer Vigil for Life opening Mass.

Sanders has joined with fellow teens from St. Mary's who have been inspired to raise awareness about life issues at a local level. They are planning a spring event called "Knock out Abortion" to get more young people involved in the pro-life movement.

eXaLT slated at St. Vincent

FORT WAYNE — A night of exuberant worship to our Lord for the youth or young at heart, eXaLT, will be held Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church. The theme for the evening is "re-LENT-less."

The evening includes contemporary music by Frankie and the Holy Rollers, quality time in the eucharistic presence of Christ and a talk about Lent by Father Jason Freiburger, the presider.

Adult faith formation offered at Decatur

DECATUR — St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur, will be the host parish for Lenten adult course, Growing Closer to Jesus Christ — the Value of Prayer to parishioners and other parishes.

Father David Voors will present the three Tuesday evenings: Feb. 19 and 26 and March 4. The session takes place from 7-9 p.m.

Registration is required: online at www.diocesefwsb.org/OC under Adult Faith Formation or call Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411, e-mail at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

St. Stanislaus plans parish mission Feb. 24-27

NEW CARLISLE — St. Stanislaus Kotska Parish, New Carlisle, will sponsor a parish mission, Feb. 24-27. All members of the parish and friends of the parish are most welcome to attend. The following days and themes of spiritual renewal and prayer are scheduled:

- Sunday, Feb. 24, Holy Cross Father Neil F. Wack, pastor of Christ the King Parish, South Bend, will speak on faith-prayer;
- Monday, Feb. 25, Father James F. Seculoff, pastor St. John

AROUND THE DIOCESE

PASTOR AND STUDENT ATTEND MARCH FOR LIFE IN D.C.



AMBER HEIMANN

Brittany Sanders and Father Dave Voors from St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur were among the diocesan delegates who participated in the national march for life in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 22.

the Baptist Parish, New Haven, will speak on the Christian family as church of the home;

- Tuesday, Feb. 26, Holy Cross Father Paul F. Doyle, on the faculty at the University of Notre Dame, will speak on reconciliation;

- Wednesday, Feb. 27, Bishop John M. D'Arcy will celebrate Mass and speak on Eucharist.

Each prayer service and presentation will begin at 7 p.m. each evening. Morning sessions will begin at 9 a.m. Monday through Wednesday.

Bishop D'Arcy featured on Lenten Radio Retreat series to air on Catholic Comment

FORT WAYNE — On Feb. 10 — the First Sunday of Lent — a six-part Lenten Radio Retreat series will begin airing on the diocese's weekly radio show, "Catholic Comment."

The program can be heard every Sunday morning in the Fort Wayne area on WOWO (1190 AM) at 7:05 a.m. and in the South Bend area on WSBT (960 AM) at 7:30 a.m.

Hosted by Elia Castillo, each 30-minute retreat opens with a sung version of The Lord's Prayer, followed by a homily from a bishop. Next there is a song for meditation and a question-answer segment with the bishop about a Lenten theme based on the Sunday Gospel of that week. The program concludes with a final

blessing from the bishop.

There also is a companion Web site with additional materials for reflection and meditation — as well as the opportunity to listen to a retreat program again or hear it for the first time if a listener was unable to tune-in to the original broadcast — at www.radioretreat.org for English and www.radiofranciscana.org for the Spanish site. Under the guidance of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the programs were produced for the annual Catholic Communications Campaign by Franciscan Communications.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy, of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, is featured on March 9, the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Other bishops on the English programs include: Cardinal Francis George of Chicago (Feb. 2); Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie, Pa. (Feb. 17); Bishop J. Kevin Boland of Savannah, Ga. (Feb. 24); Bishop Richard J. Garcia, Bishop of Monterey, Calif. (March 2); and Bishop Daniel Flores, auxiliary bishop of Detroit (March 16).

St. Vincent to begin Catholicism Revealed series Feb. 11

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne will begin its Catholicism Revealed presentations on Monday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning Feb. 11.

At the first session, discussion

will be based on the following: Which is better? A person who sins 10,000 times and then goes to confession once or a person who sins only once but never goes to confession?

Father Dave Ruppert, pastor of St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne, will discuss the sacrament of reconciliation and the many advantages and inspirations it provides at the Feb. 11 session.

The church is located at 1502 E. Wallen Rd., Fort Wayne.

For questions, call the church office at (260) 489-3537 ext. 207.

St. Joseph, LaGrange, to host Lenten enrichment

LaGRANGE — St. Joseph Parish in LaGrange will hold enrichment evenings during Lent. The Lenten enrichment theme is "Walking with Jesus through Lent" and will be begin at 7 p.m. most evenings.

The speakers and their topics are the following:

- Wednesday, Feb. 13, (Anglo) with Mary Hilger;

- Friday, Feb. 15, (Hispanic) with Enid Roman-DeJesus, director of the Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

There is also a program for children on Wednesday and Friday, Feb. 13 and 15, for children ages four through grade 4. Ginny Kohrman and Jackie Oberhausen will lead the children's program on Wednesday and Ginny Kohrman and Jennifer Kohrman will lead the children's program on Friday.

The theme for this week is "Deepening Our Relationship with God — Meditation and Contemplation."

- Wednesday, Feb. 20, (Anglo) with Mary Pohlman, pastoral associate of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne.

- Friday, Feb. 22, (Hispanic) with Sister Joan Hastreiter, a Sister of St. Joseph, and Manuel Gutierrez.

The theme for this week is "Continual Conversion: A Journey to the Edge"

- Wednesday, Feb. 27, (Anglo) with Father Ed Erpelding, pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Avilla.

- Friday, Feb. 29, (Hispanic) with Holy Cross Father Robert Nogosek, associate pastor of St. Adalbert, South Bend.

The theme for this week is "The Journey of the Cross: The Mystery of Suffering"

- Wednesday, March 5, (Anglo) with Father Bob Lengerich, parochial vicar at St. Pius X, Granger.

- Friday, March 7 (Hispanic) with Holy Cross Father John Steele, staff member of Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame.

The theme for this week is "Reconciliation: The Cross and Resurrection."

- Wednesday, March 12, at 6 p.m. (Anglo and Hispanic) with Father Weaver, pastor of St. Joseph, LaGrange. This is a special gathering with the theme of "Pilgrims Together: A Community of Love" for the parish community that includes a St. Joseph's Table and potluck dinner.

Everyone is invited to participate in the Lenten enrichment at St. Joseph.

Oblates of Blues to perform at St. Vincent de Paul Society fundraiser

SOUTH BEND — The Oblates of Blues, a blues band made up of graduate students and professors in the theology department at the University of Notre Dame, will play a benefit for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County on Friday, Feb. 15.

Music will begin at 8:30 p.m. at Brigid's, an Irish pub in the Waterford Estates Lodge, 52890 Indiana 933 (the old Ramada Inn, just north of the intersection with Cleveland Road).

This is a non-smoking venue for ages 21 and over. Cost at the door is \$10 per person.

Faculty members of the band include Hugh Page Jr., dean of First Year Studies (harmonica and vocals); Tom Guinan, an associate controller for the university with a master's degree in theology from Notre Dame (drums); Larry Sullivan, professor of world religions and a concurrent professor of anthropology (keyboard); and Maxwell Johnson, professor of liturgical studies (guitar and vocals).

Proceeds will go to help the poor and needy, particularly on the west side of South Bend, by funding the society's programs.

Jammin' With Jesus takes faith beyond Mass

BY JUDY BRADFORD

SOUTH BEND — Theresa Shaw, 14, thinks it's important to have "a faith that goes beyond Mass."

A new youth group at Our Lady of Hungary Church called Jammin' With Jesus helps her to experience that. The youth group helps her sort out her relationship with God, and talk about matters of faith with other students.

Made up of students ages 13 to 19, the youth group got started in May of 2007 under the leadership of Heather Mezosi, 32, one of Our Lady's youngest members.

It had been many years — decades, even — since a youth group had met at the church.

Mezosi and other adult leaders of the youth group say there probably was one in the 1950s, but no one can recall one after that.

Father Lawrence Teteh, who has been Our Lady's pastor for six years, was concerned about the lack of a youth group.

"The teen years are typically the time when some people leave the faith, and so there is the need for a group like this."

After its first meeting on May 9, Jammin' With Jesus immediately got involved with the parish's Taste of Hungary Festival last summer. The group has helped with fish fries and spaghetti dinners. Over Christmas, they conducted a gift drive for two local families.

They also helped to carry the

Jubilee Cross, a diocesan project, from St. Casimir Church to Our Lady. Then, they helped deliver it to St. Jude Church. In November, they participated in another diocesan project by hosting the diocesan historical photo exhibit.

At first, they had very little money. Their tie-dyed their own t-shirt designs. But by October of the first year, they had raised enough money to buy t-shirts with a stamped design.

The students say they are having deeper, and more frequent discussions about God.

"I had never really talked about faith with anyone before, and if it weren't for this youth group, I wouldn't ever be talking about it," says Luke Pryke, 14.

"We're also reading 'Dinner With a Perfect Stranger,' as a group and it's a fun way to help us understand our relationship with God," says Julian Schock, 13. "It helps us grow in our belief."

The book, by David Gregory, is about a businessman who

accepts an invitation to join Jesus for dinner. While he thinks it's a prank, he goes ahead and accepts the invitation. Once there, the dinner companion asks him to suspend his disbelief and begin the conversation "as if I am Jesus." As a result, the businessman finds himself talking to Christ about all kinds of deep subjects and also confronts his own spiritual inadequacies.

The group has lighter moments, too. Cassidy Richard, 13, likes the



JUDY BRADFORD

Jammin' With Jesus, a new youth group at Our Lady of Hungary, is for 13 to 19 year olds in the parish. A handful of members got together recently to talk about their activities. Kneeling are Kathy Haverstock and David Leemreis. In the middle, from left are Theresa Shaw, Jonathon Jones and Luke Pryke. In the back row, from left are Damyra Belcher, Cassidy Richard, Julian Schock and Danielle Schweiss. Father Lawrence Teteh, at right in back, helped get the group started.

games they play, like Jesus Jeopardy. "It's a fun way to learn about religion," she says.

Their goals for the future, says Mezosi, include trying to get deeper into the Catholic faith and into social issues. They also want to become more involved in the community and in issues like poverty and healthcare.

"I am very excited about it," says Father Teteh, "and having them be involved in the parish and its social life."

Symposium discusses Thomas Aquinas lessons

Timothy Renick applies lessons to the war in Iraq

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC



TIMOTHY RENICK

A diverse group of people gathered in the Haggard College Center at Saint Mary's to hear an expert on the theology of St. Thomas Aquinas, talk about how adherence to the saint's theory about what justifies war may have prevented the tragedies of the present day war in Iraq.

Timothy Renick, chairperson of the Department of Religious Studies at Georgia State University, was the major speaker for the 11th Symposium on St. Thomas Aquinas sponsored by the College's Joyce McMahon Hank Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology. His talk was entitled Lessons from Aquinas on the War in Iraq.

Renick quoted St. Thomas' important conviction that "we do not seek peace in order to be at war, but we go to war that we have peace. Be peaceful, therefore, in warring so that you may vanquish those whom you war against, and bring them to the prosperity of peace."

To have a just war, St. Thomas believed that certain elements were necessary. It must be started and controlled by the authority or ruler of a state. The war must be fought for a just cause and must be for good or against evil, and afterwards law and order must be restored.

"The value of studying Aquinas in the context of the war in Iraq," says Renick, "is not simply to learn his views about the justice of war, but to discover, through his counsel, ways in which the war might have been averted in the first place."

Renick spoke of six important lessons that come from St. Thomas. The first is that war is only to be entered as the very last resort. Secondly, he believed that "Godly decisions" come from reason and evidence. God does not give us direct answers. We must use the gift

of our intellects. Thirdly, he taught that we can never underestimate the importance of consensus. No one should go into war when the community is divided.

A fourth lesson is that we are responsible for even our unintentional mistakes. If we go to war without definite proof of a wrong, for example, speculation that Saddam Hussein had nuclear and chemical weapons, we are at fault because we did not do our homework.

A fifth lesson from St. Thomas is that deposing tyranny is likely to create new tyrannies. Aquinas says, "Even when action against a tyrant meets with success, this very fact breeds strife and grave discord among the populace either in the moment of rebellion or after his overthrow when opinion in the community is factiously divided as to the new form of government."

Lastly, St. Thomas reminds us that all wrongs cannot be righted (by us). That is God's job. We are not called to save the world.

"He didn't think war was an effective way to spread religion or ideology or, I suspect, to spread democracy," said Renick. "He believed we need to be careful as people how we enter into warfare and not enter it too lightly because he recognized that it can be devastating and what it can do." For example, Renick said that the latest statistics are that 3,834 American military personnel and 655,000 Iraqi citizens have died since the war began, and six out of seven of them have been killed by bombs or bullets. One out of five Iraqi families have lost a member.

The lecture pointed out very clearly that although St. Thomas was a man of the Middle Ages, his theories are still applicable today.

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Bill targeting employers of undocumented workers passes Senate

INDIANAPOLIS — Businesses that hire undocumented immigrants may be fined and eventually put out of business if a measure passed by the Indiana Senate (37-11) clears the Indiana House in the coming weeks.

Senate Bill 335, authored by Sen. Mike Delph (R-Carmel) would penalize businesses that knowingly hire undocumented workers beginning October 2009.

The bill requires the attorney general's office to investigate written complaints of businesses employing illegal immigrants. If the attorney general's office determines that the business violated the law, federal immigration enforcement, the local law enforcement and the county prosecutor are notified. The first offense results in a warning; a second offense could result in a temporary suspended business license; a third offense, all business licenses could be revoked.

Delph said he authored the bill because next to property taxes, illegal immigration is the second most asked about question during town meetings. Frustrated by the federal government's inaction, Delph started looking into what other states were doing and modeled his bill after proposals in other states.

The bill received hours of testimony during a Jan. 16 hearing which drew a crowd of over 50 people before the Senate Pension and Labor Committee. Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) who serves as the official representative for the Indiana bishops and the Catholic Church in Indiana on public policy matters, testified in opposition to the bill.

Holy Cross Father Chris Cox, pastor of St. Adalbert Parish and St. Casimir Parish in South Bend, also testified in opposition to SB

335. Father Cox's parishes are immigrant communities. He regularly celebrates Mass in English, Polish and Spanish. He told the panel that the bill would harm Indiana economically, socially and morally.

Tebbe said, "The Catholic Church does not support illegal immigration, and respects the right of nations to control its borders." However, Tebbe explained that the church is concerned about the effects SB 335 bill would have on employers, immigrant families and children.

Putting hundreds of people out of work will only add to the social concerns in the community. Presently those working are caring for their family needs and contributing to the common good. Tebbe noted that similar laws enacted in Arizona and Oklahoma are having detrimental effects on the economy and on the families of immigrants.

Sen. Karen Tallian (D-Portage) who serves as a member of the Senate Pensions and Labor Committee said she opposed the bill on the floor because employers are left to either enforce Indiana's law or federal law.

"As it stands now, businesses would avoid hiring anyone who might even remotely look like an illegal alien," Tallian said. She was also concerned that no one even asked about the fiscal impact on the state to conduct enforcement.

Sen. Robert Deig (D-Mt. Vernon) said, "I supported the bill as a way to send a message to the federal government to do something about it, but I don't think the bill is going anywhere."

Deig said he didn't think the bill was a racial bill or one intended to discriminate, but rather a bill to tell the federal government to act.

In addition to the ICC, mem-

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

bers of the Hispanic community, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and the Indiana Manufacturers Association opposed the bill.

Those testifying in support of the bill included Hoosiers for Secure Borders, the Indiana Federation for Immigration Reform and Enforcement (IFIRE), and Mike Cutler, of New York, a 30-year immigration agent — all shared various concerns that illegal immigrants contribute to illegal drug trafficking, are a draw on taxpayer supported educational and healthcare services, and are a national security threat.

As a Christian, Delph said he tries to follow the commandment to love God and love his neighbor, even though he admits he fails quite often in doing so. To ease concerns his bill has created in the Hispanic community, Delph said he recently spent three hours addressing the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce both in English and Spanish. Delph doesn't think he changed their minds about the bill, but at least he is not viewed as the enemy.

Delph said he hoped his bill will send a message to Congress and to businesses who hire illegal workers. "This legislation upholds one of the basic and fundamental pillars of democracy, the respect for the rule of law."

If SB 335 passes the Indiana General Assembly, Jose Salinas, Marion County Court Judge, who

also testified in opposition to the bill would be in a position to enforce the law but commented "... when little kids and families go without food ... then something is wrong with that rule of law."

Sen. Thomas J. Wyss (R-Fort Wayne) who serves as a member on the National Homeland Security Advisory Council and on GLOBAL, an advisory council to the U.S Attorney General's office, said he voted against the bill because it is a federal issue.

"The solution needs to be initiated and addressed by Congress," said Wyss. "We don't want to have a patchwork of inconsistent state policies." Wyss said that while he is a strong opponent of illegal immigration, there needs to be a realistic policy which deals with the 12 million undocumented already in this country.

SB 335 now goes to the Indiana House for consideration.

The church position on immigration reform

The Catholic Church does not support illegal immigration. The church respects the right of a nation to control its borders, and the legitimate need for the state to have reasonable requirements for citizenship and its privileges.

The church evaluates public policy issues in light of Sacred Scripture, the teachings of Jesus Christ and from principles derived from our experience of trying to live and apply those teachings for many centuries. The church's consistent life ethic, the belief that all human beings, from conception to natural death, have inherent dignity given to them by God himself is applied to public policy.

The unborn, the elderly, the

death row inmate, the poor, the handicapped, the undocumented immigrant are all human beings deserving respect and dignity. The church approaches the undocumented immigrant not from a legal perspective, but from a moral one.

In Scripture God calls upon his people to care for the alien. "So, you, too, must befriend the alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt." — Deut 10: 17-19. And in chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus identifies with the marginalized and commands us to respond when he said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me".

Update:

Pharmacists' conscience clause bill passes Senate in second vote

Indiana pharmacists are one step closer to being able to follow their conscience and refuse to dispense drugs that result in abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide or mercy killing under a bill which passed (30-18) by the Indiana Senate late Tuesday, Jan. 29, in a second vote. A week earlier, the bill was defeated in deadlock vote (24-24) in the Senate, Jan. 24. However, because the bill failed for a lack of a constitutional majority, the author of the bill Sen. Jeff Drozda (R-Westfield) was able to call the bill back for a second vote with no floor debate. The pharmacists' conscience clause bill, SB 3, now moves to the Indiana House for further consideration.

Indiana legislators to brief area voters at sixth annual pro-life legislative forum

FORT WAYNE — The Allen County Right to Life will sponsor a legislative forum on Saturday, Feb. 9, from 9-10:30 a.m. on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. The forum will be held in Wyneken Hall, Room 8.

Pro-life voters will meet with Indiana legislators to be briefed on legislation pending in the Indiana General Assembly that protects innocent human life. Legislators will report that three pro-life bills have passed the Indiana Senate and have been referred to the House of Representatives for further action.

Senate Bill 3 provides that a pharmacist may not be required to dispense or sell a drug or medical device if the drug or medical device would be used to cause an abortion or to cause the death of a person by means of assisted suicide, euthanasia or mercy killing.

Senate Bill 146 requires abortion providers to inform women about the abortion and related issues including fetal pain and defining when life begins. This bill also requires abortion providers to have admitting privileges at a local hospital.

Senate Bill 187 requires schools to include fetal development in high school health curriculums. Voters and legislators will discuss action necessary to get these bills enacted into law.

Panelists include Indiana Senate Pro Tern David Long, Sen. Dennis Kruse and Indiana State Representatives Matt Bell, Marlin Stutzman and Randy Borrer. U.S. Congressman Mark Souder will report on pro-life legislation at the federal level.

The legislative forum is open to the public. Reservations for this free event are being taken at the Allen County Right to Life office, (260) 471-1849 through Feb. 8.

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK HIGHLIGHTS FR

Educators honored with Light of Learning Award

BY TRISH LINNER

SOUTH BEND — Over 300 people attended the annual Luncheon In Celebration of Excellence in Catholic Education, on Monday, Jan. 28, held in South Bend. The annual luncheon event is hosted by Quality Dining, Inc. and kicks off Catholic Schools Week. In addition, the luncheon honors local educators with the Light of Learning Award. This year 19 awards were presented to South Bend area teachers and administrators. The Fort Wayne luncheon was held Tuesday, Jan. 29.

After introductions by Jeff Jeffers, WNDU-TV sports director and the master of ceremonies for the luncheon, the chairman and CEO of Quality Dining, Inc., Daniel Fitzpatrick, spoke to the audience about the importance of Catholic education for students and the community as a whole. "Catholic faith and Catholic education teach right from wrong and good from evil. Lessons learned in Catholic schools tran-

needed funds for Catholic schools in our area. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the campaign, which has donated over \$7.2 million to local Catholic schools.

"We are very proud to be a part of the You Can Lend a Hand campaign," said Fitzpatrick, "It is a privilege to help Catholic schools succeed."

Holy Cross Father Stephen J. Kempinger, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend also spoke about Catholic education. "Catholic schools are recognized as an institution that helps students achieve their potential both academically and spiritually. Our teachers are a beacon for Christ in the classroom every day. We are proud to recognize 19 educators today for their hard work and dedication."

The teachers that were honored were the following:

In the South Bend area: Trudy Nawara, principal, St. Michael, Plymouth, and St. Patrick, Walkerton; and teachers Cynthia



The South Bend Light of Learning recipients are shown in this photo.



The Fort Wayne Light of Learning recipients are shown in this photo.

scend time," Fitzpatrick said.

He talked about the legacy of his parents and how grateful he and his siblings were for the gift of a Catholic education. "Our parents knew struggle, yet we never went lacking and all received the benefit of attending Catholic schools," he said. "The teachers in our local Catholic schools made a difference then as they do today in the lives of their students. It is a blessing to be able to honor them with this luncheon and the Light of Learning Award."

Quality Dining, Inc., also sponsors the You Can Lend a Hand campaign to raise much-

Esch, Christ the King; Loretta Manley, Corpus Christi; Jeanne DuBois, Holy Family; Melissa Wroblewski, Our Lady of Hungary; Kristi Jones, St. Adalbert; Charlotte Garrison, St. Anthony de Padua; Meghan Beard, St. John the Baptist; Joan Kraska, St. Joseph; Keith Foley, St. Jude; Rhonda Menting, St. Matthew; Judy Buysse, Queen of Peace and Gina Lehmann, St. Bavo, Mishawaka; Elizabeth Camp, St. Thomas, Elkhart; Sister Colleen Bauer, a School Sister of Notre Dame, St. John the Evangelist, Goshen; Mary Spoor, St. Michael, Plymouth; Sharon Roe, Sacred Heart, Warsaw; Mark Kirzeder, Marian

High School, Mishawaka; and Paul Carrier, Saint Joseph's High School.

In the Fort Wayne area: Marsha Jordan, principal, Queen of Angels; and teachers Darcy Quinn, Most Precious Blood; Kurt Homan, Queen of Angels; Sandra Shirmeyer, St. Charles Borromeo; Laura Sturm, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; Tonya Brown, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Diane Merz, St. Jude; Barbara Pinkerton, St. Therese; Nathan Proulx, St. Vincent de Paul; Priscilla Harless, St. Aloysius, Yoder; Becky Hoffman, Benoit Academy; Margaret Beuchel, St. John the Baptist, New Haven; Melissa Wagner, St.

Joseph, Hessen Cassel; Amy Smith, St. Joseph, Monroeville; Susan Rost, St. Louis, Besancon; Franciscan Sister Theresa Renninger, St. Mary, Avilla; Mary Cecava, St. Joseph, Decatur; Angela Grube, Huntington Catholic; Lea Howard, St. Bernard, Wabash; Joseph Garcia, Bishop Dwenger High School; and Gregory A. Gehl, Bishop Luers High School.

The Light of Learning Award was created to give Catholic schools an opportunity to recognize one of their outstanding teachers. The winner from each school receives nominations based on the following: experience, Christian model, student motivation, involvement in extracurricular activities, knowledge of subject matter, and ability to relate to students. Students, parents and faculty are encouraged to nominate their a deserving teacher by writing a description of why they think their nominee should be considered for the Light of Learning Award. Teachers with two or more years of experience are eligible candidates.

All of the award winners seemed humbled by the experience. "I have never felt more honored or appreciated than I do today," said Melissa Wroblewski, who has taught at Our Lady of Hungary School for the last six years. "My students decorated my classroom and made me letters and cards. It really means so much to me that they were excited for me. They are the reason I am here."

Each school represented was very proud of their award-winning teacher. Holy Cross Father John DeRiso from St. Joseph School, South Bend, commented on Joan Kraska, "She has a gift, she really has great knowledge of

the children and can help each one build on their strengths and special talents."

Father William Sullivan from St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, also spoke fondly of their winning teacher, Elizabeth Camp, who teaches junior high religious education. "It is such a blessing to have her. It makes a world of difference for our students to learn from her each year. She is able to build good relationships with the children and they really look forward to her class."

Bishop John M. D'Arcy was the keynote speaker and thanked the educators of the diocese for their devotion to their students. "I want to thank all the teachers of our diocese for the work they do with our young people. It is truly a service to God to enter the classroom and work one on one daily with our students. What a gift our teachers are to the children."

Bishop D'Arcy also thanked the diocese parishioners for their financial support of the schools. "I am grateful for the support of the people for the benefit of the schools. We are able to pay our teachers a good wage and offer benefits for them so they can afford to stay in our Catholic schools when many other diocese's can't."

He also acknowledged and thanked the generosity of Quality Dining, Inc for their donation of \$50,000 to the Bishop D'Arcy Scholarship fund, Our Sunday Visitor for their donation of \$4 million to the four high schools in the diocese and to John Tippmann for his donation to the Large Family Fund. "We are truly blessed by such generosity and commitment to Catholic education. I am extraordinarily grateful for your generous donations," said Bishop D'Arcy.

FROM NORTH TO SOUTH AND EAST TO WEST

Bishop Luers announces scholarship winners

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced the 2007 Scholarship Exam Winners. The following students were awarded tuition based on an academic merit test given last November.

Awards apply to the 2008-2009 school year and are given to the following: Sarah Bartels, St. Therese, \$1,500; Trey Redner, Crestview Middle School, \$1,000; Meaghan Adams, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, \$500; Rachel Crouch, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, \$500; Paul Lohmuller, Most Precious Blood, \$500; Veronica Frecker, St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, \$250; Abigail Reuille, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, \$250; Samuel Johnson, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, \$250; Christian Myles, Prince Chapman, \$250; and Katherine Griebel St. Joseph, Monroeville, \$250.

Bishop Dwenger announces eighth grade scholarship winners

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School has announced the winners of the James E. Robinson Merit Scholarships for the 2008-2009 school year. Eleven \$500 scholarships have been awarded to the following eighth-grade students: Aليxandria Ball, Queen of Angels; Amelia Erlandson and Emily Hentz, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Chaise Kahlenbeck, Most Precious Blood; Meghan Gludemans and James Miller, St. Vincent; Heather Lothamer, Danielle Messman and Michael Sordelet, St. Charles; and Leanna Phillips, St. Jude.

Each of these young scholars scored 24 or higher on the Explore Exam, which is administered by the ACT testing service. This exam is used by Bishop Dwenger to determine its incoming merit scholars. Danielle Messman scored a 25, which is the highest score on the exam.

Each of these students is to be commended for their outstanding achievements. It is reflection on their own talents as well as skills they have developed in their respective Catholic grade schools.

First Lady Laura Bush visits ACE school in Washington

WASHINGTON — In observation of national Catholic Schools Week, Laura Bush visited Holy Redeemer School in Washington D.C., a designated University of Notre Dame Magnificat School, on Jan. 30.

Through Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program, Holy Redeemer is one of three designated Magnificat Schools

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK PROJECT HELPS THE POOR



TESS STEFFEN

The sixth-grade class from St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, chose to go to The Franciscan Center as their service project for Catholic Schools Week. Thirty students helped with assembly of the 812 weekly sack lunches that are delivered every Saturday to local community homes.

ST. LOUIS BESANCON STUDENTS POSE AS A CROSS



ELLEN OBERLEY

In honor of Catholic Schools week, the students and staff at St. Louis Academy posed in the shape of a cross for a group picture on Monday.

nationwide, which are paired with the university in five-year partnerships that seek to effect change in urban, at-risk Catholic schools.

Established in 2006, the Magnificat School Partnership Program provides designated schools with funding, leadership and expertise — via Notre Dame's extensive alumni network — and makes ACE teachers and principals available to meet staffing needs. In addition to Holy Redeemer, the other Magnificat Schools are St. Adalbert in South Bend and St. Ann in Chicago.

Founded in 1994 by Holy Cross Fathers Timothy R. Scully and Sean McGraw, the ACE program provides college graduates an opportunity to earn master of education degrees while serving as teachers in understaffed Catholic schools nationwide. In exchange for a modest stipend and a tuition-free graduate program, the ACE participants make a two-year commitment to teach in these schools.

More than 85 recent college graduates from a wide variety of educational disciplines enter ACE each year.

MAYOR PROCLAIMS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



TIM JOHNSON

Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry, who attended Catholic elementary and high schools and the University of Saint Francis, made a visit to St. Aloysius School last week to announce an official proclamation by the City of Fort Wayne for its residents to discover the outstanding achievements of the Catholic school system. In the photo, from left, are diocesan Associate Superintendent of Personnel Rebecca Elswerky, St. Aloysius pastor Father Dominique Carboneau, Mayor Henry, St. Aloysius Principal Chuck Grimm, St. John the Baptist Principal Jane Sandor and St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Principal Lois Widner.

Marian art students receive art awards

MISHAWAKA — The 85th anniversary of the Scholastic Art Awards, which is a juried exhibition at The South Bend Regional Museum of Art, encourages and recognizes junior and senior high school student achievements in visual arts. Of the only 90 scholastic gold medals awarded in the Northwest Region, Marian High School art students won 16. Marian students won six silver medals and received 17 honorable mention awards.

Kitty Gunty and Gina Robinson are the art teachers who guide and mentor these creative students.

With the support of national

and regional cosponsors, the Scholastic Art Awards program has grown to become the largest and oldest juried exhibition of its kind in the United States. In addition, more than 50 art schools, colleges and universities offer scholarships to qualified high school seniors through this program.

Junior and senior high students in the Indiana counties of Benton, Cass, Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Kosciusko, Lake, LaPorte, Marshall, Newton, Porter, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Stark and White; and the Michigan counties of Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph are eligible to enter.



PROVIDED BY MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Of the only 90 scholastic gold medals awarded in the Northwest Region of the Scholastic Art Awards, a juried exhibition at The South Bend Regional Museum of Art, Marian High School art students won 16. The students won six silver medals and 17 honorable mention awards.



Vices and Virtues



Opening prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, please have mercy on me, a poor sinner. Amen

Scripture: Rom 6:17

Man is rational and therefore like God; he is created with free will and is master over his acts.

Commentary

I love apples. Apples cooked, raw, in pie or cobbler, crisp, green or red. No matter their shape or consistency, I just really like apples. When I was an aspirant at Ancilla Domini Convent, the sisters had a beautiful and delicious apple orchard. Occasionally we would help pick the apples, trying to honor sister's orders not to eat too many or take them from the orchard. A couple of us "wannabe-sisters" — through the coercion of our classmates, of course — could not resist the temptation to smuggle apples inside our green aspirant sweaters to eat during study hall. At the time, I thought I was clever or sly. Now, however, as I remember these ancient orchard adventures, I can more readily admit my sinfulness and disobedience. Like Adam and Eve in the garden, I caved in when tempted, thinking of my personal gain instead of the respect owed another.

Freedom and responsibility

It may seem strange to some that in part three of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the words freedom and responsibility are placed in the same subtitle. Modern understanding of these two concepts would probably place them at opposite poles, but not within the Catholic Church.

Catholic moral teaching says that our very dignity as a human person is dependent on our freedom and that an acceptance of moral responsibility is necessary for living a life in Christ (CCC. 1730).

The catechism also teaches that freedom "is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility" (CCC. 1731). The apple incident at Ancilla was deliberately and freely completed. Although the act was not grave, it was still sinful. I took something that was not mine.

The catechism teaches that freedom is perfected only when it is directed toward God, our creator. "The more one does what is good, the freer one becomes" (CCC. 1733). My taking of the apples was directed toward self, and my gleeful satisfaction was in direct disobedience to the apple orchard sister and, indirectly, to God. My actions were not directed towards truth and goodness, but rather towards selfishness and personal gain. I had abused the gift of true freedom and allowed sin, however small it may seem, to enter my heart. Life sometimes seems to be an endless battle of goofing up and starting over. It is a wonder that God does not just throw in the towel on us.

Temptation versus sin

I have read that the root cause of failure in the spiritual life comes from disobedience in little things. At the time I did not see that the simple temptation and action of taking apples "in fun" could, in fact, lead to temptations to disobey in other situations; it can cause a tiny crack within our souls through which evil can enter. By this tiny openness to evil, over time we can compromise our wills. Each time we fail to resist evil, it becomes more

and more difficult to resist temptation and to avoid greater sin. It may seem as if each sin occurs instantaneously, but in reality we have allowed our wills to become weakened. Uncontrolled temptations can grind away at us; and, when we fail to master our temptations, we turn from God and towards sin, losing the true freedom of personal peace and joy.

On the other hand, each time we remain obedient to the will of God in small things, we reinforce and strengthen our will. We gradually build a stronger spiritual character that aids us in moments of severe temptation. The resolve of Christians must be that of St. Paul who writes, "you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus" (Rom 6:11).

The story of Adam and Eve leads us to consider the ultimate temptation — not of disobedience but of discrediting God's goodness. When life becomes challenging and we encounter trials, tragedies and disappointments, Satan attempts to turn our minds from God. We can begin to think of God as a God who plays favorites, and we distrust God's good intention for each of us. We are tempted to turn our hearts against God and go it alone. The tempter continues to eat away at us, attacking our souls in numerous ways, trying to cloud our consciences and distort the truth. We sin when our utterances, deeds or desires are deliberately and willfully contrary to God's laws, our right (informed) conscience and reason. Sin is not only an offense against God, but it also wounds us and injures the solidarity of the body of Christ. CCC, 1849. Most of us have gone through terribly painful situations of loss or rejection in which we question the presence of God in our lives. Perhaps we have wanted to give up or give in, thinking that God really does not care. We may feel that God has washed his

Temptation and sin, freedom and responsibility

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

hands of us. We, too, cry out, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" However, it is often at this moment of temptation that God reminds us of his eternal love and incredible mercy. The Scriptures reveal that Jesus, like us, was tempted, but that he never allowed the temptations to lead him to sin. Jesus, both fully human and fully divine, demonstrated a virtuous self-discipline that we, too, can use to deal with our temptations and to free us from the slavery of sin.

Christ's spiritual disciplines

In the book "Deliver Me," Richard Exley writes, "After a thorough study of the Gospels, I am convinced that the source of Jesus' strength lay in the spiritual disciplines he practiced: prayer, study of the Scriptures, public worship, and obedience to the Father's will." The consistent practice of these disciplines allowed Jesus to bring all of his thoughts, desires and actions into submission.

The key to dealing with our temptations, as Richard Exley suggests, "is in the way we live our lives before the temptations come." Adapting Jesus' habits of prayer, reading and studying the Scriptures, public worship and obedience will give us the graces to fight our human temptations, to avoid sin and to grow in holiness. God does not allow temptations so that we give into them but to help us grow in holiness and virtue by choosing what is right and good with the help of God's grace. Temptations and sins are rampant in the world today. During this season of Lent, let us practice the spiritual disciplines of Jesus so that we may be prepared when evil tempts our hearts. If we do fail and sin,

God's incredible mercy is always available to us through the sacrament of reconciliation. Let us remember, "Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Reflection and discussion

- What spiritual disciplines help you to avoid moments of temptation?
- Read paragraph 1849-1851 in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. How does sin affect your relationships with God and others? Contemplate paragraph 1851 in relation to your personal sin and/or world events and Christ's gift of mercy and salvation. How does this paragraph affirm God's love for you and all humankind?
- In the formation of conscience the word of God is the light for our path; we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our consciences before the Lord's Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others and guided by the authoritative teaching of the church." CCC, 1785. Using this as a guide, how well are you forming a right conscience?

Closing prayer

"I know that I need trials so that my nature can be purified. When you decide to send me these trials, when you give evil some room to maneuver, as you did with Job, then please remember that my strength goes only so far. Do not overestimate my capacity. Do not set too wide the boundaries within which I may be tempted, and be close to me with your protecting hand when it becomes too much for me. Amen" "Jesus of Nazareth," Pope Benedict XVI, p.163

Seafood Serapes

Courtesy of Trident Seafoods

Makes 12 servings

2 packages (8 ounces each) Louis Kemp Crab Delights®, flake style or Lobster Delights®, salad style

2 tablespoons mayonnaise
12 flour tortillas
1 1/2 cups shredded lettuce

Mango Salsa

2 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
2 ripe mangoes, peeled and diced

2 jalapeño peppers, seeded and finely chopped
1 chopped medium size red onion
2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint

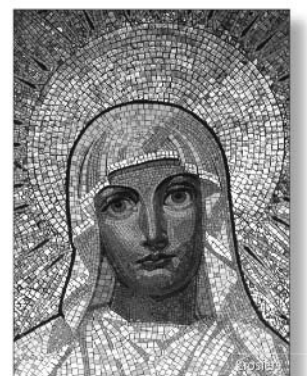
In a medium bowl, combine Crab Delights and mayonnaise, mix well. Set aside. To make Mango Salsa: In medium bowl, combine honey, lemon peel and lemon juice; whisk until well blended. Add mangoes, jalapeño peppers, onion and mint; toss to coat. To make wraps: for each wrap, spread 1/4 cup of Crab Delights mixture evenly down the center of a flour tortilla. Top with 2 tablespoons Mango Salsa and 2 tablespoons shredded lettuce. Roll up tightly. Cut each wrap in half to serve. Serve immediately.



Our Lady of Lourdes

19th century
feast – February 11

This feast recalls the 18 appearances of Mary to a young French girl, Bernadette Soubirous, from Feb. 11 to July 16, 1858, near a grotto at Lourdes, France. Bernadette did not know the identity of "the beautiful lady in white," and asked who she was. Mary said, "I am the Immaculate Conception," the title Pope Pius IX had defined as dogma four years earlier. In 1890 Pope Leo XIII allowed the local Diocese of Tarbes to celebrate this feast; Pope Pius X made it a universal feast in 1907. Lourdes is still the most famous Marian shrine in Western Europe.



Why do you read Today's Catholic?

Here's what a few of our readers are saying about Today's Catholic. Renewal envelopes were in church offertory packets. Or you may renew your subscription by submitting the subscription renewal form mailed to your home.

My husband and I moved away from Fort Wayne and St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish five years ago. One of the things we took with us is the *Today's Catholic*. I look forward to receiving it in the mail every week. The topics are current and I especially like having a theme for most issues, i.e. youth, sacraments, the elderly, etc. The bishop's weekly letter is one of my favorite articles. He has a way with words and makes me feel a part of the greater body of Christ in a "homey" kind of way. I enjoy the columns and the prayerful teaching given. You have wonderful writers and an easy-to-read and understand format. Keep up the great work! I live 100 miles away, have a wonderful new parish and bishop; but I am always home when the *Today's Catholic* arrives.

Mary Besinger
St. Caspar Parish
Wauseon, Ohio.

As a seminarian, one of the hardest things about being in the seminary is that I'm a few hours away from home. And while I keep contact with my family by way of telephone or e-mail, I am able to keep in contact with my church family through the *Today's Catholic*. I always read the bishop's column as a good way to stay informed about the many pressing concerns for the diocese as a whole. Also, I read the survey of the news from around the diocese, which is always helpful, concise and

informative as a way to keep updated on the faith life of the many parishes in the diocese.

On the whole, I find the *Today's Catholic* to be an uplifting and informative diocesan weekly, and a good way for me to stay informed about the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend even while I am away at seminary.

Seminarian Jacob Runyon
Pontifical College Josephinum
Columbus, Ohio

I take the *Today's Catholic* because I like to keep abreast of what is going on in our diocese as well as in Catholicism around the nation and world. It is a wonderful paper. I especially like the human interest stories about how others are living out their Catholic faith. I also like Father Tad Pacholczyk's column and Meet the Priest.

Terri Johns
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
Fort Wayne

I subscribe to *Today's Catholic* because it keeps me up to date with what is going on in our church. It contains relevant articles that the daily paper doesn't cover. The thing I like the best is the question and answer column.

The answers to the questions are always straightforward and easy to understand.

Therese B.
Our Lady of Good Hope Parish
Fort Wayne

I do subscribe to *Today's Catholic*. I enjoy the special articles written. I also enjoy the anniversaries of the priests and nuns. It is amazing what hobbies and interests they have.

I always look forward to the bishop's "News and Notes." I enjoy reading what he has done and of his travels from the last week of reading. The "Commentary" section has very good articles. Father Hire's history section is very informative. "That's a Good Question" has answered many questions for me. We don't always know what the

church teaches. The sports articles are very good. The elementary, high school and college level are more informative than the local newspaper. The paper is also a huge help with information of the happenings of area churches and schools. Yes, I do enjoy the *Today's Catholic* and will continue to enjoy it for many years. Every week I find another article to enjoy.

Pat Meyers
St. Peter Parish
Fort Wayne

My subscription comes to our home because it is a very much appreciated gift. There are two reasons I enjoy the paper. First is that I enjoy the articles and second I enjoy following the activities and reading about Bishop D'Arcy. I like to read the stories about what the church is doing and one of the fun things is the Catequiz'ems.

Norm Cozad
Huntington

Having lived in other dioceses over the years, and read their papers, in my opinion, *Today's Catholic* is by far the best. It has a good balance of local news, stories about the universal church, and catechesis. Keep up the excellent work.

Connor Loesch
St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder

I really think it's part of our adult education responsibility. It's like a Catholic university in print. It's a way of being conscious of something bigger than my own local parish. And it costs for the whole year less than three or four lattes.

Father Larry Kramer
Pastor, St. Paul of the Cross Parish
Columbia City

Top 10 reasons to subscribe to Today's Catholic

10. Today's Catholic advertising features people, products and services you can trust.
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2. Reading trustworthy Catholic media assists in personal faith formation on a weekly basis.

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EDITORIAL

How does your diet stack up?

The 2008 Catholic Press Month poster shows a stack of pancakes with the words "Food for the body." Next to it is a stack of Catholic books and newspapers with the words, "Food for the soul." Then it asks the question, "How does your diet stack up?"

February is Catholic Press Month and time to renew your *Today's Catholic* newspaper.

Diocesan publications such as *Today's Catholic* serve a vital role in our church. The Catholic Press Association, of which *Today's Catholic* is a member, states, "They are vehicles of evangelization and accountability, offering a way for Catholics to make their faith relevant to their daily lives."

For many Catholics in our diocese, *Today's Catholic* may be the only Catholic reading material that comes into their homes. That is why, each week the editors work diligently to bring news relevant to the readers — whether it is across town at a parish or parish school, a feature on an individual who may be filled with the spirit of living the richness of the faith, or what the pope says. We make an effort to cover the social issues that impact our country and our faith community. What does the church and local Catholics say and do to build the culture of life? How does it respond to injustices?

Today's Catholic is a source where Catholics can learn about their faith. Our faith-sharing series offers opportunities for Catholics to not only reflect, but share with others how they live their faith. The same applies to the new Book of the Month Club. *Today's Catholic* reviews a book on a Catholic theme and provides group discussion or blogging capabilities.

Bishop D'Arcy reaches the Catholics of the diocese each week with his column, News and Notes, or through special statements and messages. He cannot visit every parish personally each week, but he can visit everyone's home weekly through his column.

The stories of Catholics either across town, in our state, nation and world helps us realize we are part of a universal church. Catholicism is not a "me" religion, it is "we."

We also can provide information for sources to allow spiritual growth — parish missions, penance services, adult education, holy hours, rosaries — and, of course, other events such as festivals, dinners and fish fries.

The CPA concludes with this comment: "Diocesan publications can light the fire of faith that warms hearts to action for the good of all. As members of the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada, we re-commit ourselves to the highest level of professional journalism to explain our faith with integrity and the utmost credibility. Recognizing the challenges of limited resources, we enthusiastically dedicate ourselves to making our publications worthy of their mission, telling the good news of salvation."

We encourage *Today's Catholic* readers to renew their subscription, possibly purchase a subscription for someone who cannot afford it or invite another to become a subscriber and weekly reader.

Clearing up a misconception

Today's Catholic finds many of its readers referring to us as *Our Sunday Visitor*.

It's true that our name once was *Our Sunday Visitor*. *Our Sunday Visitor* was the national Catholic publication founded in Huntington by Bishop John F. Noll in 1912 to combat anti-Catholic sentiments and movements around the country. In 1926, the Fort Wayne diocesan edition of *Our Sunday Visitor* began, and we at *Today's Catholic* cite this as our official founding.

Over the years, the national *Our Sunday Visitor* published local editions for a number of dioceses across the country. Meanwhile, the diocesan edition in Fort Wayne-South Bend went through a couple of name changes, to *The Harmonizer* under Bishop Leo Pursley and then to *Today's Catholic* under Bishop D'Arcy.

Today, there are two papers. *Today's Catholic*, the official publication of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, works from the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in downtown Fort Wayne. Its readership includes nearly 25 percent of all Catholic homes in the diocese. *Our Sunday Visitor*, still located in Huntington, publishes a national paper all its own, and while it has not published diocesan papers since the 1980s, it publishes books and is the nation's largest supplier of collection envelopes.

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

Volunteerism, mission work encouraged

I have read *Today's Catholic* in the past and wanted to offer this opinion to your letters to the editor column. After reading a transcript on Pope Benedict's call for Catholic volunteerism during his trip to Austria late last year, it is my sincere hope you will publish this letter.

With the presidential campaign of Mitt Romney so much in the news during this 2008 election year, much attention has been given in the press to the Mormon religion. As a Catholic, I have always admired the way that the Mormon religion requires all of their young adult members to do two years of missionary service; it always crosses my mind that much of the world's suffering could be alleviated if the Catholic Church were to

require its young members to do two years of missionary work, too.

This is the time of year in which many Catholic college seniors and young working adults are contemplating doing a year of volunteer service with a Catholic volunteer organization. I have known many people who have spent a year volunteering with great organizations like the Jesuit Volunteer Corps and the Glenmary Missionaries.

However, I recently found out that a family friend, a young man who just graduated from Duke University, has agreed to do 14 months of volunteer work with a Catholic organization of which I had never heard. The organization is Heart's Home and it is an international Catholic volunteer program with 35 missions in 20 different countries.

Founded in 1990 by a French priest named Father Thierry de Roucy, the mission of Heart's Home has been to cultivate a culture of compassion while serving the most

suffering in the world. Some of the countries with Heart's Home missions are Thailand, Honduras, Haiti, Senegal, India, Peru, Philippines, Italy and Lebanon. Missionaries do such things as visiting the elderly, disabled and incarcerated, and providing food to the hungry or teaching religious education, all through a community life sustained by daily Mass and prayers.

I hope that you will print this letter for two reasons. First, any young Catholic interested in Heart's Home can check out their Web site at www.heartshomeusa.org. Second, maybe this letter will encourage young Catholics in Indiana to explore all the various Catholic volunteer programs so that they will see the benefits of serving Christ's church for a year or more. A great source is The Catholic Network of Volunteer Service (www.cnvs.org).

Michel Picard
Erie, Pa

Supreme Court out of touch with the mainstream on abortion

On Jan. 22, 1973, the Supreme Court said in *Roe v Wade* that abortion cannot be prohibited before viability for any reason — or after viability, if performed for reasons of maternal health. The same day, *Roe's* less famous companion case *Doe vs. Bolton* defined "health" as "all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age — relevant to the well-being of the patient." Together, *Roe* and *Doe* created a right to abortion for virtually any reason, through all nine months of pregnancy.

It is that policy, not support for life, which is a "fringe" position. A June 2007 poll by the *New York Times*, CBS News and MTV found that 62 percent of young adults disagree with abortion on demand — and this mirrors the views of all adults.

In October, a CBS poll asked Americans about their "personal feeling" on abortion. Two out of three supported greater restrictions on abortion (with 50 percent saying it should be permitted only in cases such as rape, incest or to save the mother's life). A mere 26 percent said it "should be permitted in all cases" — the current state of law under *Roe*. In short, Americans (most notably

young Americans) do not accept what *Roe v Wade* created.

The Supreme Court may finally be starting to see just how far out of the mainstream it has been on abortion. *Gonzales v. Carhart*, issued last April, upheld the federal partial-birth abortion ban. Though narrow in its short-term impact, there are several heartening developments that bode well for future efforts to protect human life in law.

Since *Roe v Wade*, the court has bloodlessly described "choice," "procedures" and "potential life." *Gonzales v.*

The court now calls the victim of abortion an unborn child, and clearly recognizes abortion as a form of killing.

Carhart sets aside these evasions about not knowing "when human life begins." The majority now acknowledges that, "by common understanding and scientific terminology, a fetus is a living organism while within the womb, whether or not it is

viable outside the womb." The court now calls the victim of abortion an unborn child, and clearly recognizes abortion as a form of killing.

Remarkably, the court has also recognized that women can suffer following abortion, citing the grief, sorrow and depression reported by 180 women who filed a "friend of the court" brief in the case.

LIFE ISSUES FORUM

BY DEIRDRE A. MCQUADE

We have reason to hope the Supreme Court has begun to take off its blinders regarding abortion, recognizing its harm to children, women, the medical profession and all of society. While advocates for the sanctity of human life should be encouraged by this clearer vision, we must not rest until *Roe v Wade* is a distant memory, our laws protect human life from conception to natural death, parents welcome both planned and unplanned children, and the intergenerational wounds of abortion have begun to heal.

For more information on *Roe v Wade*, visit www.SecondLookProject.org.

A longer and modified version of this column appeared in the *Washington Times* on Jan. 22, 2008, the 35th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*.

Deirdre A. McQuade is assistant director of policy and communications, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Go to www.usccb.org/prolife to learn more about the bishops' pro-life activities.

Eastern Catholics hold similarities, differences in fasting and abstinence

By the time you read this, Lent will likely be well underway for everyone on the Gregorian calendar. One extremely ancient practice that the church still encourages during this penitential season is that of fasting. What is fasting, and why should we undertake it?

To answer that, we could undertake a review of fasting in the Bible, or the monastic practices of fasting, or what canon law says. But instead of all that, permit me to tell you a story.

I am an Eastern Catholic. Eastern Catholics form 23 churches that are in full communion with the Bishop of Rome and his church, the Latin or Roman Church, the largest. All together, we make up the Catholic Church properly so called. Eastern Catholics are different from Roman Catholics not just liturgically but in other ways. We are in fact very similar to the Eastern Orthodox in our theology, canon law and spiritual practices. One of those spiritual practices still very strongly recommended and widely encouraged among all Eastern Christians is fasting.

When the Eastern Churches speak of fasting, that often means two things. First, fasting means

eating less, but it also means eating differently. In other words, fasting includes abstinence, i.e., refraining from certain types of foods — usually not just meat but in fact all animal products, that is, all meats, cheeses, eggs, dairy and their derivatives. One also abstains from oil and alcohol. The latter two, however, are permitted on weekends — when fasting is forbidden but abstinence still pertains — and certain feast days.

Second, “fasting” includes both abstinence as well as limiting the intake of food to one meal a day. A person would eat usually only one meal a day which is simple in its preparation (i.e., should involve a minimum of cooking so that the time saved can be devoted to prayer and the poor) and not eaten until after 3 p.m. (the hour of Jesus’ death on the cross).

This is the strict, traditional rule — fasting and abstinence — but each person is allowed much diversity and freedom to adjust the “rule” to take account of his own circumstances. Many people today will only observe abstinence from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays, and both abstinence and fasting during the first week and during Holy Week, especially Good Friday.



VIEWS FROM THE CATHOLIC EAST

ADAM A.J. DEVILLE

In addition to the fasting, we are also encouraged to pray a great deal more. The most commonly used Lenten prayer among Eastern Christians is the Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian, recited several times a day with full prostrations.

When I began praying this prayer several years ago in conjunction with the full fast, I expected that I would last, at most, for a day or two but no more. The prospect of no meat (let alone no dairy or anything else) for six weeks made me almost want to weep.

So I figured I was in for a fiendishly difficult time and would scarcely make it through the first few days before throwing up my hands in disgust at my weakness. I was in for a surprise.

What I found in fasting — and

FASTING, PAGE 16

God’s strength withstands temptation



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

First Sunday of Lent Mt 4:1-11

The Book of Genesis, the first in sequence among the books of the Old Testament, furnishes this Lenten weekend’s first reading.

Genesis teaches a powerful lesson about life. God is the creator. Therefore, God reigns over all things. God creates humans, in God’s own image, able to think and decide, to love, or not to love. Humans possess a free will.

In this story, temptation appears, under the appearance of a snake. What is important from the religious point of view is that temptations come, and they can be very powerful. Even as blessed as they were, the first humans succumbed to temptation.

Paul’s Epistle to the Romans furnishes the next reading. Very well educated in the Hebrew religion, Paul knew quite well the story just read from Genesis. He knew that sin is real, that humans sin, beginning with the first humans, that sin separates the sinner from God, and that being removed from God causes eternal death.

For Paul, the consoling element in the story is that Jesus came to

open for us the way to eternal life that the first humans, Adam and Eve, has discarded for themselves and for all their descendants.

The church next gives us a lesson from St. Matthew’s Gospel, telling us about the temptation of Jesus by the devil. This story is a synoptic tradition, not unique to Matthew’s Gospel. Similar stories appear in Mark and Luke.

Knowing the context helps to understand this reading. At the time of Jesus, much more than today, bread represented survival itself, since the options for food were very few. Today, refrigeration and the ability to transport food over great distances add many options to our diets.

So, when the devil referred to bread, the association in the minds of those people who first heard the Gospel was not just of bread, in the most literal and simplest sense, but of the maintenance of life itself.

With this reference being the case, another powerful lesson appears. By rejecting the devil, Jesus affirms that God alone is the source of life. The devil offers not life but death. The Lord also teaches that life is not simply of the earth or of nature. It has an eternal, nonmaterial quality. It is spiritual. In other words, we may die insofar as physical death is concerned, and indeed we all shall endure physical death. But, we can live eternally if we scorn sin as Jesus scorned the devil when tempted.

Finally, we need not fear the devil nor feel ourselves helpless before temptation. Jesus is God. He can drive the devil away. His strength, with us in grace, born in faith, vests us with the power to turn temptation away.

Reflection

Ash Wednesday began Lent. For many Catholics, however, this First Sunday of Lent is the first occasion for the church to teach us about Lent.

The facts are that we are not supreme, despite our occasional assumption that we are subject to no one. We belong to God. He created us. He is the source of life. No one else, and nothing else, gives us true life.

However, we are free to make our decisions. We can even make decisions not in our interests, such as our decisions to turn away from God. If we are free, we also are free to turn to God. Influences drawing us to sin are strong. We need God’s strength to withstand temptation. This strength is available to us if we ask God for it.

So, with these facts, the church points us to the path of Lent. We are exposed to temptation. We can resist, especially if God empowers us. Sin leads to death. God is life.

READINGS

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Camplisson

One of the most well-known sacramentals of the Catholic Church is the ash used on Ash Wednesday.

This quiz looks at these and other sacramentals.

- 1. What are sacramentals?**
 - a. They are basically ethnic customs.
 - b. They are relics of saints.
 - c. They are sacred signs with spiritual effects, including objects and blessings.
- 2. One difference between sacramentals and sacraments is that the sacraments were instituted by**
 - a. Jesus
 - b. people
 - c. Catholics
- 3. While sacramentals were and are instituted by**
 - a. the church, including faithful lay and ordained people
 - b. Muslims including converts to Christianity
 - c. the Jews, including those who rejected Jesus as the messiah
- 4. How many sacramentals are there?**
 - a. seven
 - b. 144,000
 - c. There is no specific number as they vary over time and place
- 5. What common sacramental is used to keep track of prayers?**
 - a. the prayer wheel
 - b. the rosary (beads)
 - c. the liturgy of St. Basil
- 6. This sacramental usually often has a little salt added to it by a priest**
 - a. holy water
 - b. the bread of life
 - c. Communion wine
- 7. According to the Catechism of The Catholic Church (CCC), sacramentals can render many occasions of life**
 - a. fun
 - b. dull
 - c. holy
- 8. The technical description of how sacramentals function to bestow grace is “ex opere operantis ecclesiae” which means, very roughly translated**
 - a. through the power of the rite itself
 - b. the writing hand writes, and having written, moves on
 - c. through the intercession of the church
- 9. The CCC confirms that unlike the sacraments, which are universal, sacramentals can be suited to a specific**
 - a. person, if they are seen as a reincarnation of a deceased saint
 - b. culture, and special history of the Christian people of a particular region or time
 - c. race, as some skeptical races are more prone to accept sacramentals than sacraments
- 10 Why does the CCC confirm that the laity may use certain sacramental?**
 - a. it is a typo
 - b. because it promotes laicization by stealth
 - c. because all share the baptismal priesthood
- 11. The CCC notes that the faithful should not confuse blessing of people engaging in certain ministries with this**
 - a. ordination
 - b. licit religious activity
 - c. approved conduct for Catholics
- 12 One of the uses of sacramental blessings is to reserve an object for a religious purpose. This would commonly include this, itself a sacramental**
 - a. reading glasses used for reading the Epistle
 - b. any type of glass that replicates stained glass used in cathedrals
 - c. an altar
- 13 This fairly rare and dramatic (at least in its major form) sacramental activity can only be performed with a bishop’s express permission.**
 - a. marriage
 - b. exorcism
 - c. baptism
- 14. A key test of the legitimacy of a sacramental object or action is, according to the CCC, it will always**
 - a. be cheaper than putting on a regular Mass.
 - b. be in some way be derived from and lead people to the sacred liturgy.
 - c. happen or be visible on Sundays and holy days.
- 15. This, the CCC tells us, is needed so that the faithful both understand and properly use sacramentals:**
 - a. an associated degree or higher in canon law
 - b. pastoral discernment
 - c. a clear prohibition on any goofy or zany

ANSWERS:

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

The church reveals the sacredness, sacramentality of marriage

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, it says that Jesus raised marriage between two baptized people to the dignity of a sacrament. Then it says "cf. CIC Can. 1055 and GS 48." What does this formula mean? Also, when did Jesus institute marriage as a sacrament? LH, Fort Wayne

The abbreviation CIC stands for the Latin title "Codex Iuris Canonici," which means the "Code of Canon Law." The abbreviation "CAN" means "Canon." So Canon No. 1055 reads marriage "between baptized persons has been raised by Jesus to the dignity of a sacrament." The abbreviation "GS" stands for the Latin title "Gaudium et Spes," which means "joy and hope." These are the first words of the Vatican II document called "The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World." In paragraph 48 of this document we read that Jesus "encounters Christian spouses through the sacrament of marriage."

Papal encyclicals, too, are titled by the first Latin words of the document. Thus Pope Paul VI's famous encyclical on birth control was entitled "Humanae Vitae," or "Of Human Life."

The Catholic Church considers marriage one of the seven sacra-

ments. Before Christ, marriage existed as a natural contract between a man and a woman.

Jesus raised this natural contract to the level of a sacrament. Two baptized persons, then, can receive the sacrament of matrimony. If one or both of the parties in the marriage is not baptized, the marriage is a natural contract, but not a sacrament.

Jesus showed the sacredness of marriage by attending the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee and working an extraordinary miracle there by changing water into wine. St. Paul points to the sacramentality of marriage in his Epistle to the Ephesians: "Men should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife, loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh; on the contrary he nourishes and cherishes it, as Christ also does the church. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great mystery — I mean in reference to Christ and to the church. However, let each one of you also love his wife just as he loves himself; and let the wife respect her husband."

We also see the sacramental character of marriage in the early church. St. Ignatius, the bishop of

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Antioch in Syria, wrote to St. Polycarp, the bishop of Smyrna (modern Izmir) in Turkey, around A.D. 107 and said that the marriage of Christians should be approved by the church. "It is right for men and women who marry to be united with the bishop's approval. In that way their marriage will follow God's will and not the promptings of lust." Later on St. Augustine would call marriage a sacrament of the mysterious relationship between Christ and the church. Then the Council of Florence in Italy (1438-1445) declared marriage a sacrament, a sign of the union of Christ and the church.

Modern popes have stressed the sacred character of marriage. Pope Leo XIII in 1880 said "marriage has God for its author, and was from the very beginning a kind of foreshadowing of the Incarnation of his Son; and therefore there

abides in it something holy and religious; not extraneous, but innate; not derived from men, but implanted by nature."

Pope Pius XII, in 1930, said, "matrimony was not instituted or reestablished by men but by God, the author of nature, and Christ our Lord, the restorer of nature. God provided marriage with its laws, confirmed it and elevated it."

Because marriage is a sacrament, it offers the bride and groom a special sacramental grace. Thus the

Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "this grace proper to the sacrament of matrimony is intended to perfect the couple's love and to strengthen their indissoluble unity. By this grace they help one another to attain holiness in their married life and in welcoming and educating their children."

Father Richard Hire, pastor of St. Martin dePorres Parish, Syracuse, answered this week's questions.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for February 10, 2008

Matthew 4:1-11

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent, Cycle A: Jesus' 40 days in the desert of Judea. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

LED BY	FASTED	FORTY DAYS
TEMPTER	COMMAND	STONES
LOAVES	BREAD	WRITTEN
BREAD ALONE	WORD	MOUTH OF GOD
HOLY CITY	DASH	YOUR FOOT
STONE	THE TEST	KINGDOMS
WORSHIP	SATAN	THE LORD

40 AND 3

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

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Living simply in Lent

I was in a beautiful home once, finely furnished with exquisite furniture, lovely artwork and impeccable décor. However, the heavy draperies around the windows blocked most of the natural light in the rooms and left an atmosphere of heaviness and, quite frankly, suffocation. Although the home was beautiful, I couldn't wait to leave and enjoy the freshness of the light and air outside.

I can't help but think, as we enter into this season of Lent, about the "heaviness," the complications of everyday life that have the potential to snuff out the fresh light and air of Christ in our lives.

What am I talking about? I'm talking about living simply. Obviously Lent is a time for penance, reflection, renewal. It's a time for introspection and consideration of things eternal. What I'm proposing this Lent is paring down life, getting rid of the "heavy draperies" so that things eternal can shine into our thoughts and lives.

How can this be accomplished? I'm going to offer a formula set forth by philosopher and professor Peter Kreeft in his classic 1990 book "Making Choices: Practical Wisdom for Everyday Moral Decisions."

First, attain mastery over time. The clock should not be our god. It is true we need to watch the clock to make it to work, keep our dentist appointments, and get to Mass on time. However, American society is too focused on schedules. Take time to get at eye level with your child and really listen. Make time for "date night" with your mate. Do one thing at a time. Think about the one thing you are doing and do it well. Slow down, and here's the biggie: Pray ... without watching a clock. God is the



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

THERESA A. THOMAS

creator of time. He can multiply it, but first we must offer our time to him. God cannot be outdone in generosity. He will take our sacrifice and bless us a thousand fold.

Second, live more naturally. Go to bed earlier and get up earlier, following nature's cycle of darkness and light. Kreeft says this aids in simplicity because the things people do in the morning are usually simple things — walking, praying and tidying up.

And the things people do in the evening are more complicating (or time-wasting) — busywork, attending parties, watching television.

Spend more time outdoors. (Yes, even in the winter!) Breathe in the fresh air. And take walks frequently. Kreeft writes, "(When you walk) you will begin to recapture the natural rhythms of the body. ... It attunes us with the earth and air. ... It is a symbol of life, the road to eternity. ... And it gives us an opportunity to think."

Third, recognize that often less is more. Don't just give up sweets this Lent. Take less food. Chew it slowly. Savor its flavor deliberately. Enjoy it more.

We've all seen women who have overdone it in the jewelry and make-up department. They have baubles and beads on every limb, and layers of gold or silver around their necks. Heavy eye shadow and lip color emphasizes their faces. Who can deny that this actually detracts from a woman's natural beauty?

Contrast that image with simple cleanliness and light makeup, a plain cross necklace and a pair of simple earrings on a female. One young woman I knew in college gave up make-up for Lent. That's probably considered radical in our American culture, and I don't know very many women who would do that, but it is a good idea to eliminate extra things. Less truly is often more.

Fourth, decrease expenses. We don't need half of what we want. Love of money is the root of all evil. See what you can do without.

Fifth, embrace silence. Kreeft calls silence "the unknown power source ... the great untapped resource." He says that silence is more, not less than noise. Cultivate inner silence by eliminating outer noise. Turn off the television. Skip the radio in the car. Listen more. Talk less. God speaks to us all the time, but often with the cacophonous sounds intruding into our lives we just don't hear him.

Simplifying life truly is like pulling back the thick draperies in a stuffy room. In doing so we will find more light, more freshness, and quite likely more room for God.

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

FASTING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

this is why I always joyfully recommend it to others as a practice we all desperately need to revive. God gave me the grace to undertake that fast and to stick to it. Far from crawling along, fighting every urge and hunger pang every hour of every day, the fast progressed with a serenity and joy that I could not expect.

I discovered something I could learn no other way except by fasting: the struggle to be pure and chaste — especially as a then-single male in our world, full as it is of temptations at every turn — has much to learn from the struggle to fast. For if one can give up food, which the body absolutely requires to stay alive, then one can certainly give up the attachment to the sensual passions — which, contrary to popular views today, one does not need to indulge to stay alive.

In a time when the beauty and dignity of human sexuality is

debased in the multibillion dollar industry of Internet pornography, in a time when so much of Catholic teaching about marriage and family life is assaulted, we can all help to purify the world by purifying ourselves through fasting, even just one or two days a week, and even just by eating less or a little differently.

In our day more than ever, we need to undertake a recovery of fasting, purifying ourselves and the church and in the process receiving the gift of unending joy at Easter, where we may sing — in the words of the paschal tropar so beloved by Eastern Christians: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life!"

Adam A.J. DeVille is assistant professor of theology at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and an ordained subdeacon in the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church.

Sports

BISHOP DWENGER ATHLETES SIGN LETTERS OF INTENT Bishop Dwenger High School's John Goodman and Mick Mentzer signed their national letters of intent to continue their football careers on Feb. 6. Goodman will sign with the University of Notre Dame and Mentzer will sign with Indiana University. Other signings for girls soccer include Kateri Till, IPFW, Margaret Allgeier, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, Brittany Lahrman, University of Saint Francis, Mallorie Schon, University of Saint Francis and Blair Sorg, University of Toledo.

Squires sweep CYO Blue League

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the grade 5-6 Blue League (small schools), St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, claimed both the boys' and girls' Catholic Youth League Organization (CYO) title in back-to-back championship games played at St. Aloysius on Thursday, Jan. 31.

Earlier in the week, the boys got by Benoit Academy and St. Therese on the road to the final game where they squared off against St. Aloysius. Hessen Cassel downed St. Aloysius, 30-18.

A fourth grader, Seth Wyss, propelled the Squires past the scrappy Gators by scoring 10 points. Braden Thiele ended up with nine for St. Aloysius. St. Aloysius received the bye then upset St. Louis-St. Rose, 27-26, to get to the finals. The young Hessen Cassel team finished with a perfect record in league play and lost just a single game overall.

The Lady Squires ended their season with an impressive 18-3 record overall and were undefeated in league play. Sixth-grader Cara Schaadt's nine points led all scorers and lifted her team to a 24-20 victory over the St. Therese

Crusaders. In a hard-fought battle, Trevino and Wood combined for 13 points for the Lady Sadlers. After beating the Sadlers handily during the regular season, Squire Coach Amy Knapke said of the rematch, "I knew (St. Therese coach) Linda (Luegring) would have her girls well prepared. They played a great game." In the first round of the tournament, the Squires took out St. Louis-St. Rose while St. Therese beat the Lady Gators from St. Aloysius.

Grade 7-8 scores

Girls

St. Therese 24, St. Aloysius 26 (Trevino, Luegring 6; Sterrett, Thiele 7)
Huntington 37, St. Louis/St. Rose 40 (Stoffel 20; Bosler, Gerardot 14)
Precious Blood 13, St. John 33 (Hammock 15)
St. Vincent-7 21, Decatur-7 22 (Mueller 8; Hormann 14)
St. John-8 31, St. Joe/St. Elizabeth-8 24 (Julia 8, Ridley 15)
St. Therese 21, St. Charles 19 (Wagner 6, Trevino 7)

Boys

St. Vincent-7 21, Decatur-7 22 (Kohne 19, Lukemire 12)
Precious Blood 24, St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, 39 (Chase 9, W. Knapke 14)
St. Vincent-8 22, St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, 45 (J. Knapke 21, Castleman 12)
St. Charles-8 46, St. Therese 27 (Lochbiler 14, Thiele 11)
St. Jude 13, St. Aloysius 25 (Little, Henline 8)

Photos of the two winning teams will be in next week's issue.

ICCL leaps into post season basketball tournament

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The Inter-City Catholic League crowned its four-division basketball champions on the final day of the regular season and will now launch its annual post season tournament this weekend.

Three teams finished the season with perfect 6-0 division records. They were St. Anthony of St. John Bosco East; St. Joseph, Mishawaka, of Martin De Porres East; and St. Jude of Martin De Porres West.

Holy Family nailed down the pennant of the John Bosco West by beating its rival Corpus Christi, 48-39, in a hard-fought tussle.

Zack Zehender and Zachary Fozo led the Holy Family attack with 12 points each and kept their lead from the second half on. Corpus Christi's Tate Bellegante, however, turned up one of the best individual performances of the day by singing the nets for 20 points.

St. Anthony set the pace from start to finish in defeating St. Matthew, 45-36, as the Panthers' Robert Mischler poured in 16 points. Tim Bradley kept St. Matthew in the game with 15 points.

St. Joseph, Mishawaka, rolled over St. Bavo, 43-10, to rack up its 10th straight win of the year and establish itself as one of the favorites in the post-season tournament. Anthony Rice had 13 points for St. Joseph.

St. Jude nipped St. Michael of Plymouth, 28-24, to win its division title in the closest match of the day.

Nick Johnson was a big help for Queen of Peace of Mishawaka as he swished the nets for 20 points in leading the Pumas to a 36-30 victory over city-rival St. Monica. Ralphie Laux tallied 15 points for St. Monica.

St. Pius, Granger, won a torrid 23-20 decision over St. John the Baptist in the lowest scoring game of the day, a game in which neither team was ahead by more than three points.

St. Joseph of South Bend edged St. Thomas of Elkhart in another close encounter, 27-25.

Christ the King edged Holy Cross, 35-32, thanks to the sparkling performance of Jake Stone who looped in 16 points, including four in the waning minutes of play. Dana Johnson picked up 14 points for Holy Cross.

Seven games wound up the regular season for the Colors

Division. Play was highlighted by Xavier Remmo-Long who scored 22 points in leading Holy Cross Blue to a 39-35 decision over Corpus Christi Red. Michael Madden scorched the nets for 14 points for Corpus Christi.

St. Jude Green defeated Christ the King Blue, 36-15, behind the 16-point barrage of Neal Dowling. St. Joseph Mishawaka Green topped St. Matthew Black, 34-17, with Vinnie Ravotto popping in 11 points for the victors.

Christ the King White downed Christ the King Gold, 49-33, as Connor Edmonds staged a stellar performance by draining the nets for 19 points.

St. Thomas Gold of Elkhart scored an easy 36-12 victory over St. Joseph Gold of South Bend, leading all the way. Chad Dygert led St. Thomas with 12 points.

St. Pius Blue beat St. Anthony Gold, 39-30, behind the 11-point performance of Manny Mendoza.

St. Thomas Maroon won handily over St. John Maroon, 27-15.



DIRECTOR for the Victory Noll Center

Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, located in Huntington, Indiana, seeks a Director for the Victory Noll Center. The Director must be a person experienced in planning, coordination, and networking. The Director is primarily responsible for the planning and implementation of programs for personal and spiritual enrichment, such as, retreats, days of recollection, workshops, support groups, etc. The Director must be open to various faith traditions and ethnic groups and have some knowledge of Catholic culture and contemporary theology and spirituality. Excellent benefit package. Please send resume to:

Attention, Kathi Sands
P.O. Box 109, Huntington, IN 46750-0109
or email: ksands@olvm.org

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Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, located in Huntington, Indiana, has an immediate opening for a Director of Nursing. The ideal candidate will possess excellent relationship skills, good supervisor skills, and strong clinical skills. The candidate must be a Registered Nurse, have experience as a Director of Nursing and have experience working with the elderly and a desire to work in the central home of the Victory Noll Sisters. This position calls for excellent team work with the nursing staff and other departments. This opportunity comes with an excellent benefit package. Please send resume to:

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Book tells you how to turn down the noise

BY YORK YOUNG

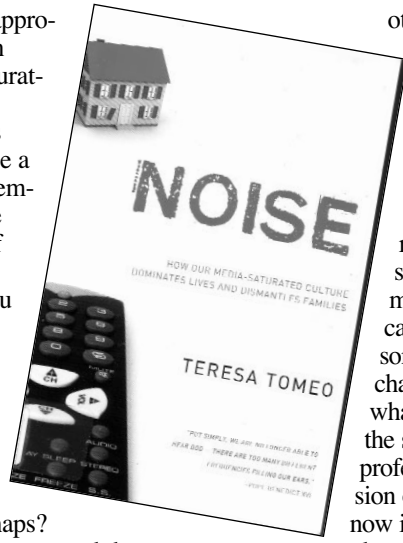
Remember the scene in the cartoon classic "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" in which the Grinch is complaining about "all the noise, noise, noise"? While he's complaining, large drum sticks appear to be hitting him in the head. I think we all feel that way sometimes, even if we can't quite put our finger on the exact reason for that feeling.

Teresa Tomeo, a nationally known Catholic radio broadcaster pinpoints where much of that painful pounding is coming from in "Noise" (Ascension Press, \$12.99), a recent release that analyzes media and gives parents suggestions on how to protect their kids from ram-

pant and often inappropriate messages in today's media-saturated world.

In fact, parents could probably use a little less noise themselves. What's the longest amount of time in the last week in which you avoided the Internet, television, radio, secular newspapers, magazines, iPods or computer games — five minutes, perhaps?

If you read a book now and then, that may provide a few moments of respite in your harried week, but,



otherwise, we are all more in touch with all things electronic than we often admit.

Tomeo, who worked for local radio and television in a large market early in her career, reports on some of the seamier characteristics of what it means to "get the story," and had a professional conversion of the heart. She now is crusading to educate Catholics how to appropriately consume media — cautiously and critically.

It's not uncommon to run across well-meaning individuals who are tired of the trash provided on television, the radio and Web sites, yet are stuck with the notion, "What can I do?" or "I can't watch my kids every minute." Yes, anything less than diligence is playing with fire, but if we want well-formed consciences to develop in our children, we must make the effort.

Tomeo goes on to give sugges-

tions for handling television watching, consuming music — a quiet assassin of morals (I know that sounds backward) — and understanding that advertising doesn't care about your morals, rather is interested in what gets you to buy things.

If you are feeling overwhelmed with the volume of attendant noise coming into your home, take action. This book will tell you how.



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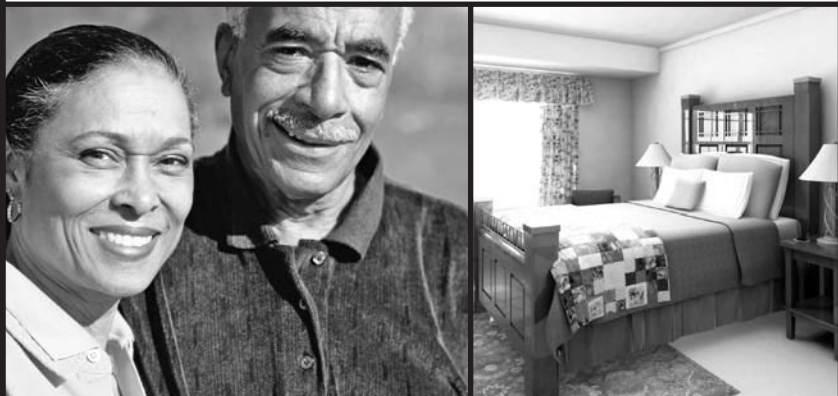


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FISH FRIES

Fish fry and salad bar

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 8, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-out \$7, children 5-12 \$3 and children under 5 free.

Scouts sponsor fish fry

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent Scouts will have fish dinners on Fridays Feb. 8, 22 and March 14, in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$7.50 adults, \$3 children 6-11.

Fish fry hosted by Holy Name Society

New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 8, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$6.50, children 5-12 \$3.50 and children under 5 free.

Fish fry announced

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 8 and 22, from 4-8 p.m. Adults \$7, senior citizens \$6.50, children 6-12 \$5 and children under 5 free. Carry-out available.

Annual Lenten fish fry

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 15, from 4-8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 children ages 6-11 and \$1 for children age 5 and under. Carry-out and drive through available at the Paulding Road entrance.

Lenten fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus, Father Solanus Council 11276, will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 15, from 5-8 p.m. in the parish hall at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church (northeast corner of Homestead and Aboite Center Road). Adult meals (12 and up) will be \$8, children meals (ages 6-11) will be \$6 and children five or under eat free. Carry-out available, but only at the adult meal price.

Fish fry

Plymouth — The Knights of Columbus Council #1975 will have a fish dinner on Friday, Feb. 15, from 4-7 p.m. at the hall at 901 E. Jefferson. In addition to fish, an assortment of salads and dessert will be provided along with a drink. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 4-10. Children 3 and under are free. Carry-outs are available at the Columbus Club door.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Tatiana coming to St. Joseph

Fort Wayne — Tatiana's presentation of "I Thirst — The

Crucifixion Story" will be Thursday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, 11337 Old U.S. 27 South. A free-will offering accepted.

Lenten sessions rescheduled

South Bend — Dr. Keith J. Egan will present "Lent: becoming Easter people" on Feb. 19 and 20, at St. Jude Parish, 19704 Johnson Rd. Sessions begin at 7 p.m. and last 90 minutes. Free will offerings accepted.

All family rosary dates changed

Fort Wayne — The all family rosary has been changed to the last Sunday of each month with the next rosary being held on Sunday, Feb. 24, from 3:30- 4:30 p.m. at MacDougall Chapel.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

South Bend — The next Marriage Encounter weekend will be Feb. 22-24. Call Greg and Norma Germann at (574) 287-6432 or go to www.wwme-ni.org.

Creighton Model taught locally

Fort Wayne — Creighton Model Services is a holistic health care

system, which helps women with irregular cycles and infertility and assists couples with either achieving and avoiding pregnancy in a way that is both effective and ethical. The introductory session is held on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at 3711 Rupp Dr. To register call Theresa Schortgen at (260) 494-6444 or e-mail chartdaily@gmail.com. Cost is \$50 for the introductory session.

Trivia night supports school

South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School, 735 W. Calvert, will have a trivia night backyard BBQ, sponsored by the Home and School Association on Saturday, Feb. 9. Cash bar opens at 5 p.m. and trivia contest begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 per table (10 person maximum per table). First prize is \$100 cash. Best theme prize. To reserve a table call Andrea Davis (574) 288-2348.

Pancake and sausage breakfast

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 9460 will have a pancake and sausage breakfast Sunday, Feb. 10, from

REST IN PEACE

Angola

Robert F. Wagner, 89, St. Anthony de Padua

Bristol

Kathleen K. Sullivan, 53, St. Mary/Annunciation

Fort Wayne

Jack A. Hege, 65, St. Vincent de Paul

James W. Robertson Sr., 61, St. Peter

Jean Michaelis, 86, St. Patrick

Howard M. Everhart, 91, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Blayne W. Osborne, 93, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

N. Virgil Shane, 78, St. Vincent de Paul

Carroll C. Schmidt, 90, St. Therese

Robert G. Goodspeed, 80, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Gregory D. Huguenard, 52, St. Jude

Eunice Kartholl, 84, St. Jude

Clarence Mensing, 83, Most Precious Blood

Huntington

Berniece A. Flora, 91, St. Mary

Mishawaka

Dennis Van Poppel, 67, St. Bavo

South Bend

Wanda C. Gadacz, 92, St. Adalbert

Helen T. Dominello, 89, St. Joseph

Tillie A. Palatin, 76, Holy Family

Ronald G. Stastny, 62, Little Flower

Joseph J. Bartkowiak, 95, Holy Cross

Dennis J. Kapusta, 61, Christ the King

Matilda J. Krupnik, 95, St. Hedwig

Maurice E. Battles Sr., 77, St. Jude

Debra Gatlin, 48, Little Flower

Alice M. Richmond, 88, Holy Family

Julius Horvath, 95, Christ the King

Ethelyn R. Zurawski, 83, St. Casimir

Charles S. Juhas Jr., 65, St. Anthony de Padua

Genevieve E. Stephens, 90, Holy Cross

Daniel C. Gonsoroski, 73, Christ the King

Eileen Hodgins, 100, Little Flower

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the St. Therese Parish Hall, 2220 Lower Huntington Rd. A goodwill donation will be accepted at the door.

50/50 raffle for Christ Child Society

South Bend — The Christ Child Society of South Bend will have a 50/50 cash raffle. Proceeds of

the raffle will be split 50/50 between the winners and the society. Tickets are \$100 each and on sale from Feb. 13, until the drawing on March 26 at the Morris Inn. You need not be present to win. For information or tickets, call (574) 288-6028 or visit www.christchildsb.org.



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Bishop blesses Holy Cross School addition

Dignitaries join for the celebration

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — As students lined the new hallways, offices, gym and art room, Bishop John M. D'Arcy traversed a new path that would bring knowledge and intellectual substance to many generations of Holy Cross students here.

The spacious expansion was officially opened as Bishop D'Arcy blessed the scholastic institution with the help of some well prepared students and some local dignitaries.

"For the kids the excitement really is focused on the new gym," commented Angela Budzinski the principal. "But centralizing and giving prominence to our library, renovating our computer lab and the expansive area for art and music will give our students the ability to explore new horizons."

The new addition almost doubled the square footage of the school that was built in 1929 to serve Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus parishes.

"To me its still a wonderful dream that hasn't set in yet," explained an emotional Holy Cross Father Mike Mathews, pastor of Holy Cross Parish. "The \$2.7 million dollar project that added 32,000 square feet took work from all of us."

"This project reminds me of the stone soup fable with all of our community putting in a little here and a little there into the pot of water to create this outstanding facility," Father Mathews added. "Our central focus was always on the kids and because we succeeded in our objective, it's emotional."

The institution has been a source of pride and inspiration for many who have passed through her hallways.

"Listen to the building, catch the spirit and knowledge that is Holy Cross," said Jim Schellinger, gubernatorial candidate and class of 1974 graduate, as he addressed those in attendance. "This is the place where I first learned the importance of service to others."

Though new offices, the refurbished cafeteria and auditorium



JOE KOZINSKI

Bishop John M. D'Arcy scored big in the free throw contest at Holy Cross School in South Bend, not necessarily on the scoreboard but with the exuberance of the students, teachers and alumni in attendance at the blessing and dedication of the addition. The floor of the new gym was donated by the University of Notre Dame's women's basketball team and is the same floor on which the team won the 2001 National Championship.

were welcomed and much needed, the cornerstone of the entire project was not the gym, but the floor of the gym.

"The last time I was standing on this floor, was in 2001 in St. Louis and we had just won the National Championship," explained Muffet McGraw, head coach of the University of Notre Dame women's basketball team. "I hope that the students of Holy Cross have as much luck on this floor as we did."

"The floor that Notre Dame won their national title was shipped here to South Bend and lied in waiting for a special place," commented Father Mathews. "I worked with the President's Office at Notre Dame and the builders so that we could give the championship floor a proper home."

While Bishop D'Arcy took time to absorb the new surround-

ing and see the gleam in the eyes of 350 students that are directly benefiting from the project, he reflected.

"Every day ask Jesus Christ for the power to be good," remarked Bishop D'Arcy. "Ask him to find your true vocation, whether it be to be a teacher, priest, business person, doctor or an architect."

"Keep your heart close to Christ," Bishop D'Arcy added, "Keep your hearts pure and use these remarkable facilities to serve one another in a positive way, a way in which Jesus would serve."

The big standing ovation was saved for a champion on the championship floor, for Catholic Schools Week the humble hero of the day was Father Mathews, he just stood for a minute holding back tears as the roar of the filled gym praised his team's efforts.

Sister Bauer humbled as Teacher of the Year

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Sister Colleen Bauer, a School Sister of Notre Dame, is pleased and honored with being presented with a Light of Learning Teacher of the Year Award, but also very humbled.

Sister Colleen explained that every school in the diocese is given the opportunity to participate in the Light of Learning award and St. John the Evangelist School in Goshen has participated about 10 years. Parents sent in nomination letters nominating who they believe should be teacher of the year.

The morning of the award luncheon held Jan. 28 in South Bend, St. John the Evangelist principal Adele Kretchman presented Sister Colleen with a pen and a plaque in front of the students and



DENISE FEDOROW

Sister Colleen Bauer shows the Light of Learning award she received from the diocese for Teacher of the Year from St. John the Evangelist School in Goshen.

shared with Sister Colleen some of the reasons she was nominated.

"She said I treat all kids equally and with respect, I'm very well

organized and a good planner, I help out with other activities at the school, but we all do that," Sister Colleen said.

This is the third time Sister Colleen has been given the honor of Teacher of the Year for St. John's. She has taught second grade at St. John's for 21 years. Prior to that she taught first grade for 11 years in Warsaw and taught third grade for three years in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Obviously she enjoys working with second graders. "They get so excited for their first reconciliation and Eucharist. It's so nice to see them that excited. It's fun for me. It's just fun."

And even though she's been teaching for 35 years, retiring is nowhere in the near future.

"I like to go to school every day, I like to be with the kids, I like to teach," she said.

LUNAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Vietnamese cuisine, games and karaoke at an all-day celebration welcoming the New Year. The smell of crab ragoon, pork sandwiches and rice filled the air as Vietnamese women lured people with their dishes.

Following the festival, members of the community united for a 3:30 p.m. Mass in the church. The congregation was alive with a contagious energy; men and women donned traditional Vietnamese garb and chanted in their native tongue as incense permeated the church. A man banged a drum, signifying the start of the celebration of the Mass. According to Vietnamese tradition, a procession with three beats on a drum leads the people to the Spirit of God of the New Year.

Children carrying baskets of fruit and flowers led the entrance procession, as Bishop John M. D'Arcy followed behind wearing a traditional Vietnamese stoll. The priests bowed down three times in front of the altar, a Vietnamese tradition.

The Mass was truly a multicultural sacrament, celebrated in English and Vietnamese. Following the special reading for the New Year, Bishop D'Arcy

addressed the congregation.

"This is a moment to hear the word of God," he said about the Mass. "We need to thank God for our family ... our Vietnamese Catholic family."

Bishop D'Arcy addressed the suffering and hardships of the Vietnamese-American community, many of whom "set out on a journey through an ocean of great fear." But as he told them, they should find comfort in Jesus, because "the Gospel tells us he will always be with us."

The bishop stressed the importance of sharing one's faith. "You must hold (your faith) and tell it to your children," he said. "You must preach it to others ... this strong faith. Faith is not something we hold within us."

In closing, Bishop D'Arcy offered some words of admonishment. Don't forget God, he said, and ask him to carry you into the future. "Never miss Mass and pay tribute to the one who protected you," he said.

The celebration concluded with the bishop's blessing of the Tree of Spring. The Tree of Spring is a decoration adorned with red envelopes with inspirational messages to guide people through the year ahead. Children and adults alike picked from the tree as the congregation watched in anticipation. The children were also presented with red envelopes, called "lucky money," or li xi.



GREG BASTIN

Children lead a procession at St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, Feb. 3.

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