

TODAY'S CATHOLIC



Springing forward

Daylight Saving Time begins March 9; get to Mass on time

New chaplain strengthens Latin Mass community



DON CLEMMER

Father George Gabet of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter speaks at a pro-life event in May of 2007. Father Gabet, a Fort Wayne native, will serve as chaplain of the newly formed St. Mother Theodore Guérin Community, who worship in the Tridentine rite.

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — Father George Gabet discovered his love for the old Latin Mass years before his ordination while attending it at Sacred Heart Parish in Fort Wayne. Now he will be serving Sacred Heart, as well as Catholics in South Bend, through his new assignment as a chaplain of a community formed especially for Catholics who worship in the pre-Vatican II rite.

This rite, called the 1962 Roman Missal, the Tridentine Rite and, more recently, the extraordinary form of the Roman Missal, has received greater attention since the July 2007 publication of Pope Benedict XVI's motu proprio, "Summorum Pontificum," allowed for greater use of it.

To meet the needs of Catholics wishing to worship in this rite in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Bishop John M. D'Arcy has established the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Community. This community, which came into effect March 1, will consist of parishioners at Sacred Heart in Fort Wayne and St. John the Baptist in South Bend, two parishes that have offered the Tridentine rite Mass since 1990. Father George Gabet will be the community's chaplain.

While a native of Fort Wayne, Father Gabet is a priest of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, an international community of priests formed in 1988 by Pope John Paul II, the charism of which is the celebration of the Tridentine rite.

Father Gabet is a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School and Ball State University. Partly through his

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Baptism dilemma

Using wrong words ruled not valid

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Award winning teachers

Theology teachers cited for gifts

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Vices and virtues

Envy and sloth explored this week

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Sheen to receive medal

Notre Dame's Laetare Medal awarded

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Faith outfoxes tragedy: A story of hope and survival

BY KAY COZAD

GRANGER — Joel Fox and Lauren Kreager are two young people in love. This past year they excitedly anticipated their wedding day, set for Dec. 29 of 2007. This year they are just happy that Fox is alive. This after a devastating accident last September left him burned and in a coma for six weeks.

The couple met as juniors attending Marian High School. Kreager was an active faith-filled Catholic, while Fox, like many other students his age, had fallen-away. During the early days of their relationship, Kreager questioned whether she should continue to see this boy who lived a very secular lifestyle.

"I always knew I wanted to marry a Catholic guy. I wasn't sure I should date him," she says.

After meeting with her parish priest, Father Dan Scheidt, then-associate pastor at St. Pius X, Granger, and speaking to Fox about his faith, one-on-one faith counseling brought Fox back to the church.

"For the love of her, he came to speak with me. And he began to practice his faith in

earnest. It's a real love story," says Father Scheidt, who is now the pastor of Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka.

The following years of high school had the couple attending Mass at St. Pius X Parish, youth group and several weekend retreats to strengthen their faith.

"As our relationship started to become stronger, we became more faithful," says Fox. They were known in the community for their chaste lifestyle choice and spoke on the subject to all who would listen.

Following high school graduation, the two attended college together, as they continued to offer talks on chastity and faith issues to those around them. Kreager studied theology and philosophy, while Fox, whose family is part owner in J.R. Fox Jewelry Store, majored in general studies.

"My goal was to get a general studies degree so I could work at Fox Jewelers," he says.

In 2006, Kreager was off to Austria to study while Fox transferred to South Bend to attend Indiana University-South Bend (IUSB).

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DIOCESAN TEENS GATHER FOR RETREAT



CINDY BLACK

One Consuming Passion was the theme for the high school students' retreat held last weekend at Epworth Forest in North Webster. Fifty-one teens participated in the retreat. A reconciliation service was led by Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne, and eucharistic adoration and Mass were celebrated by Father Glenn Kohrman, pastor of St. Mary of the Lake, Culver.

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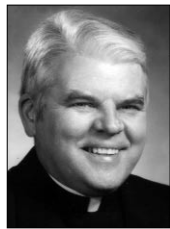
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Diocese solidifies celebration of the Latin Mass



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Must be given due honor for its venerable and ancient usage

With such words does Pope Benedict XVI present to us the reason for the right use of what he has called the extraordinary form of the Roman rite. In this decision, Pope Benedict showed his great pastoral heart and gave a place to the traditional Latin Mass, the Mass promulgated by blessed Pope John XXIII in 1962, "never abrogated" and named it as "extraordinary form of the liturgy of the church" — he also showed his understanding of history. In a letter written to bishops, the Holy Father said too often the serious divisions in the church could have been avoided if the church or the Holy See had taken an extra step toward reconciliation. He hopes to reconcile those who have separated themselves from the church.

Mindful of all those who treasure the Latin rite and indeed of many young people who find themselves better able to worship in it because of what they sense as a strong sense of mystery, the pope has made it possible for the older Latin rite to be celebrated without any special permission.

Indeed since Pope John Paul II allowed this under some conditions and encouraged bishops to be open to it, in a special apostolic letter in 1988, we have been blessed to have in our diocese what is now called the extraordinary form. This is the Mass that I grew up with and prayed at Our Lady of Presentation Church in Brighton, Mass., the Mass I celebrated for the first 10 years of my priesthood. It has been celebrated every Sunday in each end of our diocese since 1989.

In Fort Wayne, several senior priests have made this available. I salute Father Dan Leeuw, Father Adam Schmidt, and there have been others. In the South Bend area, one thinks especially of Father Jim Seculoff, who celebrated this Mass both in St. Mary, Bristol, and also in St. John the Baptist, South Bend. More recently several priests of Holy Cross have filled in, Father Jerome Esper, CSC, and Father Tom Blantz, CSC.

A special new priest

When Pope Benedict XVI issued his motu proprio, I thought immediately of Father George Gabet, FSSP. Father George is a native of St. John Parish, New Haven, and attended Bishop Dwenger High School, where among other things, he played foot-
ball.

Several years ago, I had the privilege of ordaining Father George according to the old rite, the rite by which I was ordained 51

years ago at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston. For many years, my good friend Dominic (Nick) Harris has asked me to bring in a member of Father George's community, the Fraternity of St. Peter, to give assurance that this Mass could be celebrated well into the future. The significant number that attend the Mass in Fort Wayne are worried that with priests aging, they may not have anyone to celebrate this Mass. Father George is a member of a religious congregation called The Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter and they are dedicated to the celebration of Mass under this form.

With the help of Father Bob Schulte, our vicar general, we reached Father George, and with the approval of his superiors, he began his ministry with us this past Sunday.

Father Gabet will be responsible for celebrating the Mass according to the extraordinary rite in both Fort Wayne and South Bend. He will have the spiritual care of each community. To the extent possible, he will celebrate the Mass in each church each Sunday, and where necessary, he will call on other priests to help him.

Father George will also assist as part-time priest chaplain at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne and will try to visit each Catholic patient there twice a week.

His community has asked that he be assigned as a chaplain to each group and that the group have a heavenly patron. Of course, we have chosen St. Mother

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Of course, we have chosen
St. Mother Theodore Guérin.

Theodore Guérin.

Father George will live at Sacred Heart rectory, Fort Wayne, but will be responsible for the pastoral care of each community, working in close communion with each pastor. Like the priests of other religious congregations, he will be a full member of our presbyterate, and I am pleased to welcome him back to his home diocese. I know he will be a blessing for us.

Professor Mark Searle

Many years ago when the Latin Mass was reintroduced in our diocese at the request of Pope John Paul II, I met Professor Mark Searle, who served for a short time on our Diocesan Liturgical Commission and who was an eminent liturgical scholar teaching at Notre Dame. He later died quite prematurely. At any rate, he gave me clear advice when this Mass was first restored. He said, "Bishop, it is very important for you to celebrate that Mass with the people so they have a sense that they are fully part of the diocese." I was

privileged to do so, and now I intend to do so again. I have asked Father George to set up a time so I can celebrate this Mass in each end of the diocese. I will need to rehearse again, and it will bring back so many memories. I look forward to it and to meeting those many people including, I am told, a few young people who come from the surrounding area to pray at this Mass.

Saint Joe Medical Center

Recently I made a pastoral visitation to Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend. Founded, like so many other institutions in our diocese, by the Congregation of Holy Cross, in this case the sisters. This hospital has served with a special devotion to the poor and needy in this diocese since 1882. I offered Mass in the chapel and concelebrated with Father Henry Byekwaso, the chaplain. Also present was Father David Tyson, CSC, provincial of Holy Cross, and Father Tony Szakaly, CSC, associate provincial, along with many South Bend pastors.

I want to single out one beautiful event that was shared with us at the luncheon that followed. You know that one of the most painful things that can happen to a mother, indeed to a father as well, is the loss of an unborn child through a miscarriage. Just when it seems there is to be a new person in the world, something unexpected happens, and the birth does not take place.

Saint Joseph Medical Center as part of its pro-life efforts will, with great sensitivity, take the remains of the unborn child and bury them in a special cemetery plot. Then once or twice a year, all the parents who have lost a child in this way are brought together for a prayer service at the cemetery. This gives closure to a very painful event. Many thanks to Sister Laureen Painter, pastoral minister at the medical center, who has put together this effort along with Nancy Hellyer.

Gratitude also to Nancy for her strong emphasis on the Catholic identity during her time as administrator at Saint Joseph Medical Center, and to Father Henry for his devotion to the sick and the dying for over 20 years. A beautiful day at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend.

Another parish mission

I was off west on a wintry northern Indiana night to our westernmost parish, St. Stanislaus Kostka, New Carlisle. My purpose was to close the mission with Father Paul McCarthy. Despite some health problems, Father Paul has begun a vigorous ministry among the people there. He has instituted eucharistic adoration on a weekly basis and is working hard for the renewal and restoration of the sacrament of penance.

It was a joy to hear from so many people how much they appreciate his presence and his leadership, and there was a fine crowd despite the wintry evening.

Looking forward to Holy Week and also to watching spring training from afar. No call as of yet from the Red Sox, but there is still time.

See you all next week.

GABET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

School and Ball State University. Partly through his work in the pro-life movement, he discovered his vocation and entered the international seminary of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter in Wigratzbad, Germany in 1991. He was ordained a priest by Bishop D'Arcy in 1997. Father Gabet recently served as North American district superior of the fraternity. During this time, the fraternity opened 11 new apostolates across the United States.

"This will be our 35th diocese that we'll be working in," explains Father Gabet of his Fort Wayne assignment, "and also our 40th apostolate within those 35 dioceses in the United States and Canada."

Father Gabet's assignment in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend came at a time when he was looking for a ministry that was less demanding and required less time

in airports, and Bishop D'Arcy was looking for a priest to continue the work and dedication of priests like Father Dan Leeuw, Father James Seculoff, Father Adam Schmitt and others who have said the Latin Mass in Fort Wayne and South Bend in recent decades.

"I think we need to build up the community in South Bend," Father Gabet says, noting that the St. John the Baptist community has been without a priest who says the Latin Mass since Father Seculoff's move to New Haven in 2007.

Father Gabet will travel to South Bend almost every Sunday to celebrate Mass at St. John the Baptist. He will also offer a daily Latin Mass at Sacred Heart in Fort Wayne. Other priests who are willing and available will say the Sunday Mass in Fort Wayne.

Along with saying Mass, the pope's motu proprio allows for administering the sacraments according to the earlier rituals, notes Brian MacMichael, director of the Office of Worship for the diocese. This, he adds, fits with Father Gabet's role as a chaplain.

Also as a result of the motu

proprio, demand has risen for priests of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter.

"We feel blessed to have his ministry here in this diocese," said Father Robert Schulte, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Father Gabet says he too is happy to be back in Fort Wayne with his family and serving the community that first introduced him to the Tridentine rite.

"It's every priest's dream come true," he notes, thanking God, Bishop D'Arcy and Father John Berg, his superior general.

Addressing the issue of the role of the extraordinary form of the Roman Missal in the context of the church as a whole, Father Gabet says the church has always had different rites, all fully in communion with Rome, and that together, they create a beautiful arrangement much as different flowers do in a bouquet. He adds that what is important is meeting the spiritual needs of the faithful and that, for some people, this means the Latin Mass.

"It helps them to be holier," he notes. "It helps them pray better."

STATEMENT BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Appointment of Father George Gabet

Bishop D'Arcy has announced the appointment of Rev. George G. Gabet of the Fraternity of St. Peter, as chaplain to the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Community. This community will be part of the parish of Sacred Heart, Fort Wayne. Father Gabet has also been appointed chaplain of the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Community at St. John the Baptist Parish, South Bend.

This appointment is effective March 2, 2008, and has been made in communion with and in full observance of the apostolic letter in the form of motu proprio, "Summorum Pontificum."

Father Gabet, therefore, will serve as a chaplain in these two parishes with responsibility for the community who worships under the extraordinary form of the Roman Missal, as detailed by Pope Benedict XVI in "Summorum Pontificum."

Father Gabet will also serve as a part-time chaplain at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, assisting the priests of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish and working with Roseann Bloomfield, who has been appointed by the bishop for pastoral care at this hospital.

Essays reveal how teens plan to make a ripple effect

Fifteen students to travel to New York for papal Mass at Yankee Stadium

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — "One of the great sources of hope in our faith and what we believe in is that after 2,000 years of our church being beaten and battered, an 80-year-old man can gather so many young people. He can do this not only because of who he is but also who he represents."

Those were the words included in an essay written by Anthony Christie of Roanoke, who entered the diocesan essay contest to travel to New York City to attend the papal Mass at Yankee Stadium when Pope Benedict XVI visits America mid-April. Christie, a junior at Bishop Luers High School and member of St. Aloysius, Yoder, is one of 15 teens who will travel to New York for the papal Mass.

But this is not a pilgrimage for teens who would keep their experiences to themselves. Part of the essay required them to respond by including one creative and specific way that they could bring their encounter with Pope Benedict back to their parish, youth group, or school, so that their trip will have a ripple effect.

The essay was based on Pope Benedict's encyclical "Spe Salvi," and based on the following line: "... can our encounter with the God, who in Christ has shown us his face and opened his heart, be for us to not just 'informative' but 'performative' — that is to say, can it change our lives, so that we know we are redeemed through the hope that it expresses?"

Entrants were also required to have a pastor's recommendation.

Msgr. J. William Lester took the task of reading the 60 submissions from 26 parishes. Msgr. Lester, who has vast educational and pastoral experience, carefully

reviewed the essays based on which fulfilled the criteria and offered specific ideas for bringing the experience of the papal trip back to the diocese.

Besides Christie, those selected include Joann Derbiszewski of Granger, Thomas Ostrowski of Auburn, Michael Harding of Fort Wayne, Lindsay Harris of Fort Wayne, Rachel Harmon of Decatur, Rachel Lill of Fort Wayne, Benjamin Keller of Hamlet, Austin Roy of Fort Wayne, Kelsey Weidman of Milford, Sarah Robertson of South Bend, Joel Florek of Marquette, Mich., Rene Alejandro Flores of South Bend, Katherine Gordon of Bluffton and Alan Gustavo Pizana of Ligonier. They will join Director of Youth Ministry Cindy Black, Father Jason Freiburger, associate pastor at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, and diocesan employees who will chaperone the trip.

The teens' means to promote their experiences is vast.

Bishop Dwenger student Lindsay Harris wrote, "I have a creative way on how to bring my trip to see the pope back to my community and to those without hope. During the trip I will record various footage of the Mass, pope, reactions of people on the trip, and other aspects.

"I will then edit it into a podcast that people can access online and download onto their iPods," Harris added. "Since many people have gotten into the iPod trend, this video of the pope coming to New York will reach many."

Fort Wayne Homestead senior Rachel Lill noted in her essay: "Even though I do not go to a Catholic school I still want to represent my faith there. I want to write an article in the school newspaper about the trip. This will let the school know that I am proud of my Catholic faith. I want to let my

school know that I am Catholic, and they can come to me with questions about the Catholic faith."

Ben Keller, a freshman from Walkerton, wrote: "If I was chosen to go to the papal Mass with Pope Benedict XVI, I would be able to spread the word to those insecure about their faith, or those that don't believe in the Lord. If I was accepted, I would be able to make a presentation, and present it to my English class and educate those who don't know who the pope is, or what a pope is. I would spread the message of God and the pope around my school to my peers."

Keller added, "I would share that presentation with the parish on the next Sunday during Mass. I would also be able to share the experience with my classmates in religious education, with the help of my mother, the teacher. My grandmother is a teacher at a Catholic school, and I would be able to make a presentation to the fifth- and sixth-grade class, to teach them about the Lord."

Catherine Gordon, a sophomore at Norwell High School in Ossian, wrote, "Christ's love is present every day in every way, urging us toward a fulfilling life. It is our responsibility — it is my duty — to open our hearts to him and start making that difference."

And Alan Pizana, from St. Patrick Parish, Ligonier, wrote "to be informative and performative means taking your knowledge and using it at the right time when doing a daily task."

The teens are a group of 150 from the diocese who will attend the events in New York. In addition Superintendent of Catholic Schools Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger will attend the papal meeting with educators in Washington, D.C. Bishop John M. D'Arcy will concelebrate Mass in Washington.

Lansing bishop retires; Detroit auxiliary successor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Bishop Carl F. Mengeling of Lansing, Mich., 77, and named as his successor Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Earl A. Boyea, 56.

The changes were announced in Washington Feb. 27 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Bishop Boyea's installation will be April 29.

"I am blessed to be the bearer and bringer of good news," Bishop Mengeling told reporters at a press conference in Lansing.

"For more than two years, we have been patiently waiting, amidst much rumor and speculation, for the announcement of a new bishop for the Diocese of Lansing," he said. "Today, we thank God and rejoice in our new bishop."

He noted that canon law requires all bishops to submit their resignation to the pope at age 75, which he did in 2005, he said.

Bishop Mengeling, ordained as the bishop of Lansing Jan. 26, 1996, said that in the last 12 years he has met Bishop Boyea on various occasions and knows that, "above all, he loves being a priest and bishop who loves Christ and his church."

"He seeks to be a eucharistic priest with a servant's heart," he said. "He is a 'people person,' friendly, relational, engaging and an available, willing and generous servant, blessed with a sharp mind and sense of humor."

"I believe he will be a good shepherd — inviting, welcoming, teaching, sanctifying and serving all in the name of Christ," he added.

The 10-county diocese covers about 6,200 square miles. It has a Catholic population of about 222,500 in a total population of 1.8 million people.

In his remarks, Bishop Boyea said the pope's decision "to entrust to me the leadership of and the care for the church of Lansing moves me not only to give thanks to God and to his Holiness but also brings me great joy."

Bishop Boyea praised Bishop



Bishop Earl A. Boyea, Diocese of Lansing

Mengeling for his "dedication, love of Christ, untiring service, gentle leadership, joyous demeanor, dynamic preaching and unstinting love" for the diocese.

He asked

the Catholics of the diocese "to help me do my task well: 'Lead good lives' and let us pray for one another so that my time as your bishop will be fruitful both for me and for you."

Born in Pontiac, Mich., April 10, 1951, Bishop Boyea earned a bachelor's degree in history at Sacred Heart Seminary's college in Detroit. He went to the Pontifical North American College in Rome, earning a licentiate in sacred theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University. He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit May 20, 1978.

While serving as an associate pastor, he earned a master of arts degree in history at Wayne State University in Detroit in 1984. He earned a doctorate in church history from The Catholic University of America in Washington in 1987, and also did graduate studies at the University of Michigan.

From 1988 to 2000, he was on the faculty of Sacred Heart Seminary. In February 2000, Msgr. Boyea was named president and rector of the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, a position he held until 2002. Pope John Paul II named him an auxiliary bishop of Detroit in June 2002 and his episcopal ordination was Sept. 13, 2002.

Bishop Boyea is a member of several organizations including the Catholic Biblical Association, the U.S. Catholic Historical Society, the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars and the Midwest Association of Theological Schools.

Pope welcomes Glendon, urges Americans to let values guide choices

CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Welcoming Mary Ann Glendon as the new U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI praised those working to defend human life and urged Americans to let moral values influence their political choices.

"The American people's historic appreciation of the role of religion" in making policy decisions that take ethical and moral values into account, the pope said, "is reflected in the efforts of so many of your fellow citizens and government leaders to ensure legal protection for God's gift of life, from conception to natural death."

The pope said the same commitment to moral values is seen in efforts to safeguard "the institution of marriage, acknowledged as a stable union between a man and a woman, and that of the family."

With members of her family looking on Feb. 29, Glendon and the pope exchanged speeches focused on protecting human dignity, eliminating poverty and promoting peace.

And both of them mentioned Pope Benedict's planned April 15-20 trip to Washington and New York.

"I look forward to my pastoral visit to the United States in April," the pope told Glendon.

"On your first visit to the U.S. as pontiff, you will find a warm welcome from a nation that understands the important contribution offered by people of faith in our society," the ambassador assured him.

"You will be among friends," she said.



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI poses with Mary Ann Glendon, the new U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, during a private meeting at the Vatican Feb. 29.

Glendon, 69, is no stranger to the Vatican. The Harvard law professor has been a member of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences since 1994 and served as president of the body for almost four years before being sworn in as U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

Welcoming Glendon in her new role, Pope Benedict said, "I am confident that the knowledge and experience born of your distinguished association with the work of the Holy See will prove beneficial in the fulfillment of your duties."

Pope Benedict's concerns about certain trends in U.S. society and certain policies of the U.S. government were framed as expressions of praise for those working to protect human life and the traditional family and statements of hope for peace.

Looking at global issues, the pope said, "the plague of international terrorism" is not the only

threat facing the human family.

"The quickening pace of the arms race and the continuance of tensions in the Middle East" also threaten the future, he said.

The pope repeated his call for "patient and transparent negotiations" to reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons, and he expressed his hope that the November Middle East peace conference hosted by the United States in Annapolis, Md., was "the first of a series of steps toward lasting peace in the region."

Pope Benedict also repeated his conviction that nations, including the United States, must not act unilaterally in the face of problems that threaten peace and stability around the world.

Peace in the Middle East, concern over new nations developing nuclear weapons and other problems, he said, call for "trust in, and commitment to, the work of international bodies such as the

United Nations."

The international organizations "by their nature are capable of fostering genuine dialogue and understanding, reconciling divergent views, and developing multi-lateral policies and strategies capable of meeting the manifold challenges of our complex and rapidly changing world."

Glendon and the pope also noted that 2008 marks the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, an anniversary Glendon said she hoped the United States and Vatican could celebrate with a joint commemoration.

Pope Benedict said the declaration "was the product of a worldwide recognition that a just global order can only be based on the acknowledgment and defense of the inviolable dignity and rights of every man and woman."

The massacres and wars of the 20th century, "culminating in the planned extermination of whole peoples," particularly the Jews during World War II, demonstrate that political bargaining alone cannot ensure the future of humanity and the protection of individuals, the pope said.

"It must be the fruit of a deep consensus based on the acknowledgment of universal

truths," he said.

Pope Benedict praised the people of the United States for the way they have worked together to unite "people of good will, regardless of race, nationality or creed."

"Today this task of reconciling unity and diversity, of forging a common vision and summoning the moral energy to accomplish

it, has become an urgent priority for the whole human family," he said.

The pope also praised the United States for its generosity in foreign aid.

"The building of a more secure future for the human family means first and foremost working for the integral development of peoples, especially through the provision of adequate health care, the elimination of pan-

demics like AIDS, broader educational opportunities to young people, the promotion of women and the curbing of the corruption and militarization which divert precious resources from many of our brothers and sisters in the poorer countries," he said.

Glendon told the pope, "Your Holiness, the United States is an instrument of hope in the world because its people are compassionate and generous."

"I am confident that the knowledge and experience born of your distinguished association with the work of the Holy See will prove beneficial in the fulfillment of your duties."

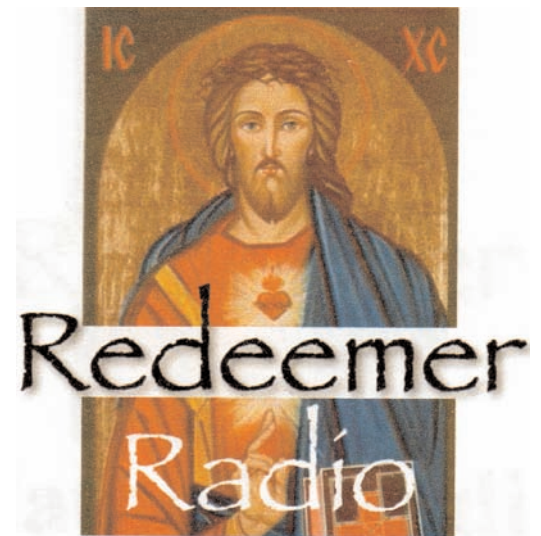
POPE BENEDICT XVI

We serve together in *dedication*
Trinity Health, in the spirit of the Gospel, to heal *heal*
body, mind and spirit, to improve the health of our *body*
communities and to *mind*
steward the resources entrusted to us. *spirit*

faith

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Vatican says baptisms using wrong words are not valid

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A baptism administered “in the name of the Creator, and of the Redeemer and of the Sanctifier” is not a baptism at all, said the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The congregation’s statement was published Feb. 29 as a brief response to questions regarding the validity of baptisms using that formula.

Asked whether a baptism performed with that formula — or a similar one referring to the “Creator, Liberator and Sustainer” — would be valid, the congregation answered “Negative.”

Asked whether people who were initiated with a rite using these formulas would now need to be baptized “in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” the congregation answered “Affirmative.”

The congregation said Pope Benedict XVI “approved these responses” and ordered their publication.

If the formulas — recently initiated in North America to avoid referring to the Trinity with masculine names — was used, the person is not yet formally a Christian and any subsequent sacraments the person received also are invalid, said Cardinal Urbano Navarrete in a commentary commissioned by the doctrinal congregation.

“Persons who were baptized or will be baptized in the future with the formulas in question in reality are not baptized,” the cardinal wrote. If they are now adults and want to be baptized, they must receive the instruction prescribed for all preparing for baptism and they should receive baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist during the same Mass, he said.

The most serious practical consequences, he said, are likely to be seen in the area of marriage where no sacrament exists if both spouses had been baptized with an invalid formula.

Even if only one of the spouses had been baptized with an invalid formula, there still is no valid sacrament of matrimony

unless before the wedding the couple had obtained the dispensation needed for a marriage between a Catholic and a non-Christian, the cardinal said.

Cardinal Navarrete also said that, obviously, the sacraments of confirmation and of holy orders also are invalid when conferred on people baptized with an invalid formula.

In addition, he said, anyone who attempted to baptize someone using an invalid formula is subject to church penalties, which should be applied since it is “seriously illegitimate and unjust to deceive both the baptized and the community” by presenting the rite as a baptism.

In a separate commentary also commissioned by the doctrinal congregation, Msgr. Antonio Miralles said “expressions that invalidate the conferral of a true baptism cannot be tolerated by the church.”

The monsignor, a consultant to the doctrinal congregation and a professor at Rome’s Pontifical Holy Cross University, said the church believes it has no authority “to change that which Christ himself instituted” when he told his disciples to go out and baptize “in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

The problem with using “creator” and “redeemer” is not that they do not identify God as male, but that they “subvert faith in the Trinity” because they do not make clear the relationship among the three distinct persons, he said.

The monsignor also argued that the use of the recent formulas — more common among Protestants than among Catholics — could have a negative impact on ecumenism, because a common baptism is essential for Christian unity.

A baptism recognized as valid by all dialogue partners is what allows them to call each other Christians, he said.

“All of us Christians are called to remain solidly faithful to the unity well expressed in the Letter to the Ephesians,” which calls for a common profession of “one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,” he said.

Drop in number of U.S. Catholics offset by new immigrants, study says

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — According to a new study on the religious affiliation of U.S. adults, 28 percent of Americans have either changed religious affiliations or claim no religion at all.

The study also shows the Catholic Church has been hardest hit by these shifts, but that the influx of Catholic immigrants has offset the loss. So, the percentage of the adult population that identifies itself as Catholic has held fairly steady at around 25 percent, it says.

The 148-page study, “U.S. Religious Landscape Survey,” was conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life and based on interviews with 35,000 adults last year.

Its findings, released Feb. 25, show that roughly 10 percent of all Americans are former Catholics. Almost half of these former Catholics joined Protestant denominations, while about half do not have a religious affiliation and a small percentage chose other faiths.

“If everyone raised Catholic stayed (with their religious affiliation), Catholics would be one-third of the population,” said John Green, a senior research fellow and a principal author of the study.

Jesuit Father Allan Figueroa Deck, executive director of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, said he was hardly surprised by the report, which he described as “more than a gentle wake-up call.”

He told Catholic News Service Feb. 27 that the trend of adult Catholics leaving the church points to the “lack of a more vigorous engagement” with the church’s diverse membership. “We can’t sit on our laurels,” he said, stressing the need to promote lay leaders, encourage vocations and also think of creative ways to evangelize and reach out to members.

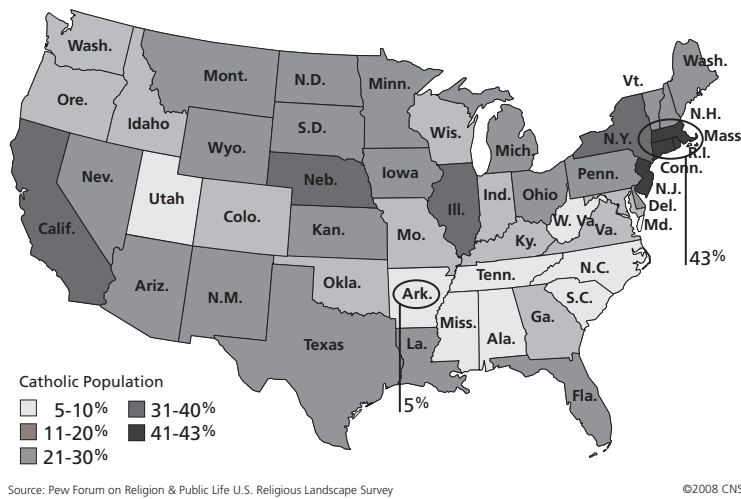
The margin of error for the total sample surveyed is plus or minus 0.6 percentage points.

In a Feb. 25 teleconference with reporters, Green attributed the shifts in religious affiliation to “lifecycle effects,” or the changes young people make when they are on their own. He also said the changes in religious affiliation could be explained in part by the diversity of today’s American society where there are “a greater number of options.”

The Catholic Church was not the only religious affiliation to lose members. Study researchers said

Catholics Across the U.S.

Massachusetts and Connecticut with Rhode Island have the greatest portion of Catholics when compared with other states. Arkansas has the least.



they found an overall fluidity of religious affiliation.

Baptists experienced a net loss of 3.7 percent and Methodists lost 2.1 percent. Figures relating to the Catholic Church show that 31.4 percent of adults in the United States said they were raised Catholic while only 23.9 percent of them identify with the Catholic Church today, giving the church a net loss of 7.5 percent.

“Everybody in this country is losing members; everybody is gaining members,” said Luis Lugo, director of the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, during the teleconference.

The survey, conducted through phone interviews from May to August 2007, asked respondents more than 40 questions, including what faith they were raised in and what they currently practice. According to the responses, 78.4 percent of Americans are Christians, about 5 percent belong to other faith traditions and 16.1 percent are unaffiliated with any religion, which the survey described as the fastest-growing religious category in America.

The respondents who said they were not affiliated with any particular faith today are more than double the number who said they weren’t affiliated with any particular religion as children. Among Americans ages 18-29, one-quarter say they are not currently affiliated with any particular religion.

The survey’s researchers said the study also confirms that the United States is “on the verge of becoming a minority Protestant country.”

Although roughly 51 percent of Americans said they are members of Protestant denominations, the study points to “significant internal

diversity and fragmentation” among Protestants where “hundreds of different denominations (are) loosely grouped around three fairly distinct religious traditions — evangelical Protestant churches, mainline Protestant churches and historically black Protestant churches.”

Mark Gray, a research associate at the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University, called the Pew report a “great study” but said much of the media coverage could be misleading.

For example, he told CNS, one aspect of the study that has been overlooked is that, despite the number of adults leaving, the Catholic Church continues to have a 68 percent retention rate of members who have been Catholic since childhood.

He said that rate puts the church just behind the Mormon, Orthodox and Jewish traditions, which have a 70 percent retention rate. Hindus top the list with an 84 percent retention rate. These figures can get lost because the Catholic Church is such a large religious group and “everything is proportional,” Gray added.

In examining the data for the Catholic Church, the researchers said the increase in Latin American members projects not only a future trend for the makeup of American Catholicism, but for the United States as a whole.

According to the survey, Latinos already account for roughly one in three adult Catholics overall and may account for an even larger share of U.S. Catholics in the future. It said Latinos represent roughly one in eight U.S. Catholics age 70 and older and account for nearly half of all Catholics ages 18-29.



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Kidnappers take Iraqi archbishop, kill his three companions

ROME (CNS) — Kidnappers abducted Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho of Mosul, Iraq, and killed the three people who were traveling with him. Chaldean Bishop Rabban al Qas of Arbil told the Rome-based missionary news service AsiaNews that Mosul's archbishop was kidnapped late Feb. 29 after he finished leading the Way of the Cross. Archbishop Rahho had just left the Church of the Holy Spirit in Mosul and was in his car with three other men when the kidnappers attacked. "The bishop is in the hands of terrorists," Bishop Qas told AsiaNews. "But we don't know what physical condition (the archbishop is in); the three men who were with him in the car, including his driver, were killed," he explained. "It's a terrible time for our church; pray for us," he said. The kidnappers have reportedly communicated their demands, which were not made public.

Mercy sister named Canon Law Society of America executive coordinator

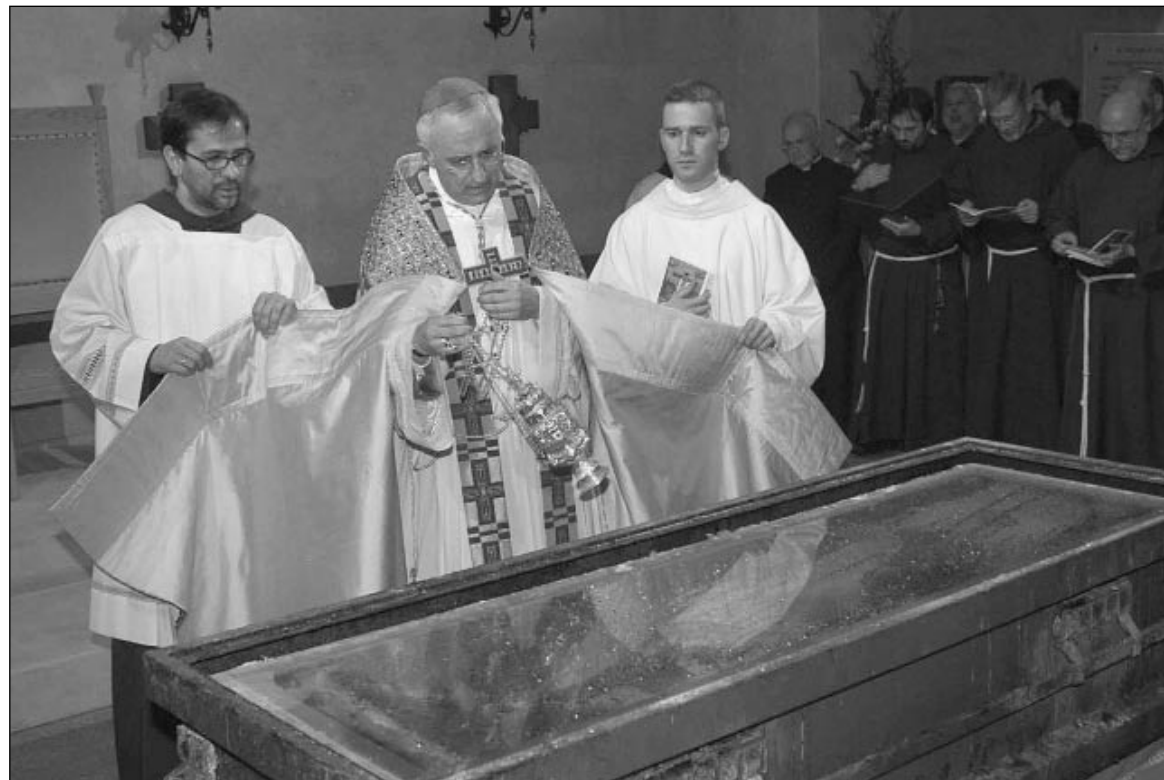
WASHINGTON (CNS) — Mercy Sister Sharon Euart has been named executive coordinator of the Canon Law Society of America, effective Aug. 1. Sister Euart is the first woman to hold what is the society's chief administrative officer position. She was president of the organization 2004-05. Sister Euart has been a member of the Canon Law Society of America since 1984 and has been a consultant to its board of governors, 1995-97; a member of the organization's publications task force; and served on the Committee on the Canonical Aspects of the Sexual Abuse of Minors. She also was a member of the special task force that drafted a guide to the implementation of the U.S. bishops' essential norms for diocesan and eparchial policies dealing with allegations of clerical sexual misconduct. A former associate general secretary of the U.S. bishops' conference, Sister Euart serves as a consultant to the bishops' Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance and to the work group on "Apostolos Suos," the Vatican document by Pope John Paul II on the theological and juridical nature of bishops' conference.

Six U.S. prelates named as delegates, alternates to October synod

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Six U.S. bishops have been named as delegates or alternates to the October world Synod of Bishops that focuses on the Bible. Among the delegates are the president and vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago and Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., respectively. The other two delegates are Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston and Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of

NEWS BRIEFS

ARCHBISHOP BLESSES BODY OF ST. PADRE PIO



CNS PHOTO/VOCE DI PADRE PIO VIA REUTERS

Archbishop Domenico D'Ambrosio, center, blesses the body of St. Padre Pio during its exhumation in San Giovanni Rotondo, southern Italy, March 2. The body of the saint is to be conserved and put in a new glass coffin and will be displayed for public viewing beginning April 24.

Washington. Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., the immediate past USCCB president, has been named as an alternate, as has Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia. The U.S. delegates and alternates were elected by the bishops' conference and ratified by the pope; their names were released in February. The theme of the synod, scheduled for Oct. 5-26, will be "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church."

Catholic Church fights bills to lift limitations on sex abuse cases

SEATTLE (CNS) — The Catholic conferences in at least two states are opposing bills in their state legislatures that would eliminate the statute of limitations for suits brought on behalf of victims of child sexual abuse. The proposed legislation in Colorado and Wisconsin also would permit "windows" of time to allow retroactive suits dealing with incidents that occurred decades ago. In a third state, Maryland, a similar bill has been withdrawn by the lawmaker who introduced it, Democratic Delegate Eric Bromwell. The Maryland Catholic Conference led the opposition to the measure and credited his decision to withdraw it to efforts to fight it by his Catholic constituents. In each state the Catholic conference has said such legislation is biased for treating church institutions differently from public bodies and would seriously impact the church's ministry to the community at large. A Catholic conference is an agency created by the bishops of a state to represent the public policy and pastoral inter-

ests of the church and to advocate positions in the legislative process.

William F. Buckley Jr. dies at age 82

WASHINGTON (CNS) — William F. Buckley Jr., a Catholic with an extraordinary gift for the spoken and written word who was dubbed the godfather of modern American conservatism, died Feb. 27 at his home in Stamford, Conn. He was 82. The commentator suffered from diabetes and emphysema, but the exact cause of death was not known. Buckley was found dead at the desk in his study where he reportedly had been writing. "He died with his boots on, after a lifetime of riding pretty tall in the saddle," his son, Christopher, was quoted as saying. Funeral arrangements had not been announced as of Feb. 28. Buckley may have been best known for his work with the *National Review*, a conservative political magazine he founded in 1955 and where he served as editor until 1990. He also wrote more than 50 books as diverse as spy novels and a book on sailing. He wrote an account of his Catholic beliefs in the 1997 book "Nearer, My God: An Autobiography of Faith."

Pope says Catholic aid agencies must give workers spiritual formation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholic aid agencies must offer their workers continual spiritual formation so those in need can witness God's merciful love, Pope Benedict XVI said. While profes-

sional training and technical expertise are important, a "formation of the heart" is indispensable for those who work for church-based charities, he told members of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum in a Feb. 29 audience. The kind of help the church offers humanity "must never be reduced to mere philanthropy, but must be a tangible expression of evangelical love," he said. Cor Unum, the Vatican agency that promotes and coordinates Catholic charitable giving, held its plenary assembly in Rome.

Ticket distribution plan set for pope's Washington Mass

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Close to 14,000 people out of the 45,000 expected to be in attendance at Pope Benedict XVI's April 17 Mass in Washington will hail from outside the Archdiocese of Washington. Of the 14,000 tickets to be distributed, the neighboring Diocese of Arlington, Va., will get 6,000 and the neighboring Archdiocese of Baltimore will receive 2,500. Nearly 120 U.S. dioceses that had requested tickets were sent letters Feb. 25 by the Archdiocese of Washington on how many tickets they will receive, according to an announcement by the archdiocese. The Mass will take place at Nationals Park, the new stadium for the Washington Nationals baseball team. It will be the first nonbaseball event at the new stadium. More information about the pope's U.S. visit April 15-20 is available online at: www.uspapalvisit.org.

Number of priests increases, not as fast as number of Catholics

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The latest church statistics show that the number of priests and seminarians in the world continues to increase, but not as fast as the general Catholic population. The statistics from the end of 2006 also confirm a gradual geographical shift in vocations from Europe and the Americas to Africa and Asia. The sampling of statistics was released Feb. 29 in connection with the presentation of the 2008 edition of the Vatican yearbook, known as the "Anuario Pontificio," which catalogs the church's presence in each diocese. The Vatican said the global Catholic population increased during 2006 by 1.4 percent, from 1.115 billion to 1.131 billion. The number of priests in the world also rose, but by 0.21 percent. At the end of 2006 there were 407,262 priests in the world, 851 more than at the beginning of the year.

Observers describe photo of Chinese president greeting Liu as strange

HONG KONG (CNS) — Observers of the Catholic Church in China said a recently published photo of Chinese President Hu Jintao shaking hands with the vice chairman of the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association is strange. A priest in northern China, who requested anonymity, told the Asian church news agency UCA News that Chinese communists always have seen religion as "a closed area and a controversial subject," regardless of whether conservatives or liberals in the government were gaining ground. He described the photo as "unusual." The photo first appeared on the front page of the Jan. 2 issue of the official Chinese-language *People's Daily*. The caption explained that Hu was greeting people from various sectors but did not name Anthony Liu Bainian, vice chairman of the Beijing-based patriotic association. The patriotic association acts as a liaison between registered Catholics and the Chinese government.

Vatican secretary of state to inaugurate church in Azerbaijan

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, has traveled to Azerbaijan to inaugurate a Catholic church built on land given to Pope John Paul II and partially paid for with royalties from the late pope's books. The Vatican announced Feb. 26 that Cardinal Bertone would travel to Armenia March 2-6 and Azerbaijan March 6-9. In Azerbaijan, a predominantly Muslim country, Cardinal Bertone also is scheduled to meet with Sheik Allahshukur Pashazade, chairman of the Muslim council of the Caucasus region, and with other religious leaders "to express the will of the Catholic Church to collaborate in the common commitment on behalf of peace, agreement among peoples and the good of the human family," the Vatican said.

Excellence in teaching award goes to Dr. Justin Watson

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College has honored Dr. Justin Watson with their annual Excellence in Teaching Award. The award is given each year to the faculty member who draws the most votes from students, faculty and staff. Dr. Watson will be recognized publicly at the honors convocation on March 27 in the Driscoll Auditorium. This event will also honor the students who have made the dean's list and will include Brother George Kloughton as a featured speaker.

Dr. Watson's student nominations stated that his classes were always enjoyable due to his patience, passion, high academic standards and unwavering positive attitude. The students find his courses a valuable learning experience that combines the abstract course material with its real world, contemporary applications. His colleagues' nominations described him as compassionate, respectful, helpful and mission-driven.

After receiving his bachelor's in political science from the University of Nevada, Dr. Watson earned two masters' in literature and rhetoric and composition from the University of Eastern Washington. He also earned a doctorate in English from the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Watson has been teaching at the college for 12 years and has taught a wide range of literature and English courses as well as some interdisciplinary classes. Recently, Dr. Watson was promoted to the post of Dean of Faculty.

Luers students to participate in FBLA state conference

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Club will be sending 22 students from every grade (9-12) to participate in the State Leadership Conference on March 14-16 in Indianapolis.

During this conference, FBLA members will compete in various business education events. The competitive events will range from straight testing on bubble sheets, computer testing and public speaking events including public speaking, impromptu and interview.

Additionally, students will attend meetings and social events that will introduce them to students from the many chapters across the state. If a student performs well at the state level, it may be possible for him/her to compete nationally in Atlanta, Ga., this summer.

In the past, FBLA participants have attended conferences at Disney World, Opryland in Nashville, Tenn., Dallas, Denver and Chicago. In 2007, Bishop Luers had 15 students attend the national competition earning awards in public speaking, word processing, business communications, computer applications, banking and financial systems and networking concepts.

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Most Precious Blood School seventh- and eighth-grade students received training in CPR, the use of an automated electric defibrillator and the Heimlich maneuver, through a grant made possible by the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation. The training took place Feb. 27. In the photo, eighth grader Keenan Schon practices compression.

Two USF students advance to finals of Nascent 500 Business Plan Challenge

FORT WAYNE — Two University of Saint Francis students have been selected as finalists in the Nascent 500 Business Plan Challenge to be held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on March 28.

Students Krista Van Lue, a senior majoring in business/marketing from Syracuse, and Bridget Becker, a senior majoring in religion/communication from Fort Wayne, are among the nation's top 12 entries for their business plan, "Destination."

The student team has won \$500 each for advancing to the finals. This is the first time that the Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurship at the University of Saint Francis has participated in a national contest.

Intensive courses for teachers offered during summer at USF

FORT WAYNE — The Department of Education at the University of Saint Francis will host an Educator's Academy featuring three separate, three-credit classes for teachers this summer: The Differentiated Classroom, Strategies for Struggling Readers and Strategies for High Ability Gifted Students.

The Differentiated Classroom will run June 9-13 from 9 a.m. to

5 p.m. The purpose of this course is to help teachers respond to the learning needs of an increasingly diverse student body while also navigating the demands of their curriculum.

Strategies for Struggling Readers runs June 16-20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This course will teach research-based strategies and approaches to improve students' reading comprehension, vocabulary and decoding that can be applied across grade levels.

Strategies for High Ability and Gifted Students will be Web-based and lasts from July 28 through Aug. 1. This course will help to create strategies and develop further understanding of students with special talents and abilities.

Tuition for each three-credit class is \$750 until May 2 and \$775 after May 2. For more information or to register, contact Nancy Hanke at (260) 399-7700 ext. 8405 or e-mail her at nhanke@sf.edu.

Film series looks at human side of immigration

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College invites its students and the greater South Bend community to the immigration film series, sponsored by the college's Justice Education and political science departments, the film studies and intercultural studies programs, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Admission to the remaining two films is free. The purpose of the

series is to raise questions about the human side of the immigration and for audience members to have an opportunity to assess the issue from a faith perspective.

"De Nadie" ("No One") will be held at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, March 18, at the Carroll Auditorium, Madeleva Hall. The film deals with impoverished Central Americans who put their last money, dignity, health and life on the line as they travel from southern Mexico to the northern border in hopes of making it into the United States. The refugees make their way through Mexico by hitching illegal rides on freight trains. Along the way they face threats by the Mexican immigration service, police, railroad security and a gang. The film, directed by Mexican filmmaker Tin Dirdamal, won the Audience Award at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival.

"The Guestworker" will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 27, in the Vander Venet Theatre, Student Center. This documentary follows a 66-year old Mexican farm worker who for 40 years has come to the United States to harvest crops to provide for his family back in Mexico. He is enrolled in the U.S. government's H-2A Guestworker Visa Program, which ensures safe passage to America but offers no hope of citizenship. This movie was filmed on both sides of the border and examines the issues surrounding the guestworker program. The 2006 film was directed by North Carolina filmmakers Cynthia Hill and Charles Thompson.

Dolores Huerta to speak at Saint Mary's during Women's History Month

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College announced that Dolores Huerta, one of the most powerful and respected labor movement leaders in America in the 20th century, will be on campus on March 11 as a Diversity Lecture Series speaker. Huerta, who is co-founder of the United Farm Workers (UFW), will speak at the college two times that day. At noon Huerta will lecture on "Women's Activism for Social Change" in the Vander Venet Theatre in the Student Center. At 6:30 p.m. she will speak about "Immigration Reform" in Carroll Auditorium in Madeleva Hall. Both lectures are free and open to the general public.

Huerta's visit is one of several events at the college during March that recognize Women's History Month. The event is part of an ongoing lecture series sponsored by the Office for Multicultural Affairs (OMA) called "Building Communities of Equity in Multicultural Societies." Huerta's appearance is co-sponsored by the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL) and the Women's Studies Program.

Huerta is best known as an advocate for immigrant worker rights. In 1962 she and Cesar Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), the predecessor to the United Farm Workers (UFW). In 1966, Huerta successfully negotiated a contract between farm workers and the corporate grape industry; it was the first of many negotiations she would facilitate between workers and growers. She would later have a hand in contracts that established the first medical and pension benefits for farm workers in the history of U.S. agriculture. Her life of social action continues today.

Bishop Luers High School announces nominees for Sterling Sentinel Awards

FORT WAYNE — The following Bishop Luers High School students were nominated by departments as Sterling Sentinel Nominees based on outstanding achievement in their given discipline: art, Elise Rorick; athletics, Isaac Baker; business, Bridgett Wyss; drama, Elizabeth Clinger; English/literature, Andrea Allphin; speech, Mein Le; vocational/industrial, Rachel Talarico; world language, Heather Hendrickson; science, Stephanie Anspach; mathematics, Joe Crouch; social science, Phil Helser; music/voice, Elliot Barger; music/instrumental, Mandy Lazzaro; and journalism, Lindsay Shutt.

Bishop Luers Minstrels to perform in Florida

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Luers Minstrels have accepted the invitation of "Showstoppers," a show choir invitational held at Walt Disney World Resort on March 13-16. The Minstrels, under the direction of Karlene Krouse, will be taking over 75 students.

Property tax debate continues, concerns over welfare of poor

INDIANAPOLIS — The finish line is in sight for lawmakers racing to deliver property tax relief for Hoosier residents by the March 14 adjournment deadline.

Which property tax relief plan will make the final hurdle? Will it be the governor's plan, the Senate Republicans' plan, the House Democrats' plan or some combination of the three? Perhaps the bigger concern, a question being asked by the Indiana Catholic Conference, the Indiana bishops' official public policy representative, is, "How will the property tax relief plan affect the least among us — the poor?"

The church is not a lone voice raising this concern for the poor. Two Catholic lawmakers, Rep. John Day (D-Indianapolis) and Sen. John Broden (D-South Bend), have chimed in to stand for lower income Hoosiers. Day offered an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) amendment to HB 1001, which was adopted and passed the full House late January. The Indiana Catholic Conference supported the amendment.

Day's amendment increases the EITC from 6 percent under current law to 9 percent. "The Earned Income Tax Credit is designed to help lower to moderate income families, especially those with children," said Day. "Over 450,000 families in Indiana have benefited from it.

For a poor person, a tax credit is almost always better than a deduction," he said.

"On a credit, if the credit is greater than the taxes owed on the income earned the person gets a refund. For example a family of three with an income of \$15,000 would get approximately \$250 back at the current 6 percent EITC. Under the House version of HB 1001 that same family would get about a \$400 credit at the proposed 9 percent credit. The Earned Income Tax Credit is a very targeted, focused tax credit to benefit the families that really need it — the working poor," said Day.

"Tax policy should be fair," said Day. "It should be based on ability to pay and should help those like the elderly on fixed incomes, the working poor, and anyone that is struggling to get by," said Day. "In hindsight, the U.S. bishops got it right in their 1986 pastoral letter 'Economic Justice for All' when they specifically mention tax fairness and that the tax code should reflect a sensitivity to the needs of poor."

House Bill 1001, which contains significant portions of the House Democrats' property tax plan, passed the full House in a bipartisan vote of 93-1 on Jan. 24.

The primary components of the House Democrats' plan include: 1) homeowners would

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



BRIGID CURTIS AYER

pay property taxes based on income and caps the maximum payment of homeowners' property taxes to 1 percent of household income beginning in 2009; 2) increases the renter's deduction from the current \$2,500 deduction to \$5,000; 3) eliminates township assessor positions statewide; 4) excludes instruction school building projects from voter referendums; and 5) excludes local debt from the cap.

The Republican-controlled Senate amended HB 1001 and ties property tax relief to assessed valuation of property rather than to household income. The Senate Republicans' plan also includes a property tax cap of 1.5 percent of a home's assessed value in 2009; and 1 percent of home's assessed value in 2010; excludes the earned income tax credit; increases the renter's deduction from the current \$2,500 deduction to \$3,000; and allows for voter referendums on all building projects.

The Senate Democrats offered several amendments on the floor

to help low to moderate income earners in Indiana with no avail. Sen. John Broden, offered an amendment to tie property taxes to one's ability to pay, which paralleled the House Democrats' plan. Broden's amendment would cap property taxes to a maximum 1 percent of household income.

"Those with the lowest income would receive the highest property tax credit," said Broden. "Households with an adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$35,000 and below would get a 90 percent credit; \$35,000-\$50,000 get a 75 percent credit; \$50,000-\$75,000 get a 62 percent credit; \$75,000-\$100,000 get a 52 percent credit; and those with incomes over \$100,000 would get a 40 percent homestead credit."

Broden said, "The problem with Senate version of HB 1001 is the people's homes with an assessed valuation of \$200,000 or more are getting the lion's share of the property tax relief."

Broden explained that because the House and Senate version increase in the sales tax from 6 to 7 percent, which disproportionately burdens lower to middle income families, the Senate version doesn't offer poorer families any way to offset the higher taxes they will pay.

Under the House Democrats' plan, which in part was contained in Broden's amendment, "The big winners would be the widow or older couples that have a lot of equity in their home, but are on a fixed income," said Broden. "Local governments and schools are very nervous about the Senate version of HB 1001 because they are not sure where they are going to get the money to fill the shortfall. The House Democrats' plan allows local governments the flexibility they need," said Broden.

HB 1001 entered the conference committee phase Feb. 29, where the four conferees, one

WABASH STUDENTS TAKE A LOOK INTO JOURNALISM



KARI HALDERMAN

St. Bernard School's fifth- and sixth-grade classes attended Northfield High School's yearbook class Feb. 26 to see firsthand how a publication is put together. The high school students demonstrated how to take digital photographs, interview subjects, write articles, design layouts, and explained the importance of advertising. The students in Lea Howard's class at St. Bernard School plan to incorporate their newly acquired skills as they continue to publish their monthly school newspaper, *The Tiger Pause*.



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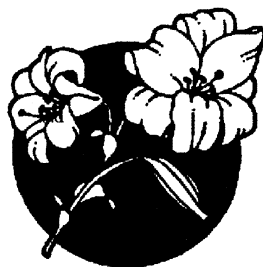
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from each caucus, House Democrat, House Republican, Senate Democrat, Senate Republican, begin to hammer out differences. The four conferees are Rep. William Crawford (D-Indianapolis); Rep. Jeff Espich (R-Uniondale); Sen. Luke Kenley (R-Noblesville); and Sen. Tim Skinner (D-Terre Haute). Once the four conferees agree on a final plan it will be voted on by the House and Senate and sent to the governor for approval before it becomes law.

Property tax relief plans of House and Senate

House Democrats' property tax relief plan

- Primary components include:
 - Homeowners would pay property taxes based on income and caps the maximum payment of homeowners' property taxes to 1 percent of household income beginning in 2009;
 - Increases the renter's deduction from the current \$2,500 deduction to \$5,000;
 - Eliminates township assessor positions statewide;
 - Excludes instruction school building projects from voter referendums;
 - Excludes local debt from the cap.

Senate Republicans' property tax relief plan

- Primary components include:
 - Homeowners would pay property tax based on assessed valuation of property rather than on household income;
 - Includes a property tax cap of 1.5 percent of a home's assessed value in 2009; and 1 percent of home's assessed value in 2010;
 - Excludes the earned income tax credit;
 - Increases the renter's deduction from the current deduction of \$2,500 to \$3,000;
 - Includes a voter referendum on all building projects.

Moral tax policy guidelines by U.S. bishops

U.S. Catholic bishops' 1986 pastoral letter "Economic Justice for All"

The 1986 pastoral letter uses three principles to evaluate the U.S. tax system saying it should 1) raise adequate revenues to pay for society's needs especially the basic needs of the poor; 2) use a progressive structure so that those with greater resources pay a higher tax rate; and 3) not require families below the poverty level to pay income taxes.

Catholic teaching raises two questions when forming tax policy.

1. Does this policy maintain or enhance the life and dignity of the human person?
2. How does this policy affect the poorest and the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters? Is there a "preferential option for the poor"?

To view the ICC position paper on taxation policy go to the ICC Web page at www.indianacc.org. Click "Public Policy Priorities" on left. Scroll down and click on "Taxation Policy."

Latin, North American group works on production of 'Romero Seeker of Justice — Martyr for Truth'

NOTRE DAME — Latin America North America Church Concerns (LANACC) at the University of Notre Dame was founded to promote pastoral and academic bonds between the churches of the Americas. In general, this has been a mission of information, interpreting the Catholicism of Latin America for that of its fellow communicants in the north.

Careful review of church documents and attendance at conferences and lectures over the years has continued to develop these associations. Much of this has been accomplished by special projects, publications and participation in Latin American meetings initiated and conducted by bishops, priests, religious and laity. Many of these have been devoted to the memory of Archbishop Oscar Romero.

Currently, LANACC is engaged in a major production with The Salt River Production Group to be titled, "Romero: Seeker of Justice — Martyr for Truth." The motivation for this effort at this time is preparation for the 30th anniversary of Archbishop Oscar Romero's martyrdom.

To assist LANACC, they have Michael Doyle who was for many years at Golden Dome Productions. Msgr. Ricardo Urioste, Romero's vicar general and current president of the Salvadoran Romero Foundation, and Bishop Rosa Chavez, a spiritual son of Romero, will review the script for this documentary.

The documentary is taking note of the need for educational input, especially in the area of three questions important to Romero and ourselves:

- Was Oscar Romero a martyr?
- Was Romero committed to the church?
- What opened Romero's eyes to the reality of his own country?

To help with this, the 2008 Romero program has been modified. Instead of a single lecture, a

panel discussion will be introduced, which includes the following:

- "El Caso Romero: Primero Dios," "The Case for Romero: First of All, God." On Tuesday March 18, from 12:30-2 p.m. the three questions will be explored and their significance laid out by highly qualified presenters: Professor Margaret Pfeil from Notre Dame; Professor Michael Lee from Fordham; and Professor Lawrence Cunningham from Notre Dame. A video team will record these talks and interview each of the presenters privately. All of this will feed into a premier of the documentary in March of 2009.
- To complete the Romero celebration on Wednesday, March 19, at 11 a.m. in the Church of Loretto at Saint Mary's College, Holy Cross Father Robert Pelton will celebrate a Mass honoring the women of service in Latin America.

There is a known and expressed need for educational followup in order to give the messages learned from Romero's life and martyrdom a present and positive witness; therefore, there will be prepared separate educational materials. While these will be directed especially toward

young people in the high school years, they will, nonetheless, be valuable to all who appreciate Romero's practical and down-to-earth holiness.

From 1987 until the present time LANACC has, each year, sponsored at Notre Dame an annual Romero Lecture. Speakers from these lectures have included some of the persons most intimately connected with Romero during his life. One year brought Msgr. Urioste. Another time LANACC heard from Bishop Rosa Chavez. In 2002, the lecture welcomed Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez who called Archbishop Romero "a model bishop for the

third millennium."

Another important facet of LANACC's work has been the development of filmed documentaries regarding the life, and death of Romero. The first was produced by The Salt River Production Group (formerly known as the Stepstone Productions). In 2005, a 30-minute video "Archbishop Romero-Martyr and Prophet" was released in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Romero's death. The production was a companion piece to a book with the same title, now in its third edition.

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Catholic school award winners teach life lessons

BY KAY COZAD

Catholic Schools Week went out with a bang in January, showcasing the exceptional diocesan education system offered to area families. *Today's Catholic* highlights three of its extraordinary teachers who exemplify the best of Catholic faith teaching.

Cindy Esch, her husband of 33 years and six children have been parishioners of Christ the King Parish in South Bend for the last 22 years. Each of her children attended Christ the King School where she has taught religion to sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students for the past 10 years. Esch holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and was mentored by the religion teacher at the school before taking over the position. "My faith is my life," she says passionately.



Cindy Esch

While teaching religion to the middle schoolers, Esch was accepted to the master's in theology program at the University of Dayton (now at the University of Notre Dame). Following seven years of study, she has completed her coursework and will finish her exams soon.

She says of the program, "I'm

grateful to the bishop for this program. It is a gift to study the faith."

Esch was recognized for her exemplary teaching with the Light of Learning award, presented on Jan. 28 at the Century Center in South Bend.

"I felt very honored," she says, adding that it was not only a special year for her but for her parish as it celebrates its 75th anniversary. She delivered a speech to her school assembly to close Catholic Schools Week and was "re-awarded her award" following a special Mass.

What she brings to her students, she says is, "What I say, how I treat them and how I practice my faith."

Embracing Pope John Paul's attitude that the young are the church's future, Esch feels privileged to share her faith with this age group. "I like middle schoolers ... They're energizing! A lot of changes take place, and it's special to watch them," she says. Their energy, she adds, is one factor that keeps her moving, after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis a year ago.

Esch is grateful to her family for their longtime encouragement and support saying, "My family makes it possible to be here. They've supported and loved me ... and made sacrifices of time."

Joe Garcia agrees with Esch about receiving the Light of Learning award, saying, "I was



Joseph Garcia

honored considering all the great teachers at school." Garcia has taught Old and New Testament religion classes at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne for

six years, as well as an honors course for seniors.

This Fort Wayne native has always known he wanted to teach. Following graduation from Bishop Dwenger, Garcia studied English at the University of Notre Dame and later earned a teaching certificate from Saint Mary's College. He began his career at Bishop Dwenger teaching English. Two years later, he was asked to teach religion and has found his niche.

"I like teaching religion. Of anything you could teach, it's the most important. It benefits the students here and now, but ultimately leads to salvation," he says.

And in an effort to continue his own education, with two classes to complete, Garcia is near earning his master's in theology from the University of Dayton. Of teaching and faith he says, "It is fulfilling. I grow in my faith everyday teaching these kids."

Garcia's genuine passion for teaching is evident when he explains how he tries to make the material he teaches relatable to every day life: "It's not just read-

ing the Bible. I try and make learning fun and interactive so they enjoy coming to class."

And enjoy they do as their teacher was chosen to receive the Light of Learning award presented at a special banquet held at the Fort Wayne Marriott on Jan. 29. His achievement was announced at the high school following Mass, and he spoke at the undergraduate honors award ceremony as well.

Garcia, his wife and two young sons attend St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

Another award-winning teacher at Bishop Dwenger is religion teacher **Bobbi Florea**. She has taught church doctrine and church history as well as Mass and sacraments classes for nine years at the high school.



Bobbi Florea

She, like Garcia, has always known she would teach, but she graduated with a nursing degree and followed that career path for 15 years before going back to school full-time to earn her teaching degree from Indiana University.

Florea's first assignment was fourth grade at St. Charles School where she taught all subjects including religion for four years.

"I always had the desire to teach in a Catholic school," she

says.

Of teaching religion, this enthusiastic teacher says, "It's an honor to have the opportunity to deepen the students' faith, help them gain a broader understanding of the Catholic Church and develop a closer relationship with Jesus Christ." And she is known to teach with sincerity as well as enthusiasm.

Florea also pursued higher education and has recently earned her master's in theology from the University of Dayton, following six years of study.

"It was a perfect way for me to deepen my own faith and learn more about it," she says, adding, "It feels like a calling for me. I love my job. I love the kids. I love this school. I feel blessed to be a part of the Bishop Dwenger family."

Florea was the first teacher from Bishop Dwenger to be nominated for the Golden Apple Award presented by the Indiana's NewsCenter. One of her students nominated her following her husband's sudden death for her determination and dedication to teaching.

"It's an awesome award, the way they honor teachers. I was humbled. I didn't expect it," she says, recalling her surprise when she was recognized with the award at the grandparents' day assembly.

Florea is a parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

Catholic spellers advance to regionals

SOUTH BEND — Six Catholic elementary school students spelled their way to championship laurels and into the regional finals of the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee after winning top spots in the South Bend Metro Area Catholic School Spelling Bee.

Before a near-capacity crowd in the Santa Maria Council of the Knights of Columbus, which served as host for the 13th annual spelling bee, the six winners included four boys and two girls.

The champion spellers were the following: Tommy Favorite, St. Joseph School, South Bend; David Behr, St. Joseph School, South Bend; Colleen Case, Christ the King, South Bend; Justin Himelick, St. Bavo School, Mishawaka; Rachel Szweda, Holy Family School; and Mitchel Kasznia, Queen of Peace, Mishawaka.

These six winners were also survivors among 40 individual class champions in the 10 area competing schools.

Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, superintendent of diocesan schools, paid special tribute to both teachers and student spellers "in our Catholic school system who help light the way in Catholic education."

He also had praise for Suzanne Wiwi, principal of St. Joseph School, South Bend, who has done a masterful job in organizing the 13-Catholic school spelling



ELMER J. DANCH

Six Catholic school spelling champions from the South Bend area will compete in the regional finals on March 20 at the Century Center with their public school counterparts. The two champions in front are Justin Himelick, St. Bavo School, Mishawaka, and David Behr, St. Joseph School, South Bend; back row: Suzanne Wiwi, principal of St. Joseph School, South Bend, chairman; Mitchel Kasznia, Queen of Peace, Mishawaka; Tommy Favorite, St. Joseph School, South Bend; Colleen Case, Christ the King School, South Bend; Rachel Szweda, Holy Family School, South Bend; and Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, diocesan superintendent of schools.

bees and her associate Mary Dornbos, a teacher at Holy Family School.

Father Kempinger also singled out the Santa Maria Council of the Knights of Columbus for hosting the spelling bee and their specially-appointed committee that arranged all the details with Wiwi. The committee included Robert

Schultheis, Arthur Leinen, Sr., both trustees; Joseph Mauch, secretary; Stephen Elek, Sr., K.C. Pocius, Charles Baumgartner, Elmer J. Danch and Vincent Feck, district deputy.

Father Kempinger also opened and closed the spelling bee with prayer and led all in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance. — EJD

Dwenger engineers place in bridge contest

FORT WAYNE — Several area Catholic school students placed in the recent 17th Annual Student Engineering Bridge Design Contest held Feb. 23. The challenge is sponsored by the Engineers Week Committee, Science Central, and the Department of Engineering at Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne (IPFW) during National Engineers Week. The junior high competition was held Feb. 16 at Science Central, and the high school competition was held at IPFW.

The object of the competition is to design and build the lightest possible bridge, using only Elmer's yellow wood glue and a maximum of 200 wooden popsicle sticks, that is able to span the 24-inch gap of the testing machine with minimal deflection. Bridges are loaded until they fail, and the bridge with the highest load to weight to deflection ratio wins the contest.

Placing first in the junior high

competition was St. Jude eighth-grader Carter Delaney, placing second at the high school level was a team of Bishop Dwenger sophomores Joe Voors and Danny Schenkel, and placing first was Bishop Dwenger sophomore Corey Delaney.

The high school students split their winnings with Bishop Dwenger's science department for a total \$250 donation.

Carter and Corey's father, Patrick Delaney, also received an award over the weekend, being named Citizen Engineer of the Year for his work and volunteerism in the community, with his church, and for various engineering organizations. Pat Delaney coaches CYO football, both grade school and high school wrestling, teaches Junior Achievement, is on the board of Science Central and works with National Engineers Week and the Fort Wayne Engineers Club among other activities. He is employed by GE in Fort Wayne.

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Villa resident celebrates a century of life

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — The Chicago Cubs won the World Series in 1908 and haven't been able to do it again in 100 years.

By contrast, a girl born in Rockford, Ohio, that year has had many personal victories against tough odds, and although she has 100 candles on her birthday cake, she still doesn't feel the heat of a full century on planet Earth.

She's Josie Manter, an active, alert and attractive great, great, grandmother, who at age 99, experiencing problems with mobility, decided it was time to quit living alone and enter a retirement home.

Josie heard about The Villa of the Woods, run by Catholic Charities, through the grapevine and moved in last year.

The first two months were like boot camp for Josie — getting used to rules, routine and food prepared by others was stressful, but Josie had adjusted to tension and strain beginning at age 8 when her mother died and at 12 when she was yanked out of school to manage a household for an overbearing father.

Hard work and hard feelings prompted Josie Dull to hit the road at age 16 and head for Fort Wayne although she knew no one in the city.

She found work as a maid and then Cupid found her; a blind date led to marriage that lasted 35



MANTER COLLECTION

Josie Manter, who turned 100 on Feb. 23 visits with her great, great grandson, Adam Manter, a regular visitor, who is known as the mascot of the Villa of the Woods in Fort Wayne.

years until her husband died.

After Josie married, she stayed home and raised two sons, Bob and Don. Eventually, she reentered the job market working as a maid, waitress and dry cleaner, before beginning a 24-year career in the food service department at the International Harvester plant in Fort Wayne. She retired on her 65th birthday.

For someone who was born when Teddy Roosevelt was president and has observed his 17 successors, Josie Manter continues to be amazed by comforts, condi-

tions and things that have come on the scene in her lifetime.

Because she knew life without electric conveniences, indoor plumbing and modern transportation, she does not take such things for granted, including a power driven wheelchair that rolls her into the elevator that takes her to the second floor and her cozy room at Villa of the Woods.

As she visits with her great, great grandson, Adam, she must wonder what he will experience if he lives as long as she has.

Looking for 'Very Important People' at St. Jude Parish

BY TRISH LINNER

SOUTH BEND — St. Jude Parish in South Bend has gone through many changes in the last few years, but one thing has remained the same, the VIPs. The Very Important People (VIP) is a group of seniors from St. Jude's.

The group grew out of the efforts of several women who organized funeral luncheons for the parish. In the beginning, Mary Mormon was the foundation of the group.

"When I turned 55, (Mormon) called me and invited me to join the group," said VIP member Peg Gerstbauer. "It has been a wonderful part of my life ever since."

Gerstbauer remembers when former parish priest Father Hank Mascotte asked her to help Mormon with the group.

"Mary needed some help in organizing the events and planning funeral luncheons so he asked me if I could give her a hand. I got along well with Mary; so it was a good fit," Gerstbauer said.

The VIPs would meet on the third Wednesday of the month at St. Jude's for a luncheon.

"We always had speakers who would come in and talk to us," remembered Gerstbauer, "It was interesting and we usually had 30-40 people in attendance."

The group would meet for special occasions such as St. Patrick's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The VIPs were also in charge of preparing and serving funeral luncheons.

The VIP group was organized as a social group so seniors could get together and enjoy each other's company. That social aspect remains the same today, but the group has changed.

The VIPs no longer handle the funeral luncheons. "It got to be too much so the parish took over the duties. Now there is a list of women who volunteer from the

parish," according to Gerstbauer.

But the VIPs still get together every third Wednesday of the month, however, they meet now at a local restaurant. "Some of our older members had a hard time getting to the meeting room because it is downstairs. It was difficult for them to climb up and down. Since the group has become smaller, going out for lunch just made sense."

The VIPs also offer a widow's group who meets once a month on their own. They have lunch and play cards or games.

Today the VIPs are looking for more seniors to join them.

"Our group has gotten smaller over the past few years," said Gerstbauer, "But I know there are many seniors in our parish who would benefit from joining the VIPs."

Gerstbauer isn't sure if all the parishioners are aware of the group. "We do have information in the bulletin, but I don't believe the majority of our parishioners know about us."

Since St. Mary of the Assumption was closed there are many new parishioners at St. Jude's who may not know the VIPs are a seniors group.

Gerstbauer wants to make sure that all the seniors of the parish know they are welcome and encouraged to join the VIPs. The VIP group is open to anyone over 55.

"It is a great way to stay connected with other seniors," said Gerstbauer, "We offer friendship and companionship to all who would like to come and see what we are about."

For more information about the VIP senior group at St. Jude Parish please call the rectory at (574) 291-0570, or current co-chair of the group, Dorothy White at (574) 291-1109.



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To remain effective, stay connected

Tips for preventing isolation

BY LISA M. PETSCHÉ

Jim was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease three years ago. His wife, Anne, is finding it increasingly difficult to care for him due to his declining memory and judgment. He has slipped out of the house on two occasions and gotten lost; Anne had to call the police to help find him. She can no longer leave Jim alone for even a short time.

It's easy for caregivers like Anne to become isolated as a result of their relative's need for continual care, whether it's practical help or supervision.

For instance, they may have to give up a career or volunteer work in order to provide full-time care.

Over time they also may lose touch with friends because the heavy demands of caregiving limit their time and energy for nurturing relationships and their ability to get out of the house. All too easily, they become disengaged from formal and informal social networks and stress-relieving leisure activities.

Unfortunately, family support is often minimal or absent, due to societal trends that include delayed marriage, decreased family size and increased mobility. Even if adult children live nearby, they're likely raising a family and holding down a job, and therefore have limited time to help mom and dad.

Separation from others fosters loneliness and may precipitate depression, a common affliction among caregivers. While sustaining all relationships may be impossible, close relationships — a vital source of pleasure, validation and practical support — need to be

nurtured.

The following are some ways to prevent or overcome isolation, in order to avoid burnout:

Take the initiative and invite friends over. Don't wait for them to call or drop in.

Accept offers of help and ask other family members to share the load. Don't try to shield them from the reality of your situation. Give them the opportunity to pitch in, and be specific about what you need.

Keep in touch with out-of-area loved ones through phone calls (find a good long-distance savings plan), letters or e-mail.

Get a portable phone so you don't miss calls and can multitask while conversing. Or get an answering machine so friends can leave messages when you're not available.

Join a community support group (some offer concurrent care) to connect with other caregivers.

Information on caregiver groups can be obtained from your local hospital, community social workers and your local office on aging. Online caregiver message boards and chat rooms, and electronic mailing lists or discussion forums are some at-home alternatives. At the very least, subscribe to a caregiving magazine that offers practical advice and the assurance that you're not alone in the challenges you face.

Consider in-home respite provided by a health care aide employed by a government agency or hired directly through a home health care agency; an individual with or without formal training, hired under a private arrangement; or a trained volunteer (for example, from the Alzheimer's Association).

Investigate adult day care programs as well as residential care homes that have a short-stay program (so you can attend out-of-

town events or take a vacation). To locate them, contact your local office on aging or the nonprofit organization associated with your loved one's disease.

If mobility issues prevent your loved one from accessing day care or accompanying you out into the community, rent or buy a walker or wheelchair if necessary. Get an adapted van that will accommodate a wheelchair, or register with the local accessible transportation service.

If your loved one can safely be left alone but either of you is anxious about the prospect, supply him or her with a portable phone and get yourself a cell phone so you can stay in touch. An emergency response system may also help put your mind at ease.

Lisa M. Petsché is a clinical social worker and a freelance writer specializing in elder care issues.

Local company launches campaign to get seniors and their families talking

FORT WANE — Home Instead Senior Care, a company serving Fort Wayne, has launched a public education campaign to help adult children talk to their senior loved ones about difficult topics. This campaign, called the "40-70 Rule," tackles such sensitive issues as driving, finances, independence and even romance. "The '40-70 Rule' means that if you are 40, or your parents are 70, it's time to start the conversation about some of these difficult topics," said Jim Sullivan, owner of the local Home Instead Senior Care office.

The campaign is based on research conducted in the U.S. and Canada by Home Instead Senior Care, which revealed that nearly one-third of adults in the U.S. have a major communication obstacle with their parents that stems from continuation of the parent-child role. In other words, it can be difficult to get the conversation going because the child is still in a child rather than adult role with their aging loved one.

At the center of the "40-70 Rule" campaign is a guide of conversation starters for sensitive senior-care subjects, which is available free from the local Home Instead Senior Care office. The guide was compiled with the assistance of Jake Harwood,

Ph.D., national author and communication professor from the University of Arizona who is the former director of that school's graduate program in gerontology.

In general, the Home Instead Senior Care survey found that Boomers have the most difficulty talking with their parents about independence issues, such as continuing to live in their own home, and that their parent's desire to remain independent makes it challenging to address such sensitive issues as health and money. The fact that many of these families are still in a parent-child rather than a peer-to-peer role makes the conversations even more difficult.

Good communication is vital to helping families know when it's time to seek additional resources. "Oftentimes both adult children and their loved ones can benefit from outside help, such as a professional caregiver," said Sullivan. "But the only way that will happen is if they can talk about it."

To receive a free copy of "The 40-70 Rule: A Guide to Conversation Starters for Boomers and Their Senior Loved Ones" visit www.4070talk.com or call the local Home Instead Senior Care office (260) 485-2424.

Saginaw Diocese's newest priest ordained at age 75

BY DEBBIE OGLENSKI

LEXINGTON, Mich. (CNS) — Returning to the priestly vocation he had set aside 50 years ago, Father William Spencer became the newest priest of the Saginaw Diocese Dec. 14 at age 75.

The ordination date, the feast of St. John of the Cross, a Carmelite, was an appropriate one for Father Spencer, who had been active in the Third Order Carmelites along with his late wife, Peg.

Father Spencer is believed to be the oldest person ordained in the United States in 2007, according to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' latest ordination report. A 68-year-old man was ordained earlier in the year.

Father Spencer's three children — Margaret Logan, Bill Spencer and Beth Gava — and their spouses, his four grandchildren and a sister-in-law were among those who filled St. Denis Catholic Church in Lexington for his ordination by Saginaw Bishop Robert J. Carlson.

Father Spencer had been in the seminary as a young man. A graduate of a Catholic high school, he

earned a degree in philosophy from The Catholic University of America in Washington in 1955. He left the seminary in 1957, after much prayer and discernment, just days away from making his perpetual vows.

He married his wife in 1959, and together they were active in parish life, including Marriage Encounter and the charismatic renewal. In 1965, he earned a degree in industrial management from LaSalle University in Philadelphia. He worked for several major companies, retiring from Detroit Edison in 1999.

When he learned in 2004 that his wife was losing her second battle with breast cancer, he prayed for direction. In a matter of months his wife died. The day of his wife's funeral he was already pursuing the call to priesthood that had become clearer to him as her death approached.

He then enrolled in classes at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Both the Archdiocese of Detroit and the Diocese of Lansing rejected his request for ordination because of his age. Five weeks after Bishop Carlson was installed as head of the Diocese of Saginaw

in February 2005, the widower sent a letter to him making yet another request.

In his homily during the ordination Mass, Bishop Carlson recalled that when he had spoken with the man who wanted to become a priest he uttered something like "impossible."

The bishop said he soon found out the senior citizen had an advocate — God. As he prayed for vocations, the bishop said that God told him, "Why don't you take the people I send you?" The next time Bishop Carlson saw the priest applicant, he said, "Bill, I'll take you; now get God off my back."

On a more serious note, Bishop Carlson said Father Spencer had proven his faithfulness to his vocation, as was clear from the number of years he and his wife had been married.

He urged Father Spencer to continue to be a man of prayer both publicly and privately. Prayer will lead him to a life of holiness, he said.

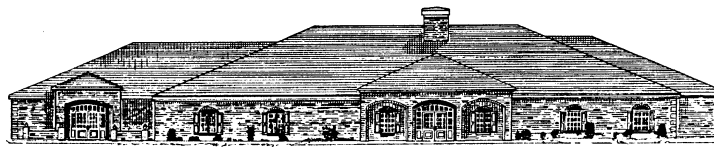
Father Spencer has been assigned as administrator at Our Lady of Lake Huron Church in Harbor Beach, where he has served since early this year.

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Vices and Virtues



Envy and Sloth

Love and diligence

BY SISTER KATHLEEN MARIE KNUEVEN, SND
AND GINNY KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

O Lord, there are days when I forget how much you must love me. I close my heart to all that you desire to give me. I can be so needy and ungrateful for all the blessings of each day. Lord, help me recognize your love this day in all that is good and beautiful. I love you, Lord, and by the way ... thank you for everything. Amen

Reading: Nm 11: 24-30

Commentary

As we grow spiritually, we see that the effects of original sin are deeply rooted in our human nature. We are perplexed when both good and bad thoughts about others coexist at the same time. Even as Christians, we will probably never completely rid ourselves of thoughts that barge into our minds uninvited, but we can strive to entertain more noble thoughts. There is wisdom (not to mention humility) in realizing that, at any given moment, we are capable of all kinds of thoughts and, therefore, spiritually vulnerable.

Resentment, selfishness

Our negative thoughts regarding others can easily lead to the capital sin of envy. Envy is a "resentment or sadness at another's good fortune, and the desire to have it for oneself." — CCC, Glossary, page 876.

Envy sees the abilities of other people, their talents, gifts, diligence and energy as reasons to dislike both the person and their achievements. Severe envy can make a person very sick, even to the point of seeking the destruction of the other person or that person's reputation. Envy says, "It is not fair because it is not mine."

In our country the goodness of

God's gifts is often measured in relation to material possessions, social status or corporate position. Our hearts become dissatisfied and ungrateful because we tend to equate another's good fortune with the doling out of God's love. We want what the Jones' have because we do not possess it ... and we can hate others for having something that is good. Instead of being happy for their good fortune, we envy our neighbors' successes.

Envy births competition and the desire for domination. "Envy represents a form of sadness and therefore a refusal of charity..." — CCC, 2540.

In simpler words, envy blinds us of our ability to see how beautifully we are blessed by God, both visibly and invisibly. Envy affects our joy and reflects a personal misunderstanding of God's incredible love for each of us.

Honesty and gratitude

Dealing with envy requires an honest self analysis. We must ask ourselves ... will possession of the good fortune of others fulfill my desires?

Jesus tells us that we must prefer him to everyone and everything. He asks that we renounce all that we have for his sake and that of the Gospel. Joyfully surrendering all that we have and desire and rejoicing in the merits of others glorifies God and "is obligatory for entrance into the kingdom of heaven." — CCC, 2544.

When God is number one, all other things fall into proper order, and we celebrate the success of others. These teachings of Jesus are easy to write, and even believe, but difficult to do in our culture.

Perhaps the wisdom of Moses in the reading above can provide a model for those of us who struggle with envy. Moses, who was confident in his relationship with God,

remained serene when Eldad and Medad began to prophesy in Moses' territory. He assured Joshua that God can pour out his spirit, (in this case, the spirit of prophesy) to whomever God chooses. Moses did not see that Eldad and Medad's success at prophesying diminished him or the gifts God had bestowed upon him. Moses realized that their holiness elevated the Chosen People, and therefore, him as well.

Counting our blessings is another way to fight envious temptations. As Christians, we should not focus on what is missing but rather appreciate what has been given in the present moment. Our blessings may be counted in our spouse, loved ones, children and friends and in our work. God's love for us is sufficient and endless. Acknowledging God's love helps us see the good fortune of others as a sign of God's love for them and, indirectly, as a blessing to those who are in relationship with them. Love rejoices in the good things that come to other people. Love also asks us to be mindful of those who are truly poor and without basic needs.

Envy can be an ugly beast, but it can also be a friendly little imp who keeps popping up to remind us of a deeper spiritual longing for "more" ... which ultimately, of course, is God. Envy can also remind us of our failure to love others as God loves us.

Sloth, illness of the soul

Our lack of awareness or acknowledgment of God's love can also take us down another sinful path which, if not controlled, can lead to despair or loss of our faith. A sin that seems to be prevalent in today's society is sloth.

One might quickly define sloth as mere laziness or idleness. But, in reality, sloth is a more dangerous condition of the soul. Margaret Funk in "Thoughts Matter" defines sloth as acedia or the weariness of the soul. The soul, not just the body, becomes weary of doing good or of doing anything.

Bishop Robert Morneau in "Paths to Prayer" writes, "Some of the symptoms (of acedia) are a loss of faith, a sense of futility, the loss of zest for life, an almost physical revolt against prayer, a constant state of dreariness." Acedia, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church is "... a form of depression due to lax ascetical practice, decreasing vigilance, carelessness of the heart."

Acedia diminishes our awareness of God's goodness and love. It is a manifestation of loss of hope in God's desire for our eternal happiness. Acedia diminishes our receptivity towards the goodness of God and others. It is a lack of zeal for God.

As I reflect I can't help but wonder, "Has our country and perhaps even our churches become slothful? Have I lost my zeal for the divine, the holy, that which is good? Have I closed my heart to God's love for me?"

Our loving response — prayer

Faith is the theological virtue that helps us to know that God loves us. With this freely given grace, we are called to accept God's love and to respond in total love to God who is our Lord and Creator. To fight weariness of the soul, we must be diligent in our keeping our hearts close to God.

Even when we do not feel like it, daily prayer in which we praise and

adore God is imperative. Meditation on the Scriptures and contemplative prayer opens our hearts to the Lord and rekindles our love for God and others. Time spent in the quiet consolation of the Blessed Sacrament is most powerful.

If our hearts become careless and our prayer time forgotten, our love for God can grow lukewarm and indifferent; we can slowly become weary and/or envious of others.

During this time of Lent, let us renew our love for God through more intense prayer and meditation on the Scriptures. Consistently attend Mass and adore Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament. Let God know that you love him.

Remember ... prayer each day keeps the devil away!

Reflection and discussion

- Are you a grateful person? Spend time reflecting and sharing on the gifts God has given you.
- Have you ever experienced some degree of spiritual weariness or acedia?
- Which of the ways listed above do you find most helpful to overcome times of spiritual carelessness or weariness?

Closing prayer

Lord, help me to see my cup of blessings as half full instead of half empty. In doing so may I be reminded of your love for me. Help me to persist in prayer even when I do not feel like praying or when you seem far away. Open my heart to your love and protect it from spiritual carelessness. Help me to see the good fortune of others as an outpouring of your love for all. Amen.



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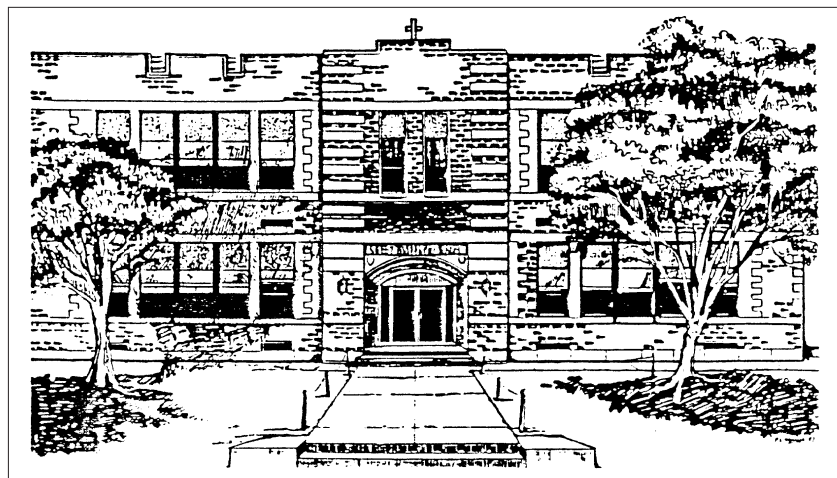
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EDITORIAL

Catholic orthodoxy is a rich, complex and beautiful thing

Orthodoxy is a multivalent term. It can refer in a more restricted or special sense to our brothers and sisters in the Eastern churches, often associated with particular national groups: the Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Armenian or Macedonian Orthodox, for example. Many of these wonderful Christian men and women live and work and pray in our diocese, and in terms of our ecumenical efforts, they have a special closeness to us as Catholics: They share with us both sacramental life and apostolic succession.

But orthodoxy is also a broader term used to refer to beliefs, teachings, or ideas that are in accord with the established teaching of the community that is the church. And it is in this sense that the term is occasionally misused.

Not infrequently one hears it said, "that individual is more orthodox" or "so-and-so is less orthodox" — the term being used rather loosely, and in fact often meaning nothing more than that the person in question happens to share the same opinions and worldview of the speaker (and so is "more orthodox") or has a difference of opinion from the speaker (and is thus "less orthodox"). To use the term in this way, however, is to misunderstand orthodoxy.

Orthodoxy is like pregnancy: you either are or you aren't. No one is ever "more" or "less" pregnant, and likewise, no one is "more" or "less" orthodox.

In terms of Catholic orthodoxy, there are no degrees or levels: you either are or you aren't. If one's teaching or belief is in accord with the established teaching of the church and within the parameters established by the magisterium for "right belief," one cannot be considered anything but simply "orthodox," not "more" or "less" so.

Some individuals from time to time employ the language of "more" or "less" orthodox in order to praise those who share their views or to criticize their opponents — those who may or may not share the same emphases, devotions, interests or ecclesiastical aesthetic within the surprisingly broad and expansive intellectual horizon that is the Catholic tradition.

Sometimes, those who invoke "tradition" have only one small slice of "the tradition" in view, a "freeze-dried moment" or mere "snapshot" of a tradition, which is more broad — and far more interesting — than they might imagine. Unless it can be demonstrated that someone holds a view or belief that is clearly at variance with the established belief of the church, he or she cannot be considered anything but simply "orthodox."

Catholic orthodoxy is a rich, complex and beautiful thing; it is not narrow, constrained or rigid. Rather, as Chesterton came to recognize, it is a "romance" fit for an "adventurer."

Retreating Lent

With Lent set rather early on the calendar this year, it is no shorter than the usual 40 days, but for whatever reason, Holy Week and Easter seem to be creeping up much more quickly than in years when Lent is further back on the calendar. Could it be that, when Lent falls later, cutting more deeply into the springtime, Catholics are forced to reconcile with it more consciously? But an early Lent — it slips by so quickly, which can be discouraging to Catholics trying to integrate some new spiritual discipline into their lives. With so much Lent already past, it might be tempting to give up altogether. But we should remember that God also judges our effort and that even a late start or a second or third start is acceptable in the quest to grow closer to God.

We're talking 'green'

With the landscape covered in snow, it's hard to think "green." But that's what we're doing in our April 20 issue, and we're talking "green" in the sense of being a good steward of the earth. Pope Benedict has addressed the issue. But *Today's Catholic* would like to know what parishes, schools and families are doing to be good stewards of the earth. Please e-mail your responses — a few sentences should suffice — to editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

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

CNEWA grateful for generosity, sacrifice

This is to acknowledge with thanks your check in the amount of \$4,926.22, representing CNEWA's share of the 2007 World Mission Sunday collection of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. I am deeply grateful to you and all the

good people whose generosity and sacrifice have made this benefaction possible.

Following our custom of many years, we will utilize these funds on behalf of the operations and good works of the Holy Father's Congregation for the Eastern Churches in favor of our brother and sister Catholics in the countries served by the congregation.

Please know that you also have the gratitude of Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the congregation, and Cardinal Edward Egan, president of CNEWA.

Best wishes and prayers for God's blessings always.

Gabriel Delmonaco
U.S. National Secretary
New York, N.Y.

Where are the Catholics? Not in TV advertising

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Once I suggested a Lenten sacrifice of going through the solemn season by not watching television.

The flip side of that coin would be to watch a lot of TV and look for Catholic characters and characterizations in TV advertising. But you would probably have to sacrifice a lot of time sitting through a lot of TV before you saw an actor in an ad portraying a Catholic.

Thirty years ago, Brother Dominic won the hearts of the viewing public when a Xerox copier made his work making copies of sacred texts so much easier. "It's a miracle!" he uttered, looking heavenward. Brother Dominic proved to be so popular he appeared in print and other TV ads for Xerox.

About 25 years ago, TV audiences got to see Cathy O'Reilly portray the seen-but-not-heard, bicycle-riding "Blue Nun" in ads for the German wine. She was eventually replaced by the husband and wife comedy team of Stiller and Meara, who proved to be more popular — at least until Blue Nun and wines like it drifted out of favor with the wine-drinking public.

Since then, seeing a Catholic portrayal in a TV ad has been so rare as to be almost nonexistent.

Catholic criticism of a recent print ad in a Boston magazine for a fitness club featuring women dressed as nuns sketching a nude man prompted the idea to hunt for Catholic images in advertising.

A Google search for Web pages containing the phrases "Catholic images in ads," "Catholic characters in ads" and "Catholic characterizations in ads" — even "Catholics in ads" — turned up nothing. By switching "ads" to "advertising" in all of those phrases, the search results still showed nothing; unless some Web site posts this article, those phrases will remain out of the Google-sphere. Even the ultra-generic phrase "Catholic images on TV" turned up just one result — a three-year-old blog entry posted

after Pope John Paul II's death.

If you widen the circle to embrace another monotheistic religion, you'll occasionally see a TV ad with an illuminated sky serving as the punch line for Hebrew National kosher hot dogs, which "answer to a higher authority."

Regis Philbin or Ed McMahon or other Catholics pitching products don't count because, while they may be Catholic, it's not their Catholicism or any aspect of their faith that's being used to sell a product or service.

Public service ads sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Catholic Communication Campaign don't really count, either, since it's the Catholic faith or some aspect of it — the current "For Your Marriage" campaign, for example, touts strong, healthy marriages.

Despite the use of the same medium, faith is different from toothpaste. And the CCC ads have to compete against every other religious and nonprofit agency for the one-half of 1 percent of airtime allotted by TV stations for public service announcements — more than half of which appear after the late local news.

So what accounts for the virtual exclusion of Catholic images from the TV advertising world?

Advertisers want to sell their

products to everybody. Despite predictions of its ultimate demise, TV is still the biggest mass-marketing tool around. And that mass market has to cater not only to Catholics but to the 78 percent of Americans who aren't Catholic.

To be truthful, there's no specifically Catholic way to clean your kitchen floor, or to get rid of pimples, or a Catholic car to drive your family from home to wherever and back again. You may see ads targeted to a Catholic base, but those are largely in Catholic newspapers and magazines, where you may be exhorted to buy a car from Joe Goodguy, a member of a Catholic parish.

Catholic television such as the Eternal Word Television Network and the various permutations of Faith & Values Media haven't accepted advertising for others' products.

It's safe to say, then, that ads showing moms who use Swiffer sweepers and dads who drive John Deere riding lawnmowers will be generically, safely areligious. And the same goes for every other product pitched on TV from here till — eternity?

Mark Pattison is media editor for Catholic News Service.

Agnes of Bohemia

c. 1200-1280
feast — March 6

Agnes' parents were the king of Bohemia (now in the Czech Republic) and the sister of Hungary's king. Their ambitions for Agnes to marry royalty were dashed by death, the machinations of other royals and Agnes' devotion to Christ. Finally, after several engagements, Agnes was able to dedicate herself to God. She built a Franciscan friary and hospital in Prague, then a convent for the Poor Clares, which she joined in 1236. She spent the next 44 years in prayer and service, and was canonized in 1989 on the eve of the Czech "velvet revolution."



Saints for Today

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True love loves the human person

We've seen that in "Love and Responsibility," Father Karol Wotyla distinguishes between true love and use of another person, which can lead to the dangerous idealization of another, a characteristic of an immature and inauthentic love. Father Wotyla argues that mature love, the only love that fully satisfies the human heart, is an "interpersonal fact" that consists in betrothed love, a "self-gift in totality." This love can encompass both vocations in the church. Just as married men and women give themselves completely to one another and their families, so priests and consecrated religious give themselves to their communities in a way that expresses the love of Christ for each person.

When a gift is given, it needs to be accepted. Any gift made in love by one person to another demands an appropriate response by the receiver. Everyone has experienced the pain of rejection in one form or another — be it a wilted relationship, unkindness or thanklessness. The wife whose husband cheats on her, the teacher who realizes that his students simply "don't care," or the pastor whose parishioners criticize him, are all

hurt by the inappropriate response to their self-giving.

And so, a person's act of self-giving demands not rejection or indifference, but an adequate response of gratitude and reciprocity from the receiver. For this reason Father Wotyla entitles the work "Love" and "Responsibility." True love is always accompanied by a joyful obligation on the part of both lover and beloved.

Responsibility in true love can perhaps most easily be seen in the wonder and awe of the parents of a newborn child, a precious and unique gift from God. So many new fathers, for example, will say their lives are changed for the better forever — from now on, everything is different, because they have recognized that more is demanded of their love, and how eager they are to embrace the challenge.

Father Wotyla writes, "Responsibility for love clearly comes down to the person, originates in it, and returns to it. ... The greater the feeling of responsibility for the person the more true love there is." Mature love therefore brings with it a demand, an obligation that cannot be avoided. Such an attitude of total self-gift that



JOHN AND MONICA SIKORSKI

AUTHENTIC LOVE

characterizes authentic and mature love (not the immature love that idealizes and uses) is fostered through tenderness.

According to Father Wotyla, tenderness is a very important, though often neglected, element of mature love. "Tenderness springs from an awareness of the inner state of another person and whoever feels it actively seeks to communicate his feeling of close involvement with the other person and his situation."

A confessor speaks of God's mercy and compassion upon the penitent sinner; a husband cares for his children when his wife is sick; the nurse takes the time to listen and respond to a patient's complaints. Tenderness, however, is not a "sickly sentimentality"; it

LOVE, PAGE 16

Jesus confronts death of Lazarus



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Fifth Sunday of Lent Jn 11:1-45

One of the major Hebrew prophets, Ezekiel, provides this Lenten weekend's first biblical reading. Ezekiel lived and wrote during the period of history called the Babylonian Captivity. Many Hebrews who had survived Babylonia's conquest of the Holy Land were living in exile in Babylon, the imperial capital, located in today's Iraq.

While these exiles were not enslaved, life for them was miserable. They yearned to return to their homeland.

Years passed. Four generations passed. Their exile did not end. Their yearnings grew in intensity. Surely, many prayed for relief. Likely, many others scorned God for not rescuing them.

Speaking for God, and calling the people to renewed devotion to, and trust in, God was no easy undertaking for Ezekiel.

Nevertheless, he promised the people that if they were faithful to God then a new day would come.

In this reading, Ezekiel uses the imagery of death and resurrection. He equates life in Babylon with being in a grave. He describes God's rescue as opening the graves and bringing the dead back to life.

Ezekiel declares that God will rescue the people. God will be true

to the Covenant, as always.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans is the source of the second reading. Paul wrote this letter to the Christians of Rome. When he wrote, in the latter part of the first century, Rome literally was the center and heart of the western world. Its population now is estimated to have been at least 1 million people, a number far exceeding any other community then known to exist.

It was the world capital. The emperor resided in Rome. The governments and major courts were seated in Rome. It was the world's commercial center.

Also, it was the center of the pagan Roman religion.

Christians in Rome had to face challenges rushing at them from all sides. Paul encouraged them and urged them to be even more loyal followers of Christ, amid all these challenges.

In so doing, Paul reassured the Roman Christians that earthly life passes. Only the spiritual endures. Paul urges, be strong now and earn an everlasting reward.

St. John's Gospel tells the story of the Lord's visit to Bethany. (Bethany in the first century was a community just a few miles from Jerusalem. Now, it is a community completely enveloped by metropolitan Jerusalem.)

The Synoptic Gospels present Jesus often as the healer. Here the Lord confronts death. His friend, Lazarus, has died.

Martha, the sister of Lazarus, tells Jesus that had the Lord been present earlier, Lazarus would not have died. Seeing her faith, Jesus restores Lazarus to life.

The death of Lazarus, the faith of Martha, and the final raising of Lazarus by Jesus are the key parts of the story. Jesus controls all things, even death. He offers life.

However, humans, such as Martha, must respond by giving themselves fully to Jesus in faith. To accept Jesus is to accept God. To be with Jesus is to be with God.

Reflection

Next Sunday, the church will celebrate Palm Sunday. Then, the church will lead us into Holy Week, commemorating the Last Supper, the death of the Lord and finally the Resurrection.

However, these events are much more than anniversaries, more than memorials. Jesus lives! He is in our lives now, if we permit it. The church calls us to allow the Lord into our lives.

It invites us to participate in Holy Week with great personal commitment. Using Paul's lesson to the Romans, it calls us to realize that all that is earthly will die. Earthly life will end. But we can live, if we truly accept Jesus.

The model of faithfulness presented by Ezekiel, and Martha's example, teach us what we must do to attain life in Christ.

READINGS

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14 Ps 130:1-8 Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-6 Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

On Catholic calendars in March, many Fridays in Lent are marked "ab" or "ABS" to remind the faithful of the season of abstinence. This quiz takes a look at all things "ab" in the church.

- 1. Abstinence usually refers to refraining from this:**
 - a. meat and meat products (in the East, it also generally includes dairy)
 - b. talking
 - c. watching Roman games originally, now refers to American Idol
- 2. This unfortunate "Ab" was the first Biblical victim of murder**
 - a. Absalom
 - b. Abel
 - c. Abram
- 3. Not unusual for the Old Testament, Abraham was a newer version of a person's name. What was his original name?**
 - a. Jacob
 - b. Abemilich
 - c. Abram
- 4. The Inscription of Abercius is an early epitaph for a bishop, which attests (by reference to his travels) to the ubiquity of this in the 2nd century**
 - a. the use of Gaelic as a liturgical language
 - b. the Eucharist
 - c. monism and stoicism
- 5. This is a title used mainly of those in control of monasteries (convents) for women:**
 - a. Abbess
 - b. Abba
 - c. Abbot
- 6. This aptly named churchman was an abbot and reformer, killed in a revolt against his reforms:**
 - a. Abba Ubbba
 - b. Abbo
 - c. Ab Dominal Vobiscum
- 7. The legend of Abgar, while likely completely unhistorical, refers to the request for assistance and conversion of a**
 - a. kings of Edessa
 - b. Protestant pope
 - c. missionary to Kosovo
- 8. This "Ab" was an 11th and 12th century university lecturer and later monastic:**
 - a. Abelardo
 - b. Abo the Magnificent
 - c. Abendigo
- 9. This "Ab" refers to an obsolete papal official whose job included correspondence and record keeping**
 - a. ab Papyrus ad Papem
 - b. a brief scriptorium
 - c. abbreviator
- 10. This unusual sect, mentioned by Augustine of Hippo, practiced celibate marriage and adoption, but ultimately vanished:**
 - a. Abelites
 - b. Abandoned Shakers
 - c. Abines
- 11. Abjuration (no longer mentioned in canon law) formerly required of heretics or returning Catholics**
 - a. payment to the bishop for the expense of addressing their issues
 - b. a promise to behave better in future under pain of banishment
 - c. a formal sworn rejection of errors
- 12. The Abyssinian Church prefers to be known as the Ethiopian Church, because the former title is associated with**
 - a. being African
 - b. colonialism
 - c. the returning Jews of Falashas
- 13. This same church is led by a patriarch who has this title, meaning Our Father**
 - a. Abuna
 - b. Abba Nostrum
 - c. Ab Astra per ardura
- 14. Absolution is only available in a sacramental form from**
 - a. a cleric
 - b. a professed monastic
 - c. a priest
- 15. Abraham Ecchelensis was a 17th-century Lebanese scholar from this main Catholic Group**
 - a. The Maronites
 - b. The Melkites
 - c. The Manicheans

ANSWERS:

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

The Hasmonean dynasty ruled before Jesus' birth

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

What happened to the Jews in Palestine after the period of the Maccabees?

About 168 B.C. the Seleucid (Syrian) king Antiochus IV tried to abolish the Jewish religion and dedicated the temple at Jerusalem to the pagan Greek god Zeus. This stirred up a Jewish revolt by the Maccabees. The Maccabean dynasty lasted from 167-134 B.C. The last Maccabean leader Simon achieved Jewish independence from the Seleucid king Demetrius II who exempted the Jews from tribute. The First Book of Maccabees mentions this: "the yoke of the Gentiles was removed from Israel."

A later Seleucid King Antiochus VII (138-129 B.C.) even granted Simon the right to mint coins. This new era of independence began the Hasmonean

dynasty from 135-36 B.C. The name "Hasmonean" is derived from Asamoneus, the father of Mattathias, the first Maccabean ruler. The seven Hasmonean rulers are descendants of Simon Maccabeus who held the high priesthood and the civil power.

The first Hasmonean ruler was John Hyrcanus I (135-104 B.C.), a son of Simon Maccabeus. He is mentioned in the First Book of Maccabees. After Ptolemy, the governor of Jericho, killed Simon at a banquet, he then sent men to kill John Hyrcanus. But John was tipped off. When the men came to kill John, he had them arrested and put to death.

The New American Bible says John eventually won complete independence for the Jews and enlarged their territory to include Samaria and the Moabite region beyond the Jordan River. He destroyed the temple of the Samaritans on Mt. Gerizim. John was an able military man whose reign was prosperous.

J. Pritchard says John was opposed by Pharisees who objected to his high-priesthood. The Maccabees and the Hasmoneans had no hereditary rights. The Pharisees broke with the Hasmoneans during John's reign.

John Hyrcanus I was succeeded by his firstborn son Aristobulus I (104-103 B.C.). He conquered Galilee in northern Palestine and attacked the Itureans further north by Mt. Hermon, an area of volcanic activity. Aristobulus imprisoned his mother to whom rule was bequeathed by John. Then came Alexander Jannaeus (103-76 B.C.), another son of John Hyrcanus I. He began to use the title "king" that was put on his coins.

J. Pritchard says he destroyed the city of Gaza and thus cut off access to the Mediterranean Sea. Jannaeus ended up crucifying 800 Jewish opponents and killing their families. On his deathbed Jannaeus advised his wife Alexandra to make peace with the Pharisees.

Jannaeus' wife Alexandra Salome (76-67 B.C.) appointed her son Hyrcanus high priest.

Hyrcanus succeeded for three months. He was timid and lazy by nature. Under force he resigned his inheritance to his brother Aristobulus II (67-63 B.C.) A civil war between the two brothers provoked the intervention of the Roman general Pompey who had just conquered Syria in 65 B.C.

In 63 B.C. the Romans ended Jewish independence, but allowed the last two Hasmoneans to gov-

ern. John Hyrcanus II ruled from 63-40 B.C. Then Antigonus (40-36 B.C.), the son of Aristobulus II, became the last Hasmonean ruler.

The New American Bible says he lived in continuous fighting with the pretender to the throne, Herod. Herod became king by the will of Antony and Cleopatra. This brought

about the beheading of Antigonus by the Romans. Herod reigned as the satellite king of Judea under the Romans from 37-4 B.C.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for March 9, 2008

John 11:1-45

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Cycle A: the death and raising of Lazarus of Bethany. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

ILLNESS	DEATH	GLORY
MARTHA	LAZARUS	TWO DAYS
JUDEA	ARRIVED	THE TOMB
YOU ASK	WILL RISE	LAST DAY
NEVER DIE	BLIND MAN	A CAVE
STONE	TAKE AWAY	STENCH
HEAR ME	A CLOTH	LET HIM GO

JESUS WEPT

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

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Become as little children

On Saturday evening my 6-year-old daughter Theresa ran shrieking down the stairs. I thought someone had gotten hurt and I rushed to her at once. There were no injuries but there was elation and a dangling baby tooth on the bottom of her gums — her first dangling baby tooth.

"It's almost ready! It's almost ready!" she cried excitedly. I had to agree. As she eagerly jumped up and down I hugged her and told her, "This could be it!" Then I steered her toward her father. He is the baby tooth expert, after all. Seven siblings before Theresa have climbed on Daddy's lap to have their first loose teeth examined. And seven children have climbed off that same lap with one less tooth.

"Let me see," said Daddy, Kleenex in hand, peering into Theresa's mouth. "Aha!"

He pulled and out the tooth came. Theresa jumped joyfully around the room, and then I took her to the bathroom to swish out her mouth. She was so excited that she nearly forgot to retrieve her tooth from Daddy before floating upstairs to share the news with her sisters.

The next day at Mass I sat next to Theresa. She had been grinning since she found a crisp one dollar bill under her pillow earlier that morning. Now I watched as she took this same \$1 bill out of her tiny little patent leather church purse and placed it in the collection basket with no prompting at all. I bent down and whispered, "Honey, is that your tooth dollar?" (I knew it was. Six year olds don't have access to many dollars.) "Yes!" she said proudly and beamed.

Jesus said, in Matthew 18:3, "... unless you... become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

TERESA A. THOMAS

heaven." Small children have so many things to teach us if we just take the time to pay attention. Just look at what these little sages can help us learn:

Joy. Little children are naturally joyful. They are neither deceptive nor misleading. What they say is what they mean, and beauty and excitement shines through their eyes. Simple events like spotting a squirrel in the yard, finding a penny or losing a tooth makes them squeal with genuine happiness.

Have you ever watched a toddler try a glass of fresh lemonade? He will likely get down at eye level and peer at it first. Then perhaps he will swirl it around in the glass, watching the sweet/sour liquid twirl. He may stick a finger in to taste. When he takes a full drink he will likely savor every drop and may even let out an "Ahhhhh!" and give a great big smile or chuckle.

Children see life as exciting and promising. Do we? When is the last time you were truly joyful about the beauty in your life? Wives, do you remember when your heart melted when a special young man merely looked your way and said, "Hello"? Do you know the one (albeit a bit older) sitting across the table from you at dinner would probably die for you if necessary? Have you thought about what a gift he is in your life? A good father delights in giving good things to his children. God our Father delights in giving us good things too. Let's show our

gratitude and natural joy for his blessings.

Trust. Little children naturally trust their parents that their needs will be met. They don't fret about the cost of meat or produce. They simply wait trustingly for each meal to appear on the table. When my daughter Theresa climbed up on her daddy's knee to show him her loose tooth, she did so in complete confidence that he would care for her and handle the matter. We need to approach God with this same simple trust in all aspects of our lives, large and small.

Generosity. Little children are naturally generous. They love to gather dandelions and present fistfuls to those they love. If you comment on a cookie in their hands they often hold it up for you to take a bite. When little Theresa lost her first tooth she offered her tooth money entirely to God. We need to have a similar attitude.

Joy, trust, generosity. What progression in holiness we would make if we could embody these pure qualities. Small children will grow up. It is true, but if we follow their shining example in virtues we all might be able to "become like children" and stay "little in spirit" forever.

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.

LOVE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

does not consist simply in feelings of compassion for another, but a genuine interest in that person's spiritual life, emotions, thoughts and physical well-being. It desires whatever is good for that person.

Therefore, true love that reciprocates another's self-giving is communicated through tenderness, the "ability to feel with and for the whole person, to feel even the most deeply hidden spiritual tremors, and always have in mind the true good of that person." True love is an art, the ability to combine tenderness with rigor, compassion with self-perfection and giving with receiving.

Why is Father Wotyla's fundamental vision of human love as presented in "Love and Responsibility" so important to our mission as Catholics to dialogue with the world? People often accuse us Catholics of "imposing our morality" upon others. They will blame us for appealing to the Bible, the catechism or the "church's teachings." Yet, it is important to notice that throughout his discussion in "Love and Responsibility," Father Wotyla rarely refers to the human soul or to religion at all. Rather, his

account provides an understanding of human love that can be known through human reason by understanding that true love consists in loving the human person — with all of his or her virtues and vices, strengths and weaknesses.

Only if we reclaim Father Wotyla's vision for mature love as a total gift of self in authentic and tender acceptance of another person can we renew the culture by witnessing to the consuming love of Christ.

Since we're created in God's image, the God who came to us as a human being in Jesus, we can know and learn about the love of God if we stop to truly examine the meaning of human love. Something about human love can give us an idea of how God loves us — and more importantly, the way God loves us ought to inform how we love. Let us do what we can to be living witnesses to this vision of authentic love, presented by Father Wotyla half a century ago. It was this vision that he developed during his pontificate as John Paul II, and entrusted to all of us as a light that must be shown to the world, desperately searching for true love.

John and Monica Sikorski work with the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Sports

Diocesan tourney pits CYO and ICCL

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The schoolboy basketballers of the Fort Wayne Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) competed against their rivals the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) in the Annual ICCL-Fort Wayne CYO Invitational by winning three of the four games at Saint Joseph's High School.

St. Vincent, champion of the CYO lead from start to finish to St. Anthony's previously unbeaten ICCL titleholders, 33-26.

The stellar sharpshooting performances of John Blevins and Evan Feichter, each of whom poured in 15 points. Robert Mischler, who has been the leading scorer for St. Anthony, collected 11 points.

St. Vincent led at the end of all four periods, 9-8, 16-15 and 20-19.

In the most spectacular game of the day and one that was decided in the last three seconds, St. Joseph of Mishawaka, who had lost only one game this season, edged St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, 52-51.

St. Joseph, Mishawaka, led at the quarter poles — 17-7, 24-20 and 40-36 — until Wil Knapke

sank two free throws to put Fort Wayne in the lead with 3.8 seconds to play. Then a long inbound pass by the Mishawaka Catholic Saints quarterback, Andrew O'Lena, to

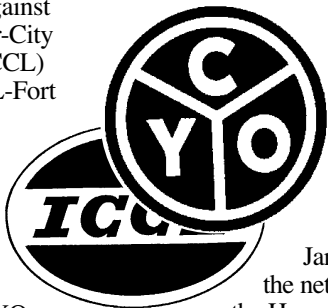
runningback Coley Schultheis completed a "bang-bang" lay-up as the buzzer sounded. Schultheis led the victors with 16 points and teammate Michael Whitfield added 13.

James Knapke singed the nets for 19 points for the Hessen Cassel team.

St. Charles Cardinals of the CYO defeated Corpus Christi of the ICCL, 48-40, and came from behind after trailing at halftime, 21-18, to outpoint Corpus Christi in the second half very handily.

Brett Lochbihler led the St. Charles Cardinals with 19 points as his teammates sank 17 of 22 free throws, eight in a row in the final period. Tate Bellegante scored 17 for the Corpus Christi Cougars.

The St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Rams, playing two games, defeated St. Jude of the ICCL, 48-43, behind the 19-point scoring of James Knapke and the 14-point splurge of teammate Mitch Castleman. Drew Hasler of St. Jude, South Bend, grabbed top individual honors with 11 points.



South Bend St. Jude's Drew Hasler and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel's James Knapke jump for the tip in the first game of the day at the ICCL vs. CYO 2008 Invitational held at Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend on Sunday, March 2.

MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

The St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Squires performed double duty at the 2008 South Bend ICCL-Fort Wayne CYO Invitational representing both the small school runner-up and champions for the CYO. The Squires downed ICCL runner-up St. Jude in the first match-up then came back to play against champions St. Joseph, Mishawaka. After a long battle, Coley Schultheis' shot at the buzzer dashed the Squires' hopes of a double victory. The Blue League champs finished with a 22-3 record overall beating even their Gold League foes.



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

CYO GIRLS BLUE LEAGUE CHAMPS



PROVIDED BY HUNTINGTON CATHOLIC

The Huntington Catholic Rams are the Catholic Youth Organization Blue League girls basketball champions. The team included Kelsey Godfroy, Taylor Hiers, Kayleigh Hutson, Peyton Pike, Emily Scheiber, Madelyn Scheiber, Ava Schultz, Ashley Snyder, Este Stoffel and Kaitlyn Teusch. Mike Stoffel, Bethany Stoffel and Megan Skelly served as coaches for the champs.

St. Louis Academy

Invites you to an Open House at St. Louis Academy, Saturday, March 8, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

If you can't come Saturday, join us Sunday, March 9, 2008 for 10:15 a.m. Mass followed by an Open House in the school.

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for the 2008-2009
SCHOOL YEAR
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2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
and
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 15
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.



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Actor Martin Sheen to receive Laetare Medal

BY MICHAEL O. GARVEY

NOTRE DAME — Actor and human rights activist Martin Sheen has been awarded Notre Dame's Laetare Medal for 2008. He will receive the medal, the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics, during the university's 163rd commencement exercises Sunday, May 18.

"As one of our nation's most recognizable and accomplished screen actors, Martin Sheen has achieved a level of celebrity that few Americans enjoy," said Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, university president. "He has used that celebrity to draw the attention of his fellow citizens to issues that cry out for redress, such as the plight of immigrant workers and homeless people, the waging of unjust war, the killing of the unborn and capital punishment. We welcome the opportunity to lift up his example for our church, our country and our students."

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Sheen was born Aug. 3, 1940, one of 10 children of a Spanish-born father and an Irish-born mother. His legal and baptismal name is Ramon Gerardo Antonio Estevez, but he later adopted his stage name in honor of the pioneering televangelist Archbishop Fulton Sheen.

After his graduation from Chaminade High School in Dayton, Sheen claims to have intentionally failed his entrance examination for the University of Dayton in order to pursue an acting career of which his father disapproved. Borrowing money from a priest friend, he went to New York City, working with Julian Beck's Living Theatre and eventually landing a widely acclaimed role in the 1964 Broadway play, "The Subject Was Roses."

During this period, he became fascinated by Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker Movement, visiting and volunteering at the Catholic Worker's houses on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

Sheen has played numerous award-winning television and film roles, most notably an amoral young murderer in the 1973 film "Badlands," a disintegrating American soldier in the 1979 film "Apocalypse Now," a bemused journalist in the 1982 biopic "Gandhi," and the itinerant French co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, Peter Maurin, in the



MARTIN SHEEN

1996 film "Entertaining Angels." From 1999 to 2006, on NBC's widely acclaimed television series "The West Wing," he played a soulful American president

who was a Notre Dame graduate.

A self-described Catholic peace activist, opponent of abortion and student of Catholic social teaching, Sheen acknowledges his spiritual debts to St. Francis of Assisi, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Dorothy Day, Rev. Daniel Berrigan, S.J., and the late labor leader César Chavez.

He often has been arrested as a participant in nonviolent demonstrations against various U.S. military policies and has enthusiastically donated money, time and his celebrity to such causes as the alleviation of poverty and homelessness, human rights for migrant workers and environmental protection.

The Laetare Medal is so named because its recipient is announced each year in celebration of Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent on the church calendar.

"whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

"Laetare," the Latin word for "rejoice," is the first word in the entrance antiphon of the Mass that Sunday, which ritually anticipates the celebration of Easter. The medal bears the Latin inscription, "Magna est veritas et prevalebit" ("Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail").

Established at Notre Dame in 1883, the Laetare Medal was conceived as an American counterpart of the Golden Rose, a papal honor which antedates the 11th century. The medal has been awarded annually at Notre Dame to a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

Among the 130 previous recipients of the Laetare Medal are Civil War Gen. William Rosecrans, operatic tenor John McCormack, President John F. Kennedy, Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day, novelist Walker Percy, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, and death penalty abolitionist Sister Helen Prejean.



NEW YORK (CNS) — Following are capsule reviews of movies issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting.

"Bonneville" (SenArt/Drop of Water)

Touching story of a widow (Jessica Lange) who treks by car from Idaho to California with her two girlfriends (Kathy Bates and Joan Allen) to turn over her late husband's ashes to her grown stepdaughter (Christine Baranski), who demands them in return for not evicting her stepmother from her home. First-time feature director Christopher Rowley — with a sensitive script by Daniel D. Davis, who based the story on his grandmother and her friends — sustains a gentle and easygoing tone throughout this mature "chick flick" road movie, the friendship of the women is beautifully dramatized, and there's an affectingly spiritual, if not specifically Catholic, quality in the healthy approach to dealing with death. A few instances of crass language, light violence and brief innuendo. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG.

"The Other Boleyn Girl" (Columbia/Focus)

Fresh telling of the oft-dramatized liaison of Anne Boleyn (Natalie Portman) and King Henry VIII (Eric Bana), including the monarch's break with the Catholic Church so he could divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon (Ana Torrent), with an emphasis on Anne's younger sister, Mary (Scarlett Johansson), who was the first Boleyn to win the monarch's favor. This adaptation of Philippa Gregory's best-seller from director Justin Chadwick keeps the story admirably intimate, and features surprisingly authentic performances by its non-British leads with predictably solid supporting work from Kristin Scott Thomas, David Morrissey and Mark Rylance. Royal bedroom intrigue with non-graphic sexual encounters including a rape, incest reference, adultery, divorce, light sexual banter and innuendo, and discreetly filmed beheadings. Acceptable for older teens. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

"Penelope" (Summit Entertainment)

Likable romantic fairy tale about an otherwise beautiful London heiress (Christina Ricci) who, as the result of an ancestral curse, was born with a pig's snout and who, with the help of her domineering mother (Catherine O'Hara) and diffident father (Richard E. Grant) must avoid exposure by a tabloid reporter (Peter Dinklage) while searching for the man whose love can lift the

spell, the two main candidates being an upper-class twit (Simon Woods) and a warm-hearted musician (James McAvoy) with a gambling problem. Director Mark Palansky's film establishes its unlikely premise quite successfully and offers some valuable observations about skin-deep beauty and self-acceptance, but the plot lags in places and the groundwork for a convincing central relationship is never really completed. Occasional crass language and innuendo, and suicide and adultery references. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG.

"Witless Protection" (Lionsgate)

Generally crude and lowbrow comedy in which a headstrong rural sheriff's deputy (Larry the Cable Guy) kidnaps an elegant heiress (Ivana Milicevic) from the custody of an FBI special agent (Yaphet Kotto) he believes to be corrupt, and drives her to Chicago to testify against her former boss (Peter Stormare), who has hired a shady security guard (Eric Roberts) to bring her back. The film, as directed by Charles Robert Corner, succeeds in being funny about once every 15 minutes, making this journey to Chi-town one long, tedious trek. Much crass and crude language, three uses of profanity, frequent sexual and scatological humor, partial male nudity, ethnic stereotyping and an obscene gesture. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

Books from the editor's desk

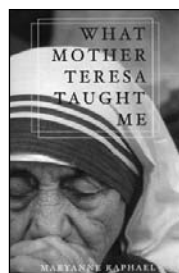
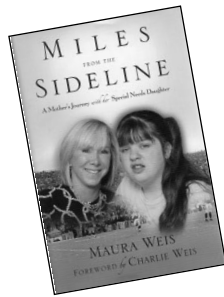
The following books are recent releases sent to *Today's Catholic* with a brief description. This is not a review or an endorsement.

"Miles from the Sideline: A Mother's Journey with Her Special Needs Daughter,"

by Maura Weis, wife of Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis, tells the challenges and unexpected blessings of raising a child with a disability — and how she evolved into a fearless advocate for her daughter and other people with special needs. Sorin Books; ISBN: 9781933495033.

"What Mother Teresa Taught Me,"

by Maryanne Raphael who personally came to know Mother Teresa from working beside her and the Missionaries of Charity, is an intimate portrait. Mother Teresa encouraged Raphael to write about her experiences. In relating her own stories about Mother Teresa, Raphael illustrates the life-changing potential of



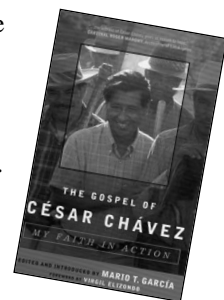
Mother Teresa's insight and wisdom. St. Anthony Messenger Press; ISBN: 978-0-86716-810-5.

"The Greatest Gift: The Courageous Life and Martyrdom of Sister Dorothy Stang,"

by Binka Le Breton, tells the story of this courageous mission, Sister Dorothy Stang, who, at 73, was murdered in the Amazon forest of Brazil. In a series of intimate interviews with those who knew her and loved her, Le Breton uncovers the lengths that the nun went to in order to combat the trials that faced "her people" in their lands. Doubleday; ISBN: 978-0-385-52218-2.

"The Gospel of César Chávez: My Faith in Action,"

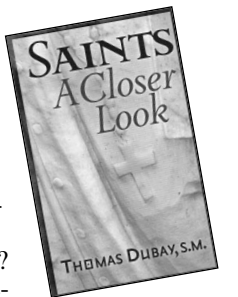
by Mario T. García, looks at the faith and spirituality and the way it shaped the life and leadership of César Chávez, one of the most recognized Latin leaders in the United States and the first labor leader to successfully organize and unionize U.S. farm workers. Rowan & Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc.; ISBN: 978-1-58051-223-7.



Servant Books has released "Saints: A Closer Look," by Father Thomas Dubay. What

sets saints apart? Does holiness come more naturally to them than to the rest of us? How do grievous sinners become saints? Are saints relevant today? What do they mean for us? Father Dubay reveals what makes the saints tick, but also nudges readers toward the heights of sanctity themselves. ISBN: 978-0-86716-763-4.

Franciscan Friar Murray Bodo's release, "Mystics: 10 Who Show Us the Ways of God," leads readers into the heart of what mystics have expressed about God and how their insight can deepen the reader's own experience of the divine. Father Bodo covers the experiences of Mary, Francis of Assisi, Jacopine Da Todi, Julian of Norwich, Catherine of Siena, John of the Cross, Therese of Lisieux, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Simone Weil and Robert Lax. St. Anthony Messenger Press; ISBN: 978-0-86716-746-7.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

FISH FRIES

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

Fish fry at PB
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish, 1529 Barthold St., will have a fish fry Friday, March 7, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Adults \$8, children 6-12 \$4 and children 5 and under \$1. Carry-out available.

Fish fry at St. Matthew
South Bend — A Jonah fish fry will be held Friday, March 14, from 4-7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Cathedral School cafeteria. Adults \$6, seniors \$5, children (7-12) \$4 and children under 6 free. Carry-out available.

Fish dinner at St. Augustine
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish, 1501 W. Washington St., will have a fish dinner Friday, March 14, from 4-8 p.m. Adults \$6, children \$3 and children 5 and under free. Carry-out available.

OTHER FUND RAISERS

Easter bake sale time
South Bend — The Altar Rosary Society of St. Casimir Church, 1308 W. Dunham St., will have an Easter bake sale Saturday, March 15, from 3-6:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 16, from 8-11 a.m. at the school. Easter lamb cakes, pies, cookies and more.

Dinner dance and auction planned
Notre Dame — Holy Cross College will host a dinner, dance and auction night on Saturday, April 12, at Marian High School's Bishop Crowley Activity Center. Proceeds benefit a new student center on campus. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and a Polish style dinner will be at 6 p.m. Live and silent auctions will be throughout the night. Live entertainment by "This End Up." Tickets are \$25 per person through the admissions office at Holy Cross or by calling (574) 239-8400 by April 4.

Spaghetti dinner
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner, Thursday, March 13, 4-6 p.m. Adults \$7, children ages 5 to 12 \$2.50. The council is located one block east of Mayflower Road.

Fish fry information is available at www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY

Spaghetti dinner helps eighth grade
Fort Wayne — The St. Joseph - St. Elizabeth eighth-grade class is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner to pay for the confirmation retreat and class trip on Saturday, March 15, from 5-9 p.m. at the St. Elizabeth Parish cafeteria, 10700 Aboite Center Rd. Adults \$8, children kindergarten through eighth grade \$5 and preschoolers free.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Technicolor with "Joseph" at St. Jude
South Bend — St. Jude School's spring musical will be "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." The shows will take place on Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, March 15 at 2 and 7 p.m. The musical will be performed at the Clay High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 each and can be purchased following St. Jude Masses, by calling the school office at (574) 291-3820 or at the door.

Palm weaving taught
Waterloo — St. Michael the Archangel Parish will offer instruction on palm weaving led

by Chip Marquardt and his family, in the parish hall on Sunday, March 9, at 11:30 a.m. Make your own special creation to bring on Palm Sunday. A light brunch will be served. For information call Sharon Garman (260) 927-1768.

St. Patrick, Lagro, celebrates feast day
Lagro — The friends of St. Patrick will sponsor a dinner and Mass for the benefit of St. Patrick Church on Saturday, March 15, beginning with dinner from 5-6:30 p.m. at the United Methodist church with a free-will offering taken at the door. Harpist Sarah Walls will provide dinner entertainment. Mass will be at 7 p.m. at the historic St. Patrick Church.

Card party and salad bar
New Carlisle — St. Stanislaus Kostka will have a card party and salad bar Sunday, March 30, at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$5 each in advance by calling Louise at (574) 654-3364 or Nancy at (574) 289-2986. All proceeds will purchase church linens, candles, etc.

REST IN PEACE

Elkhart
Ernest D. Smith, 88, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne
Grace D. Doherty, 101, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Bernard J. Kamp, 86, St. Jude

Irene Schall, 69, St. Vincent de Paul

Leslie A. Roberts, 60, St. Charles Borromeo

Kay J. Wisniewski, 61, St. Therese

Joanne Briggeman, 80, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger
Russell Lowell Schooler Jr., 83, St. Pius X

LaGrange
Virginia S. Humphrey, 66, St. Joseph

Mishawaka
Ann M. Mery, 91, St. Monica

Daniel Martin Jr., 78, Queen of Peace

Plymouth
Patrick J. Langdon, 83, St. Michael

Roanoke
Benedict David Wiora, 86, St. Joseph

South Bend
Delphine Cooper, 82, Christ the King

Robert A. Langwith, 84, Christ the King

Lucille E. Michalski, 86, St. Hedwig

Brian M. Johnson II, 16, Holy Family

Elizabeth Hoffer, 93, St. Anthony de Padua

Ollie E. Knudson, 88, St. Adalbert

Cathy L. Milazzo, 70, Little Flower

Matilda C. Fekete, 81, Our Lady of Hungary

Grace Sullivan McGuire, 95, St. Matthew Cathedral

C. Caterina Aversa, 93, Holy Cross

Frank J. Morrow, 80, Little Flower

John Radzikowski, 87, St. Patrick

Helen Sokol, 92, Our Lady of Hungary

Wabash
Todd Yarde, 41, St. Bernard

Treavor Breaton, 60, St. Bernard

Queen of Angels announces Royal Fest
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will host Royal Fest Friday, April 18, from 5-9 p.m. and Saturday, April 19, from 6-11 p.m. Friday is family night with a carnival theme and Saturday features a casino night for adults. Silent and oral auctions both days. Festival permit number 112676.

St. Patrick dinner served
South Bend — A corned beef and cabbage dinner will be Saturday, March 15, from noon to 4 p.m. at St. Patrick School on S. Scott St. Live Irish music and dancers along with traditional corned beef with trimmings. Admission of \$5 good towards food and beverage. For information call (574) 232 5839.

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Notice of
ANNUAL CLEANUP
at Catholic Cemetery

Because of the early date for Easter this year, the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne will do their annual cleanup of decorations from March 17 thru March 19. Please do not place any decorations during this time. If you wish to save your decoration, please have it removed **BEFORE** March 17 or call the Catholic Cemetery Office, 426-2044, by March 14 and we will hold it for you no more than 30 days. Decorations may be placed **AFTER** March 19.
We thank you for your cooperation.



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FOX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On a surprise visit to Austria, Fox proposed to his longtime love, and that November the couple was engaged to be married. Returning to South Bend following her Austria studies, Kreager joined Fox at IUSB to complete her education and they set their wedding date for December of 2007.

Life was filled with the excitement of wedding planning, marriage preparation, college studies and fun until the fall of 2007.

On Sept. 25, while Fox worked on his car, the fuel filter he was changing shifted and fuel sprayed down on him and was somehow ignited. Fox was burned over 65 percent of his body, and as he awaited medical assistance, with his parents Doug, whose arm was burned as he assisted his son, and Jane Szlanfucht at his side, they continuously prayed the Hail Mary together.

Not surprisingly, Kreager and her mother, Diane, prayed the same prayer over and over as dad Dan drove them to the hospital after receiving news of the accident.

Fox was so badly burned when he arrived at the Niles hospital the doctors chose to medically induce a coma in an effort to stabilize their patient. But before he was put out, Fox asked for Kreager, to once again profess his love for her.

And though she recalls nightmarish memories of the panic she felt that night, Kreager remained steadfast in her faith in God's providence, saying, "Whether God would take him or not, it's his plan. I had to trust in God. It wasn't in my control."

Soon Fox was air lifted to Bronson

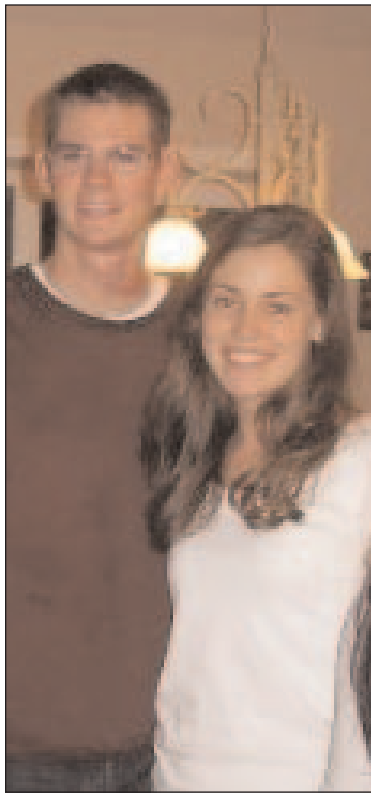
Hospital in Kalamazoo, in stable condition, where he would spend the next several weeks in the Class Four Burn Unit there. For six weeks he remained in the coma lying with his arms outstretched, in a grim reflection of a crucifix, as the medical team performed five different skin graft surgeries on his badly burned torso and arms.

Kreager and Fox's parents stayed by his side from the first day. They each took a leave of absence from their jobs and school to support and pray him through.

"The surgeon said, 'I can't tell you he's going to make it,'" recalls Jane, who firmly believes in redemptive suffering. "I went to Mass every day with Lauren."

As Fox not only suffered from his burns, but contracted a bacterial infection, MRSA and pneumonia during his hospital stay, many family members, friends and priest visited and prayed.

"There was a shrine in his room," reports Lauren. "We had relics and crucifixes that priests



PROVIDED BY THE FOX FAMILY

Joel Fox and fiancé Lauren Kreager anxiously prepare for their wedding day in June. Their December wedding was postponed due to an accident that burned Fox over 65 percent of his body.

had brought and holy water from all over."

She made daily entries on the blog provided by caringbridge.com, a Web site that offers space for viewers to access journal accounts of a patient's progress as well as receive electronic notes for them. Many of those who read the blog returned to church, inspired by the faith and wisdom the young girl offered during this dark time.

Eventually Lauren and Fox's parents found an apartment near the hospital to return to in the evenings, which Kreager says was generously paid for by her

because I could only lay there."

Movement slowly returned to the tenacious young man and he was eventually moved to a rehabilitation unit in Fort Wayne and then to Chicago where he learned to walk and eat again after having the respirator and feeding tube removed.

Fox eventually returned home to a welcome home party of family and friends where Lauren and his mother care for him.

Currently Fox attends therapy sessions at St. Joseph Hospital where he does "a lot of stretching" as the scarring of the grafted skin begins to tighten. And this month Fox is excited to be going to Mayo Clinic where a medical team will evaluate neurological damage that has slowed the return of function to his arms.

Slight function is returning to his right arm, and though weak, he has a grab reflex. He has no function in his left arm yet.

His hope is for a surgical loosening of the scarring under his arms to improve his ability to lift them. "I can't wait! I want results," he says excitedly.

The couple, who Father Scheidt says has lived the fidelity of their wedding vows of "for better or worse" even before they spoke them, plans to marry in June of this year. There's no reason not to, they say.

Lauren continues to work as an event planner at Merry Me Events and is continuing her education online. Fox hopes to get back to using his natural artistic talent to do computer design jewelry for his family's business soon. The couple is again attending Mass and their social lives with friends with no reticence about Fox's scarring.

When asked how the accident has changed him, he replies thoughtfully, "It's easier to see the value of life. It's miraculous. People were changed by the accident. It strengthened their faith."

He is grateful to his family and their support saying, "They're the best I've ever seen before."

His hope for the future, "I hope to get well enough to play golf, hug Lauren, do all the things I used to do, even if only one arm is functional."

The faith and fidelity of this young couple have brought them to a new place of hope and those who know them continue to be inspired. Both Joel and Lauren's families are in awe of their spirit-filled children and ever grateful for all who supported them with prayers, cards, e-mails and other supports.

As Lauren says, "Suffering is a prayer. It's redemptive. This is hard, but it's not about us. The point is to help other people."

Fox gently adds, "Whatever happens is what God planned and is going to be okay."

To learn more about Joel and his recovery process visit www.caringbridge.org/visit/joelfox.

St. Patrick Parish celebrates feast day, 150th anniversary

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — St. Patrick Parish has reason to celebrate this year.

The congregation is observing the parish's 150th anniversary and marking the milestone with events throughout 2008.

While the congregation will celebrate the entire year, it will aptly observe much of its 150th anniversary in March over St. Patrick's Day weekend.

"I think St. Patrick's has been a pillar of strength in downtown," said parishioner and parish council member Terrance Meehan.

Which is why St. Patrick, 309 S. Taylor St. in South Bend, is sharing its celebrations with the community.

The parish is teaming up with Downtown South Bend, a non-profit organization trying to improve the viability and visibility of the downtown South Bend community, for St. Patrick's Day.

St. Patrick's Parish will celebrate Mass with the feast of St. Joseph, hosted by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, beginning at 9 a.m. on March 15 with coffee and doughnuts following.

"We want to attract alumni of St. Patrick's School to go to Mass," Meehan said.

After Mass and food, a bus will leave from St. Patrick's Church to head over to the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, which starts at 11 a.m.

The bus will be part of the parade and used for those who won't be able to walk the entire parade route, said Meehan. Those who choose to can walk alongside the bus during the parade. Following the parade, the bus will head over to Seitz Park in South Bend for the Greening of the East Race, sponsored by Fiddler's Hearth Irish Pub.

Then the bus will take attendees back to the parish for a party, the After-Parade Ceili, at St. Patrick's Center at the parish. The entire community is invited for live Irish music and dance, food, drink and family-friendly atmosphere.

Meehan said he hopes the St. Patrick's Day events will attract many of the school alumni back for the parish's celebrations throughout the year, including an all-school reunion June 22 and the anniversary Mass on May 4.

While the parish is observing the year, it seems it has plenty to be proud of over a century and a half in existence.

According to historical information provided by University of Notre Dame archivist and St. Patrick parishioner Kevin Cawley, 50 Irish Catholic families lived on the west side of the St. Joseph River and wanted a church and parish of their own.

Under Holy Cross Father Thomas Carroll, the first St. Patrick Church was built on Western Avenue and Scott Street,



Interior shots are shown of St. Patrick Church in South Bend, which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year as a parish. Activities to highlight the feast day will be held March 15. Activities include Mass, a parade, Greening of the East Race and an after-parade Ceili at St. Patrick's Parish Center. The entire community is invited for live Irish music and dance, food, drink and family-friendly atmosphere.

holding 350 people.

The present Gothic-style church was dedicated under Holy Cross Father D.J. Hagerty in 1886 with a seating capacity of 800.

While the St. Patrick School closed in 1974, it served students for 108 years with four different school buildings. In 1898, according to information from the church, the first one, built on the current property, housed an all-boys school, which became co-educational in 1950 with a school expansion. That building was torn down in 1961, and a new one was built, which included more space, before it was closed down.

Another milestone included the church's consecration in 1920. As a consecrated church, St. Patrick can only be used to worship God within the Catholic Church.

And in 1972, the church was marked on the National Historic Landmark Registry.

Apart from the parish's rich history, the congregation continues to serve the community today, said Meehan. The congregation is involved in neighborhood clean-up projects, provides clothing to underprivileged children through the Christ Child Society, tutoring programs that see Notre Dame students tutor local neighborhood children and more.

With many in the University of Notre Dame community attending St. Patrick, Meehan said, the church will likely remain vibrant far into the future.

For more information on the history of the parish and the 2008 celebrations, visit the parish Web site at www.sspatrickhedwig.org.

"It's easier to see the value of life. It's miraculous.

People were changed by the accident.

It strengthened their faith."

JOEL FOX

aunts and uncles. They would begin their bedside vigil each morning at 7 a.m. praying the rosary, reading to Fox, playing music and welcoming the constant stream of visitors.

Father Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius Parish delivered the sacrament of the sick to Fox while Father Scheidt celebrated Mass in the temporary apartment for the family.

"So many visited. There was a tremendous outpouring of faith," says Father Scheidt.

A slow awakening after six weeks in a coma found Lauren revealing Fox's situation and surgeries to him. Paralyzed by medication he was given, Fox recalls those first days of consciousness.

"I was so excited to have visitors to tell me what was going on," he said. "It was a big deal