

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

'Special missionary experience'



Pope Benedict XVI, flanked by Italy's outgoing Prime Minister Romano Prodi, right, waves before boarding a plane at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport April 15 as he leaves for his April 15-20 pastoral visit to the United States.

CNS PHOTO/DARIO PIGNATELLI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI makes first visit to U.S. as pope

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Two days before his first visit as pope to the United States, Pope Benedict XVI described the trip as a "special missionary experience" and requested prayers for its success.

The pope made the remarks at his weekly noon blessing at the Vatican April 13, his last public appearance before his April 15-20 visit to Washington and New York.

When he appeared at his apartment window, a group of well-wishers in St. Peter's Square unfurled American flags. Others held up a huge sign that read "Buon Viaggio" ("Have a good trip").

Speaking in English, he looked forward to the visit, which includes a major address at the United Nations headquarters in New York and 14 other encounters. He summarized the message he will bring throughout his trip.

"With the various groups I shall meet, my intention is to share Our Lord's word of life. In Christ is our hope," he said.

"Christ is the foundation of our hope for peace, for justice and for the freedom that flows from God's law fulfilled in his commandment to love one another," he said.

"Dear brothers and sisters, I ask you all to pray for the success of my visit, so that it may be a time of spiritual renewal for all Americans," he said.

In his Italian remarks, the pope said he was entrusting to Mary "the special missionary experience that I will have over the coming days."

The pope spoke on the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and the theme of his main talk was that

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Visit the diocesan Web site,
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St. Jude RCIA makes man's pope trip a reality

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend well represented at papal audiences

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — As Pope Benedict XVI journeys to the United States, representatives of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will meet him at many of his stops along the way. Many of these will be in Washington, including Bishop John M. D'Arcy, who will meet him at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Debbie Schmidt of Catholic Charities and Fred and Lisa Everett of the Office of Family Life, who will attend the White House ceremony, and Holy Cross Father Steve Kempinger, superintendent of Catholic Schools, who will attend the pope's address to educators at Catholic

University of America.

But also in Washington, attending Mass in Nationals Park, will be another 50 people from the diocese, one of whom almost wrote off his chances of seeing the pope as a lost cause until the support of his parish community helped him achieve that goal.

Jonathan Moosey, age 25, joined the Catholic Church through the RCIA program at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne. Moosey doesn't drive.

At the reception after the Rite of Election on Feb. 10, Moosey had his picture taken with Bishop John M. D'Arcy. When Moosey e-mailed Father Tom Shoemaker his picture with the bishop, Father Shoemaker e-mailed back that the picture was very nice and that someday he'd like to see Moosey's picture with the pope.

Moosey responded that he was working on it, that he had registered with the diocese for the lottery for tickets to the Mass with

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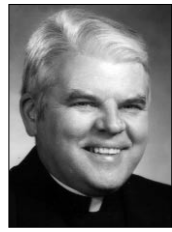
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Bishop hopes to bring pope's message back to the diocese



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

In preparation of the journey

I am putting these few notes together on Sunday evening, and on Tuesday, I will go to Washington. While there has been much in the secular papers about Pope Benedict XVI and also in documentaries on television, it must be said that this is a man who is not so easily known.

I prefer to seek spiritual nourishment in his writings. Certainly, the two encyclicals, one on love and the other on hope, are like grand spiritual conferences, especially in those places where he talks about his own theological and spiritual journey. Here are some words from his memoirs entitled "Milestones." He is speaking about his time in seminary and how they all returned and how although he was young, many who were much older and had seen the bitterness of war came back to the seminary and surely loved the quiet after the years of bombardments and explosions.

Our studies, as I have said, were propelled by our common hunger for knowledge. ... Largely responsible for this was our rector at the time, Michael Höck, who had been in the concentration camp at Dachau for five years and who soon acquired the nickname "the father" for his kindly and affectionate ways. We also played a lot of music in the house, and on festive occasions we had theatrical performances. But my most precious memories remain the great liturgical celebrations in the cathedral and the hours of silent prayer in the house chapel. The grand and venerable figure of Cardinal Faulhaber impressed me deeply. You could practically touch the burden of sufferings he had had to bear during the Nazi period, which now enveloped him with an aura of dignity. In him we were not just looking for "an accessible bishop"; rather, what moved me deeply about him was the awe-inspiring grandeur of his missions, with which he had become fully identified.

In this brief passage, we can begin to grasp something that is very precious in the church, which seems at times to have been lost, but which this pope personifies. I refer to the value of a life of intense and deep study, which is accompanied by adoration and times of intense prayer. Sister Jane Carew, director of our Office of Catechesis, told me some years ago that she went to Rome in the year 2000, the jubilee year, and that Cardinal Ratzinger, in his presentation to catechists around the world, told them that they should establish in their dioceses and parishes what he called "a school of prayer." It reminded me of the words of Pope John Paul II that "the graces of renewal will only be given to a church that prays."

The goal of all theology, after all, and the goal of pastoral care must be to draw the soul to a life of intense faith. Theology can too easily become like studying chemistry. The great definition of St. Anselm that theology is "faith seeking understanding" comes easily to our lips but it is not always understood. What is evident in the writings of Joseph Ratzinger the theologian and Benedict XVI the pope is what was one called "kneeling theology." It is a reflection on revealed truth, which draws one to understand more deeply the person of God and to a life of communion with him.

It seems that this pope, who after all has taught in the great universities of Europe, likes the format of question and answer. He has done this frequently with the priests, both in Rome and in the small northern Italian dioceses where he, like Pope John Paul II, goes on vacation. He has also used this format with young people.

One priest asked the help of the pope in

It is a wonder and we should give thanks to God that we
have had two such popes in a row —
men of great learning who show
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through the Catholic Church
to bring about humble and learned leaders.

preparing sermons. The pope said that he looks at readings a week ahead; and at first, they are like dead rocks.

Then, he indicated that he takes them to prayer and tries to determine not what Joseph Ratzinger wants to say but what does Christ want to say to the people through these readings. Then he said they come alive. I do not yet know what his talks will be, but I know they will not be superficial and hope they will draw us to courage. It is a wonder and we should give thanks to God that we have had two such popes in a row — men of great learning who show the power of God through the Catholic Church to bring about humble and learned leaders.

I look forward to these days. Very late an invitation came to attend the ceremonial greeting of the pope at the White House on Tuesday. Then, late Wednesday all the bishops will gather in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to listen to our brother, the bishop of Rome and the successor of Peter.

On Thursday, at the new baseball stadium, we will celebrate Mass together. I will of course be praying for all of you.

A moment of prayer

The confirmation season is now well launched, and I have completed 10, with 20 before me. It is my 33rd springtime conferring this beautiful sacrament. While fatigue

comes on, I never get tired of being the instrument of this gift of the Holy Spirit.

Let me share with you something beautiful. Last Friday night, I had confirmation at St. Jude, Fort Wayne. I went early for a nice supper with Father Thomas Shoemaker and Father Bob D'Souza. Fred Larson, a deacon, who is so devoted to the sick and the dying, was with us, and the supper was catered from across the street from the church under the name of Hungry for Home. We were well taken care of.

After the confirmation and the taking of pictures, I stepped out into the cool spring night and walked across the parking lot to the eucharistic chapel at St. Jude. Started under the pastoral leadership of Father John Pfister, the chapel has continued now for 22 years. There I saw on the bulletin board the historical fact indicating that over 972,000 hours of eucharistic adoration had taken place in this chapel.

I went in to spend some time there. As always, there were two people making holy hours. There was a third also, Father D'Souza. He said he tries to make a period of eucharistic adoration, an hour if possible, every day. I have no doubt that many of the blessings that come upon this diocese, including the presence of so many fine young men in our seminaries, have been the result of these hours.

A tip of my hat also to Ed Dahm, one of the founders of Mike's Carwash and a parishioner of St. Jude. Ed always gives the credit to others, but under God's grace, he has been a driving force for this extraordinary place of prayer. It was a privilege to spend some time there and pray for our diocese.

A day at Dwenger

A marvelous day with John Gaughan and Sister Jane Carew at Bishop Dwenger High School. Here one finds an excellent theology department and a very holy and peaceful place of learning. The new art center and the new campus ministry center is fully functioning. There are about 1,050 students at Dwenger. In the meeting with students and faculty, you could experience the gratitude they feel to be in the place.

How the pastoral visits to the four high schools has changed over the years, and how grateful I am to our four exemplary principals. I am grateful also that every year we can give more and more tuition grants to those who could not be with us unless they receive help.

So I am off early Tuesday morning to Washington to be with Pope Benedict XVI and my brother bishops and so many others. I hope to bring back with you his message, and I hope that the prayers said there will make me a better pastor for you.

See you all next week.

TRIP

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the pope in Washington.

His name was drawn. He could request up to four tickets. He called a friend in Norfolk, Va. and made arrangements to stay with her and her daughter. He asked for three tickets, as they would all go to D.C., attend the pope's Mass and sight see.

On Tuesday morning, April 1, his friend called. Due to a family crisis, she would be unable to host Moosey during his stay. He couldn't afford to stay in a motel, so rather than asking for help, Moosey called the diocese to forfeit his tickets.

He then called St. Jude's RCIA director, Joyce Racine. Racine's son and daughter-in-law had already given him money for bus fare, and Moosey wanted to know if they would want it back since he wasn't going to see the pope.

At this point, another RCIA sponsor had given \$20 toward Moosey's "pope money," and Racine knew more planned on contributing. Therefore, she wasn't quite so ready to give up on Moosey's journey.

"I asked him if he would still like to go if the parish could help make it happen and the tickets could be reclaimed. He did," says Racine.

Racine called Linda Furge at the diocese. She had not yet redistributed Moosey's tickets, so technically, they were still his.

Racine contacted St. Jude's former development director, Amy Thomason, who lives just outside Washington with her hus-



PROVIDED BY ST. JUDE CHURCH

Jonathan Moosey pictured with Bishop John M. D'Arcy at the reception after the Rite of Election in February of 2008. Moosey is one of 50 people attending the papal Mass at Nationals Park in Washington on behalf of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

band Chris and three children.

"I told them about Jonathan and his tickets," Racine says. "Amy was most gracious in volunteering to pick up Jonathan at the bus station, get him to the Mass even if they couldn't get tickets, house him, host him and be his tour guide around D.C. for a day or two."

What followed was a wave of support from the St. Jude RCIA class and beyond, coming together to make Moosey's trip a reality.

Racine says the group has almost been living vicariously through the excitement generated by supporting Moosey on the trip. The results have far exceeded what was originally a few individuals donating bus fare.

"An RCIA team member e-mailed that he could contribute frequent flier miles. Now Jonathan is booked for his first ever airplane ride," notes Racine.

"I feel really blessed, being Catholic only three weeks," says Moosey of his opportunity to see the pope. Through his conversion, he says he's found a church home at St. Jude, and this experience has cemented that.

"It gives you a sense of what Christianity is," he says, "just being there for each other."

Racine adds that every RCIA class has someone or something that brings the group together and makes the year special. This year, it has been Moosey and his journey to see the pope.

Now the group will watch and wait to see if Moosey returns with a picture of himself and the pope.

This may be highly unlikely, but, Racine adds, "It was also unlikely he'd even get there."

Contributing to this story was Joyce Racine.

Pope hopes to help heal wounds of priestly sex abuse during U.S. trip

BY JOHN THAVIS

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT TO THE U.S. (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said he hoped to help heal the wounds of priestly sex abuse during his visit to the United States and promised steps to ensure that such acts do not happen again.

The pope made his remarks to reporters aboard his chartered Alitalia jet April 15, about an hour after taking off from Rome for his April 15-20 visit to Washington and New York City.

The pope stood at the front of the coach class of the plane and answered four questions chosen in advance, touching on topics of immigration, church-state relations and the United Nations.

Asked what he would have to say about the clerical sex-abuse scandal in the U.S., the pope said the church should work for justice and help the victims as much as possible.

"Really, it is a great suffering for the church in the United States and for the church in general and for me personally that this could happen," he said.

"If I read the histories of these victims, it's difficult for me to

understand how it was possible that priests betrayed in this way their mission to give healing, to give the love of God to these children," he said.

"We are deeply ashamed and will do all possible that this cannot happen in the future," he said.

The pope cited new norms approved by U.S. church leaders for dealing with sexual abuse, and he noted a recent visitation of all U.S. seminaries.

Seminaries today are being much more careful about making sure that "only really sound persons" are admitted to the priesthood, because the church recognizes that "it's more important to have good priests than to have many priests," he said.

He drew a distinction between homosexual priests and those who commit sexual abuse.

"I will not speak in this moment about homosexuality but about pedophilia, which is another thing. We will absolutely exclude pedophiles from the sacred ministry. This is absolutely incompatible," he said.

The pope said the entire church should be involved in the process of healing, assistance and reconciliation.

"This is a big pastoral engage-

ment, and I know also all the bishops and priests and all the Catholic people of the United States will do what is necessary to help, to assist and to heal and to see that in the future these things cannot happen," he said.

"We hope that we can do and have done and will do in the future all that is possible to heal this wound," he said.

The pope stood during the question-and-answer session, speaking in English and Italian into a microphone held by an aide. He was flanked by his secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, and his spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi.

The pope said he was traveling with joy to the United States, a country he has visited several times.

"I know this great country, and I know the great liveliness of the church, despite all the problems," he said.

He thanked President George W. Bush in advance for meeting him upon his arrival in Washington and for dedicating such a large amount of time for their meeting the next day.

The pope said his trip had several objectives: to reflect in a pastoral way with the U.S. Catholic

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vocation and mission are inseparable for every Christian, whether they are priests, men or women religious, or married couples.

He expressed appreciation for those who dedicate themselves to missionary work in a particular way and who are sometimes called to sacrifice their lives for the Gospel.

He noted the recent deaths of Brother Brian Thorp, 77, a British Mill Hill missionary slain in Kenya, and Brother Joseph Douet, 62, a French missionary working in the West African country of Guinea.

"To them go our grateful admiration and our prayers," the pope said.

On April 16, Bishop John M. D'Arcy and other U.S. bishops and archbishops were scheduled to meet with Pope Benedict at the

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. On April 17, Bishop D'Arcy along with other bishops and priests, including three — Father James Shafer, pastor of St. Elizabeth, Fort Wayne; Father Glenn Kohrman, pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Culver; and Holy Cross Father Neil Wack, pastor of Christ the King Parish, South Bend — were scheduled to concelebrate a Mass with Pope Benedict at Nationals Park. Fifty people from the diocese received tickets to attend this public Mass.

This weekend, 16 teens and eight adults and Father Jason Freiburger, associate pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, will attend a youth rally with Pope Benedict at St. Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers, N.Y. on April 19. On Sunday, 150 people from the diocese, including the 24 teens and adults, will attend a public Mass at Yankee Stadium with Pope Benedict.

Pope on the Move

Three popemobiles are used by the Vatican to transport the pope to and from public appearances. The one Benedict XVI will use during his U.S. visit was made by Mercedes-Benz. The routes:

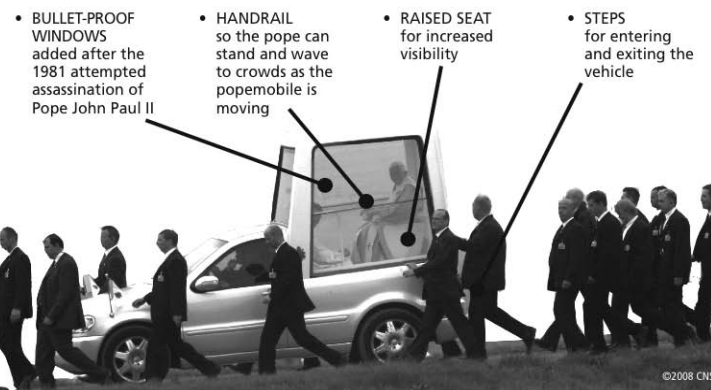
IN WASHINGTON

- April 16 White House to apostolic nunciature three miles
To the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception less than a mile
- April 17 Around the field at Nationals Park before Mass less than a mile
From Catholic University of America to the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center less than a mile

IN NEW YORK

- April 19 Cardinal's residence near St. Patrick's Cathedral to residence of the Vatican's ambassador to the United Nations just more than a mile
- April 20 Around the field at Yankee stadium before Mass less than a mile

Pope John Paul II first used the white, Jeep-like vehicle in 1980. It is a modern take on the papal throne on poles that was used for centuries to make the pope more visible to pilgrims and well-wishers.



community, to reach out in fraternity to non-Catholics and to review the foundational values of human rights at the United Nations.

Responding to a question from a Mexican correspondent about immigration issues in the United States, the pope said the long-term solution is to make sure people have enough employment and social opportunities so there is no longer a need to emigrate.

He said he would speak to Bush about development assistance to Latin American countries.

"Above all, the United States needs to help so that these countries can develop. This is in the interest of everyone, not only in the interest of (developing) countries, but of the world and precisely of the United States," he said.

The pope said short-term action also needs to be taken to help families separated by immigration, a problem he has discussed at length with Latin American bishops.

"This is really dangerous for the social, moral and human fabric of these countries," he said.

The pope emphasized that immigration has also brought positive things, particularly the hospitality shown by U.S. church leaders and lay members.

"So with all the painful things, let's not forget so much real humanity and so much positive action that exists," he said.

Answering a question about his April 18 visit to the United Nations, the pope said he wanted to highlight the moral foundations of the 1948 U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

These rights represent values that are nonnegotiable and that are the basis of social institutions, he said. It is important today to remember that in 1948 international representatives reached a consensus on these fundamental values — a consensus that needs to be renewed, he said.

St. Thomas Parish breaks ground for adoration chapel

BY DENISE FEDOROW

ELKHART — A small crowd huddled together on a chilly morning to watch the first shovel break ground for what has long been a dream of many at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Elkhart.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 9 for a new eucharistic adoration chapel. Father Bill Sullivan, pastor, said, "This is a dream come true. We've always dreamed of having it near or attached to the church."

An adoration chapel was built at St. Thomas as part of the parish center addition 11 years ago, but it is located in an area heavily traveled by students, which can get a little noisy, according to some parishioners. For those visiting the parish the chapel can also be difficult to find.

Coordinator of Adorers Irv Kloska said he looked at the groundbreaking as the third step in a four-step process. The first step was beginning a holy hour at

the church in 1992; seven years later in 1999 the current adoration chapel at the school was built. The groundbreaking was the third step and the fourth for Kloska is perpetual adoration.

"We've been working on this since 1992 so it is absolutely a dream come true," Kloska said.

Kloska said the current chapel is kind of hidden. People are instructed to ring a bell to get in but very few make the effort. The new chapel will be much better, he thinks, less noisy and closer to the church.

Architect Stephen P. Kromkowski of DLZ explained, "We're adding 300 square feet of chapel space, tying onto the church in the northwest corner, immediately off the vestibule."

According to Kromkowski, the chapel will not hold a tabernacle, in line with liturgical standards, and the chapel will be easily accessible from the lobby. There would also be space for perpetual adoration. The chapel will have the capacity for 20 to 25 people.

"We are also relocating the stained glass window from the



Father Bill Sullivan, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Elkhart, breaks the ground for the construction of a new adoration chapel on April 9.

existing chapel to the new addition," Kromkowski said.

Parishioner Theresa Hock, a regular visitor to the adoration chapel said of the event, "This is a long-awaited moment, such a joyful time. We're so looking forward to having the chapel here. Many didn't know where it was because of its remote location from the church. This will bring others to worship Jesus."

Father Sullivan blessed the ground and said, "The work we're beginning will enliven faith and help others become God's own coworkers."

Sullivan offered prayers for the work on the chapel, asking God to "bring this construction to successful completion and keep all workers safe from injury."

Bob Giel, member of the steering committee and co-chair of the capital campaign said the groundbreaking is bringing the chapel "back where it belongs, attached to the church."

Parishioner Kay Gonsoski also shared her feelings about the event. "I just can't express the joy I'm feeling. We've been look-

ing forward to this since before opening the chapel in the school," she said.

"We're hoping the saying, 'If you build it, they will come,' will bless the parish with fruits. We need more priests, and we're hoping to bring to fruition those prayers to God. I'm just so full of joy. This is a very exciting day," Gonsoski said.

Father Sullivan said the new chapel is part of a capital building project, which also includes plans to renovate the school. "We call it an educational facility because it's also used by adults," he said. "We're hoping to dedicate the chapel at the same time we break ground for the educational facility."

Weather permitting, construction of the new chapel should take between six to eight weeks so Father Sullivan is hoping to be able to hold that dedication the first or second Sunday of June.

Once the new chapel is open, hours of adoration are planned for Monday through Friday from 3-9 p.m.

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At ground zero, pope will pray for victims and families, world peace

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In addition to praying at ground zero in New York for the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and for their families, Pope Benedict XVI will pray for peace and understanding in the world.

On April 10 the Vatican posted on its Web site the missal Pope Benedict will use during his April 15-20 visit to Washington and New York; the missal includes the prayer he will recite at ground zero April 20.

Describing the site as “the scene of incredible violence and pain,” the prayer asks God to grant eternal light and peace to all who died there when terrorists flew two planes into the World Trade Center. It also recalls those who died the same day at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pa.

According to the missal, the pope will pray: “God of peace, bring your peace to our violent world: peace in the hearts of all men and women and peace among the nations of the earth.”

The pope will ask God to “turn to your way of love those whose hearts and minds are consumed with hatred.”

And he will say, “God of understanding, overwhelmed by the magnitude of this tragedy, we seek your light and guidance as



People look through a fence Jan. 17 to see where New York's World Trade Center towers stood before they were brought down by terrorist attacks Sept. 11, 2001. At least 2,819 people perished in the collapse of the towers. Pope Benedict XVI will visit ground zero Sunday.

CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

we confront such terrible events.

“Grant that those whose lives were spared may live so that the lives lost here may not have been lost in vain,” the prayer says.

“Comfort and console us, strengthen us in hope, and give us the wisdom and courage to work tirelessly for a world where true peace and love reign among nations and in the hearts of all,” it concludes.

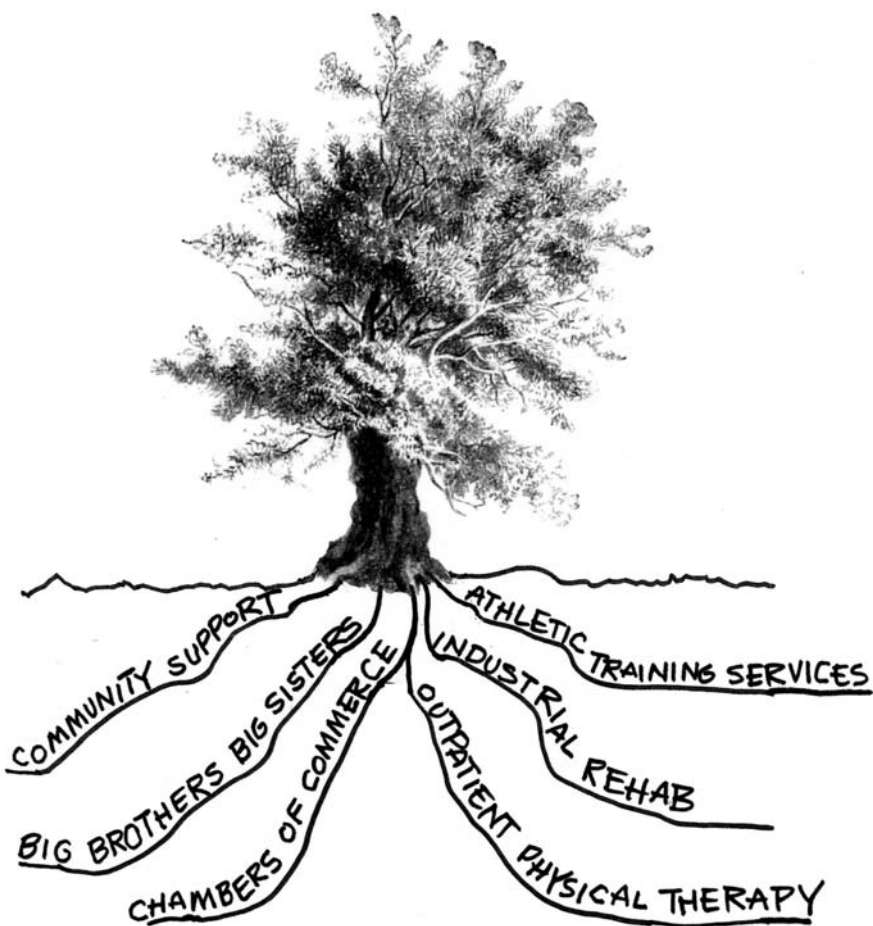
The missal says the pope will begin the visit by kneeling in silence. He will then light a candle and recite the special prayer written for the occasion.

After he has finished the prayer and before he offers a solemn blessing to the small group of survivors and family members scheduled to attend, he will use holy water to bless the ground.

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Pope names bishops for Des Moines, Little Rock, three new auxiliaries

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI appointed Auxiliary Bishop Richard E. Pates of St. Paul and Minneapolis to head the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa, and Father Anthony B. Taylor, a priest of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, as bishop of Little Rock, Ark., April 10. He also named Father Oscar Cantu, pastor of Holy Name Parish in Houston, as auxiliary bishop of San Antonio; Msgr. James D. Conley, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Wichita, Kan., as auxiliary bishop of Denver; and Father William J. Justice, San Francisco archdiocesan vicar for clergy, as auxiliary bishop of San Francisco. The appointments were announced in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

New Orleans restructuring aims for 'smaller but stronger' church

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes of New Orleans said the biggest challenge he faced in deciding on the second phase of a major restructuring plan for parishes, schools and ministries in the archdiocese was the prospect of adding another burden to Catholics already laboring to recover from Hurricane Katrina. "The losses in the Katrina and post-Katrina experience have been a very difficult cross for people to carry, and the last thing in the world I want to do is to complicate that for people," the archbishop said. "I know how much people look to the Lord, to his church and to their local churches for strength and comfort," he said. The plan that will take effect July 1 provides a facilitation process lasting up to six months to allow parishioners to discuss the impact of mergers and closures. Although it affects dozens of parishes, the plan results in a small overall decrease in the number of Sunday worship sites. Currently there are 117 parishes and five missions operating in the archdiocese — a total of 122 Sunday worship sites. After the plan takes effect, there will be 108 parishes, nine missions and two university campus ministry sites, a total of 119 sites for Sunday Mass.

Study explores support for vocations, response to decline in priests

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Although three-quarters of U.S. Catholic respondents in a new survey have noticed a decline in the number of priests serving in parishes, few of the men said they have considered becoming a priest and less than a third of all respondents said they would encourage their own child to pursue a religious vocation. Those were among the results of a survey of 1,007 self-identified adult Catholics conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington. The margin of error for the survey was plus or minus

NEWS BRIEFS

PAPAL MASS TICKETS GET STUFFED



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERITZ, LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC

Diana M. Padilla, right, and Alexandra Bastien of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y., stuff tickets to Pope Benedict XVI's Yankee Stadium Mass into envelopes April 10. More than 11,000 requests were received by the diocese and 1,000 tickets were distributed to lottery winners for the April 20 Mass.

3.1 percentage points. The 178-page CARA report, titled "Sacraments Today: Belief and Practice Among U.S. Catholics," was made public April 13. It summarized responses to a wide range of questions about Catholics' attitudes toward and participation in the Mass and the sacraments, their knowledge of the Catholic faith, their views on church leadership and teachings, and their experience with vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

German cardinal discusses church's use of slave labor during WWII

MAINZ, Germany (CNS) — A German cardinal said a report detailing how the church used slave laborers during World War II was an "important building block" for reconciliation. "The church's memory was blind for too long to the fate and sorrows of men, women, youngsters and children who were brought from all over Europe as slave laborers to Germany," said Cardinal Karl Lehmann of Mainz, former president of the German bishops' conference. "This documentation, scientifically examining a forgotten chapter of contemporary church history, cannot and should not be understood as a final reckoning. It is rather an important building block on the way to a future of reconciliation for the Christians of Germany and Europe," said the cardinal. After eight years of research by a special commission, the 703-page report called "The Catholic Church and Forced Labor 1939-1945" was presented in Mainz April 8.

Catholic Charities USA aims to tackle poverty, racism together

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic Charities USA affiliates nationwide are seeking to establish links between poverty and racism in hopes of cutting both significantly. In 2007 Catholic Charities adopted a goal of cutting poverty nationwide in half by 2020. This January it released "Poverty and Racism: Overlapping Threats to the Common Good," an issue brief that laid out the framework for establishing links between the two. The initiative got a renewed push from a three-hour electronic town-hall meeting conducted online April 2 with participants from across North America and several other countries. Some Catholic Charities affiliates have already made inroads at establishing the poverty-racism link. In Detroit, archdiocesan officials are looking to go well beyond the annual "Keep the Dream Alive" awards bestowed annually around the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday holiday for the past 28 years.

Cardinal: Pope's reflections should help Americans during elections

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will not bring political directives during his U.S. trip, but his reflections should help Americans make a "deeper moral judgment" during this year's election campaign, a leading U.S. cardi-

nal said. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, one of two U.S. cardinals who will accompany the pope from Rome to the United States in mid-April, said he thinks Americans will listen closely to what the pope has to say. "The pope is coming at a particularly sensitive time, with the presidential election scheduled for November," Cardinal Stafford told Catholic News Service in an interview April 8 in his Vatican office. The cardinal said he does not expect the pope to address partisan political issues, but to "heighten people's awareness" about what is right and what is wrong. "That is what a religious leader is about, to remind people that there is virtue. And how we, as an American people, can create a higher level of virtue in this country through the choices we make in November," he said. Cardinal Stafford is the head of the Vatican office that deals with penitential issues.

Pope: Europe must undergo ethical renewal to avoid repeating mistakes

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The future of Europe cannot rest solely on political and economic unity; the continent must also undergo an ethical and spiritual renewal if it is to avoid repeating its past mistakes, Pope Benedict XVI said. A crucial source for that renewal can be found in St. Benedict, the patron saint of Europe, who is still the best teacher to show people "the art of living true humanism," he said. The pope spoke about St. Benedict, the fifth-century father of Western monasticism and "patron saint of

my pontificate," during his April 9 general audience in St. Peter's Square. The pope referred to St. Pope Gregory the Great's writings about St. Benedict in describing the life and contributions of this Italian saint who lived from 480 to 547. He said St. Gregory wrote the book "The Dialogues" during a time when Europe was experiencing a "tremendous crisis of values" and turmoil caused by "the fall of the Roman Empire, the invasion of new peoples" and traditional customs sinking into decadence. The sixth-century pope believed that St. Benedict was "a shining star" whose life, example and rule could light the way out of such dark times in history, the pope said.

Pope urges world to slash military spending, funnel savings for peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI urged nations to slash military spending and funnel savings into peaceful development projects around the world. He also called on nations to halt the spread of handguns and other small-caliber weapons "that fuel local wars and urban violence and unfortunately kill too many people across the world every day." The pope made his comments in a written message presented to participants gathered for an April 11-12 seminar sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. The international seminar, which brought together dozens of experts and representatives from the church, governmental agencies and grass-roots groups, was titled "Disarmament, Development and Peace: Perspectives for an Integral Disarmament." In his written message, the pope praised the gathering, saying the topic was "timely" and "urgent."

Survey assesses Catholics' beliefs, practices on Mass, sacraments

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new survey has found big differences among Catholics of different generations about the importance of the sacraments in their lives. Asked which sacrament was most meaningful in their lives, 39 percent of respondents named baptism, 26 percent said marriage and 25 percent named the Eucharist. Among those who said they attended Mass weekly or more often, 52 percent said the Eucharist was most meaningful in their lives. The study also divided respondents into four generations in relation to the Second Vatican Council: pre-Vatican II, comprised of those born before 1943; Vatican II, born between 1943 and 1960; post-Vatican II, born 1961 to 1981; and millennial Catholics, born after 1981. While those of the first three generations chose the Eucharist as their most meaningful sacrament, 43 percent of the millennial Catholics said marriage was the sacrament most meaningful to them. The survey of 1,007 self-identified adult Catholics was commissioned by the U.S. bishops' Department of Communications and conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington.

Year of celebration under way at Auburn parish

AUBURN — Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn, is marking its golden jubilee of the current church and school with a year of celebration. The parish invites all to join in the special jubilee activities.

Earlier this year, the parish created and erected several interior and exterior church banners, which proclaimed that the golden jubilee.

Several parishioners submitted personally composed prayers from which an official Golden Jubilee Prayer was created. This prayer is being prayed at all weekend Masses throughout 2008 and has been made available to all parish members as a keepsake of the celebration.

Other projects undertaken include the following:

- A memory wall, containing historical photos and memorabilia, is being erected to link the past with the present. Parish members and friends are contributing artifacts to enhance the exhibit, which will be displayed in the parish hospitality room next to the church.

- Thirty-five historical pages will be combined with a pictorial directory of current parish members and staff to create a unique commemorative album. Photos will be taken during the first two weeks of April and all church members are being encouraged to participate in this effort.

- Golden jubilee T-shirts and tote bags are being designed to express the Catholic pride of the parish. The items can be ordered in early May and are suitable for the family to wear to the jubilee picnic Sunday, Aug. 3.

- The jubilee parish mission with the theme "Sing a New Song Unto the Lord" will be held May 18-22, at 7 p.m. each evening. Speakers include the following: Father Glenn Kohrman, St. Mary's, Culver; Marilyn Fech, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne; Father Mark Gurtner, Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne; and Bishop John M. D'Arcy. The last night of the mission, Thursday, May 22, will feature a Christian family concert with Tatiana, an internationally acclaimed vocalist from Croatia. A freewill donation will be taken.

- Immaculate Conception Parish will conclude the golden jubilee year on Sept. 21, the actual date of the establishment of the church and school, with the rededication of the buildings and property, and the celebration of a special Mass for the parish, followed by a catered banquet in the parish hall.

For more information contact the parish office at (260) 925-3930, or e-mail at icauburn@yahoo.com.

Tree giveaway for Arbor Day on April 25 at USF

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will conclude its Earth Week celebrations with a tree giveaway for Arbor Day on Friday, April 25, from 7:30-10 a.m. in front of Trinity Hall.

Fort Wayne Arborist's Association will give away tulip

AROUND THE DIOCESE

YIA GROUP HOSTS BASKETBALL PARTY



PROVIDED BY OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE

The Youth In Action boys of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish had their annual NCAA basketball party on March 27. The Youth In Action are middle school aged boys. They host this event for the kindergarten through fourth-grade boys to share fun and fellowship.

They are coached on how to host and role model their faith when in a sporting activity.

All participants attempt three different basketball skills, receive prizes, make crafts and eat snacks. Door prizes included some artwork, which reflects our Catholic faith. Pictured with the drawing is Billy Magda who chose a picture by artist Mary Hilger.

trees, red bud trees and conifers on the drive in front of Trinity Hall. Free trees will be limited to three per person based on supply donated. In addition, there will be a tree planted on campus and free demonstrations on proper plant pruning.

New name and officers elected at Vincent Village

FORT WAYNE — What started as a small shelter serving homeless families, Vincent House, Inc., has grown into a neighborhood now called Vincent Village, Inc., where families are strengthened and children are nurtured. More than a house, Vincent Village provides shelter, services and affordable housing for 70-75 families a year.

The Vincent Village board of directors has elected the following officers for 2008: president, Marian Welling, In House Counsel for Universal Casualty; president elect, David Reed, Raymond James; treasurer, Jeff Taner, CPA, Dulin, Ward & DeWald; secretary, Sue Swift.

The following new board members were elected for a three-year term: Dr. Meg Wilson, University of Saint Francis; Mike Rohrback, local realtor and contractor; Vince LaBarbara, communications director, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Carl Minick,

Otto Bonahoom and Bruce Lehman have renewed their three-year terms.

Diocese disperses \$221,469 to 12 'needy' parish projects

The Annual Bishop's Appeal of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend includes a funding program to assist less affluent parishes. A Parishes-in-Need Fund Committee, appointed by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, met recently to review parish requests for "needy" projects. The committee recommended a total of \$221,469 be granted to 12 parishes for essential projects, enabling them to arrive at a more stable existence.

"Obviously, we can't meet every request submitted by the parishes," said Father Robert C. Schulte, vicar general/chancellor of the diocese. "We have to consider the nature of each request in light of the total needs and financial resources of the parish as well as the other parishes in the diocese requesting funding assistance," he continued. "If all or part of a request cannot be met, often the committee will recommend the parish apply to another fund of financial resource in the diocese or community, or seek other alternatives."

Some funds usually remain in the account for use throughout the year by parishes when a new need arises, Father Schulte indicated. If all the money is not used in 2008, however, it will be carried over and allocated to next year's Parishes-in-Need fund, he explained.

"Hopefully, this money will strengthen these parishes financially, increase their outreach and improve their ability to do the work of Christ," said Bishop D'Arcy.

This year's allocation of Parishes-in-Need funds brings to \$4,449,802 the amount granted from the Annual Bishop's Appeal to parishes in need during the 21 years of the appeal. This year's dispersion and the primary parish projects include:

Fort Wayne

- Most Precious Blood — \$27,750 to replace roof on parish rectory

- St. Henry — \$1,570 for ParishSoft computer program expense

- St. Therese — \$19,895 to clean, prepare and paint school building exterior; and \$2,500 to re-key interior and exterior doors in school, church and office building

Fort Wayne area

- St. Joseph, Garrett — \$10,000 to replace church storm

windows

- St. Aloysius, Yoder — \$35,000 to replace roof on old part of school

South Bend

- Holy Cross — \$40,000 to replace school boiler

- Our Lady of Hungary — \$15,000 to repair interior church walls

- St. Adalbert — \$24,087 for air conditioning of Heritage Center

- St. Casimir — \$18,756 to replace rectory roof

- St. John the Baptist — \$11,650 to replace windows in rectory-office building, and \$1,961 to replace windows in school principal's office

- St. Joseph — \$9,800 to replace ceiling and lighting in church basement

South Bend area

- St. Monica, Mishawaka — \$2,000 to provide rectory with Internet access, and \$1,500 to remove tree near playground. — VL

Top 10 seniors announced at Bishop Luers

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced its top 10 seniors. These students have not only worked diligently the last four years to maintain an impressive grade point average, but are an integral part of the spirit that makes up the Bishop Luers community. In alphabetical order, with their parish or school community, they are the following: Andrea Allphin, St. Therese; Joseph Crouch, St. John, Fort Wayne; Elizabeth Harrison, St. John, Fort Wayne; Amanda Lazzaro, Bluffton-Harrison; Janae Meyers, St. Louis, Besancon; Madison Pepe, St. John, New Haven; Elise Rorick, St. Jude; Michael Scher, Ss. Peter and Paul, Huntington; Lindsay Shutt, St. Therese; and Bridgette Wyss, St. Aloysius, Yoder.

Luers and Saint Mary's College graduate to speak at Earth Day address

SOUTH BEND — Louise Weber, will give the Earth Day address at a campus wide meeting at St. Mary's College on April 22, in Carroll Hall at 7 p.m.



LOUISE WEBER

Weber is a 1983 graduate of Saint Mary's College and currently the department chair of environmental studies at Warren Wilson College near Asheville, N.C.

The college has a large working farm, forest and garden, all beneath the gentle, blue peaks of the highest of the Appalachians and is one of the most environmental schools in the nation.

Weber will speak on "environmental best practices at colleges, and hope for the environment." The meeting is open to the public and there is no admission charge.

Louise Weber attended St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne and is a 1978 graduate of Bishop Luers High School.

Strike Out Autism, another link in the chain of Luers spirit

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School staff and students are known for their spirit, a spirit that includes faith, respect and responsibility. One man, Jeff Bunn, is working to nurture that theme in his student athletes with a unique program called Strike Out Autism Around the World.

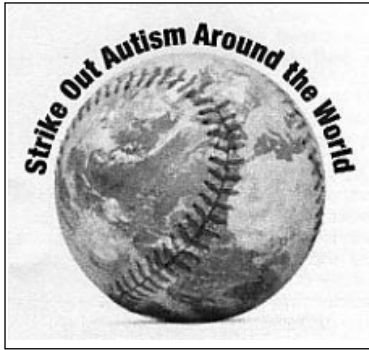
Bunn, whose passion for baseball had him playing throughout his school years and later coaching youth leagues and his own sons' travel team. He has been assistant baseball coach at Bishop Luers since 2002 and after working with the "young men who care about others and play baseball with a purpose" about the "right way" to live on and off the field, Bunn has been inspired to link his spirited baseball team with the broader community.

Following a speech given by a friend last year at a fundraiser for autism, Bunn felt moved to find a way to help children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families.

"I tell the boys, 'We take so much for granted every day. Her (the speaker's) son would love to one day do what we can do,'" he says.

After taking the inspired idea of a buddy system and fundraising for the autism supports in the area to his friend, a committee was formed that has been working diligently to make the program a reality. And Strike Out Autism Around the World was born.

According to Bunn, the purpose of Strike Out Autism is to create a buddy program in which the student athletes interact with area children challenged with ASD by

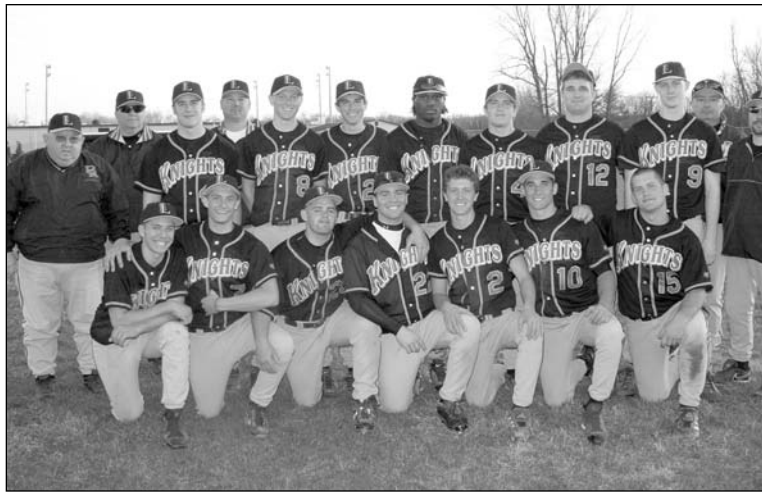


engaging in classroom activities alongside them during the school day. The Bishop Luers athletes will each be matched with a student with ASD from Covington Elementary School and Children's Autism Center each week to build relationships and have some fun.

The children and their families will be invited to each of the baseball games Bishop Luers plays with the hope that the athletes and students can interact, walk the bases together following the games and support other family members as well. The baseball team members plan to host a baseball clinic for the children sometime in April as well.

The program has the school's support as well. Bishop Luers Principal Mary Keefer is "150 percent behind the program," reports Bunn. Keefer feels the program holds promise, saying, "The chance for our young men to work with children who have autism is just ideal. ... I'm eager for our young men to learn and grow from this experience."

In addition to the buddy opportunities, the program hopes to generate funding for two local organizations to assist with scholarships for summer camps and therapies offered, by soliciting donations from local businesses and with



PROVIDED BY BISHOP LUERS VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

The Bishop Luers Varsity Baseball team has allied itself with the program called Strike Out Autism Around the World. The team is matched with autistic children and will hold some fundraisers.

pledge cards from each baseball player based on their performance per game.

The first organization, Children's Autism Center (CAC), is a nonprofit outpatient therapy center, open year round, specializing in assessments and training for children on the Autism Spectrum using the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) model of treatment.

Jill Forte, the center's founder and director says, "I was very pleased that the Luers team would do this to benefit the center. We will use the funds to expand our social skills program. The boys will give our students great role models. That's key."

Autism Community Together of Northeast Indiana, Inc. (ACT) is a nonprofit advocacy group whose mission is to engage and support those who surround individuals with ASD. ACT supports a parent mentoring network, Web

site, newsletters, camps and community-awareness seminars, and serves over 1,000 families each year.

Founder and director Pam Meissner says, "This will be a learning experience for these boys, an opportunity for awareness. It's not about the money; it's what it can do for the kids."

Each of the 28 varsity and junior varsity baseball players at Bishop Luers, including Tyler, Bunn's son, are enthusiastic about the program. "The boys are jumping at the idea. They are ready to go," says Bunn. The program began the first full week in April. Perfect timing as April is nationally known as Autism Awareness Month.

Luers athletes will also have the opportunity to volunteer at the summer camps as well as walk in the ACT sponsored Walk-to-Talk for Autism on May 17 at Lawton Park.

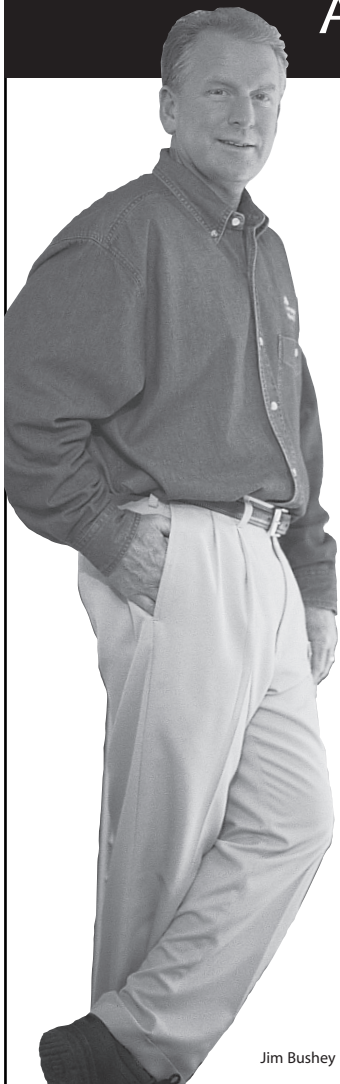
Bunn is grateful to be a part of the fund-raising efforts for the center and advocacy group, but says, "The real treasure in this is what we get between the athletes and the students. ... It's all about the children."


He adds with a tender smile, "To have our players get this gift from these kids, who truly are God's children. ... And the rest of us get to be touched by this!"


Where this program will go is anyone's guess says Bunn. His hope is that it will continue long after the baseball season is over. But for now he and his team are gearing up for a very special season. "Something has brought us together," says the humble coach. "This is Luers spirit, another link in the chain of Luers spirit." Batter up!

For more information on autism, visit www.ACTpositive.org and www.childrensautismcenter.org. For "Strike Out Autism" program information contact Jeff Bunn at jbunn@profsystemsinstall.com or call (260) 492-0359. For information on the Bishop Luers Baseball team activities visit www.LuersBaseball.org

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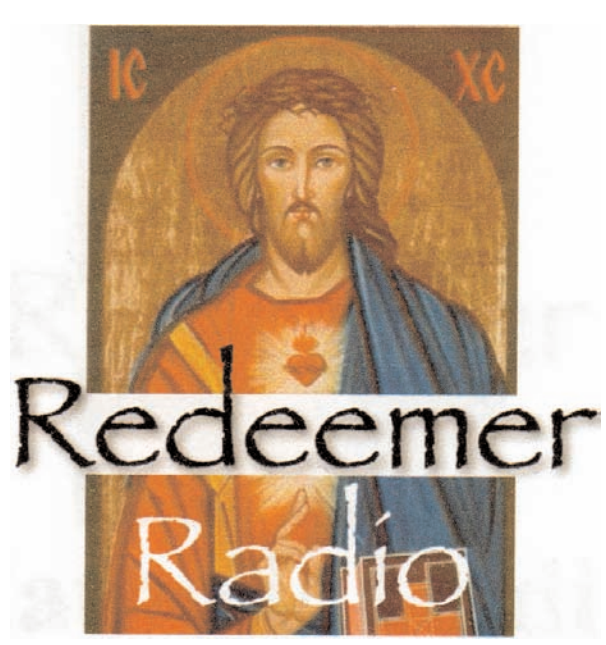
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Young guitarist hopes to help others learn

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Cody Rice loves to play the guitar.

"I can sit down for hours a day and play," he recently told *Today's Catholic*.

And this 13-year-old St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School seventh grader is inspired to share the joy he has found in playing guitar with other young people who visit the Euell A. Wilson Community Center in Fort Wayne.

Euell Wilson was a Bishop Dwenger High School student in the early 1990s. He was active in sports and died unexpectedly of adult AIDS. Soon after the funeral of this beloved student, friends started asking Wilson's mother what could be done to keep Euell's memory alive, and this Christian-based community center on Oxford Street was the result.

Rice is one of five students who plays guitar in a combo group that also play at school Masses at St. Joseph Church. Rice often leads the group. In the year and a half that Rice has been playing guitar, he has learned much from his mentors and teachers, Ken Jehle, music director at St. Joseph Parish, and Jon Swain, his music teacher.

"(Jehle) was the first one to teach me methods for guitar," Rice said. "And a lot of it I (learn) by myself."

Playing music at school Masses has taught Rice how to play with a group of musicians and has helped him become acquainted with the sound equipment.

"I feel nervous sometimes," Rice said, "but it feels really



PROVIDED BY DIANE RICE

Cody Rice, a seventh-grade student at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, is searching for electric guitars and equipment that could be donated to the Euell Wilson Community Center in Fort Wayne. Rice would like to teach other young people who utilize the after-school program at the center to learn how to play guitar.

good" to be able to utilize his gifts and talents in a setting for Mass.

Rice, whose family belongs to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, chose the Euell Wilson Community Center because his mother's brother was a friend of Euell Wilson. And Rice's mother, Diane, was acquainted with the Wilson family.

He hopes to get enough electric guitars, equipment and accessories that could be used at the center to teach guitar to several young people. But he said, "at this point, I am hoping to just get a (single) guitar."

Rice prefers the electric over

the acoustic guitar "because the bodies are thinner, and easier for younger kids to play on," he said.

The donated guitars don't necessarily have to be perfect.

"We have people who will help us get the guitars into shape," Rice said. "Unless it is absolutely broken, it should not matter what shape it is in that much." Rice is doing his part of the setup by offering to change the strings.

Sweetwater Sound, a major national music merchandiser in Fort Wayne, has offered to help set up the guitars and get the guitars playable for Rice's project.

Rice is also seeking electric guitar accessories — amps, cables, picks, tuners, sound effects, etc.

He added to the wish list a recorder. "If (those learning to play guitar) can record (their music) at certain points, to (realize) how much they are improving and visualize it, I think that would help them ... to stay committed."

Rice plans to teach guitar lessons at the Euell Wilson Center in group sessions.

As far as instructional materials, "all kinds would be good," he said. Tablature allows a beginner guitarist to "pick it up right away. And I would like them to read music at the same time," he said. Rice also likes instructional DVDs that break down the lessons at a slower pace.

Rice envisions young people coming into the center, being able to select a guitar they desire, "... and I (will) tell them how the notes on the frets work."

Contact Rice at (260) 437-1623 if interested in donating a guitar or equipment. Rice will make arrangements for pick up.

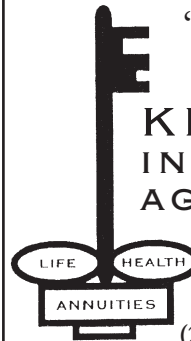
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Care of environment common theme for Pope Benedict

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The obligation to care for the environment and protect the earth as the “common home” of all humanity is a theme that increasingly is found in the teaching of Pope Benedict XVI, his spokesman said.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi told Vatican Radio that ecology “is an argument which comes up with more frequency in the words of the pope, mirroring the growing ecological concerns of humanity.”

Father Lombardi spoke to the radio Jan. 5, explaining why concern for the environment was one of the major themes in Pope Benedict’s message for the Jan. 1 celebration of World Peace Day.

Father Lombardi told the radio, “Until recently, the theme of the environment seemed like a concern of the rich rather than the poor, of developed countries rather than developing nations for whom economic growth is an absolute priority. To regulate and limit this growth seemed like a luxury, a way of keeping the weak subjugated.”

Now, however, people are realizing that ecological exploita-

tion and destruction worsens the effects of natural disasters and mortgages the future of the poorest countries, he said.

Pope Benedict’s approach, Father Lombardi said, is “a strong moral appeal to solidarity on the basis of a recognition of the universal destination of the goods of creation, which belong also to the poor and to future generations.”

“Knowing we are created by God makes us responsible before him and before others, but it is also with the hard work of reason and dialogue that we must find feasible paths for the future of the human family in this, our common home,” Father Lombardi said.

In his World Peace Day message, the pope wrote, “We need to care for the environment: It has been entrusted to men and women to be protected and cultivated with responsible freedom, with the good of all as a constant guiding criterion.”

“The problems looming on the horizon are complex and time is short,” the pope said, suggesting that new international agencies may be needed to help promote and coordinate global efforts to halt the pollution and destruction of the environment.



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Families can find ways to make homes environmentally friendly

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

MISHAWAKA — The Monhaut family of Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka is on the journey of becoming a very environmentally conscious family.

The Monhauts, which include husband and wife, Bill and Ann, and children Joe, Regina, Andrew and Jim do several things at home they hope will make a difference in saving the environment, notes Ann.

"We have more recycling items that we do trash for pick up. We've trained the kids to take the inside recycling bin and fill the three large plastic dumpsters full of recyclables," says Ann.

The family has also started using "the big curly Q light bulbs (compact fluorescents)" replacing them whenever a light bulb burns out in a room.

Drying clothes is done in a high efficiency dryer so "we don't have to dry as long" and their water heater is turned down to a lower temperature to save energy and also "because we have got young kids in the house," adds Ann. (The youngest child is 3 1/2 years old while the oldest is in eighth grade.)

"We save all our banana peels, potato peels, food the kids will not eat, etc. and put it in an ice cream bucket," Ann says. "The kids love to go to the backyard and throw this over our garden fence. In the spring, we till it under for fertilizer. Bill also plants wheat in our garden as a cover crop that is also plowed under, he calls it green fertilizer. This way we treat the land better and preserve its fertility."

As a typical young family, they do use their car, but Ann says that the family makes an effort to not use it as much as they used to. "We do multiple things in one trip. It's important to us, so we do what we can," adds Ann who has not been driving at all lately due to medical problems.

While it may seem that these are little things if everyone pitched in as the Monhauts, our world will be "greener" for everyone.

Besides regular recycling, buying CFL light bulbs, high efficiency appliances with the Energy Star logo and turning down the water heater temperature, there are many easy things that families can do to "go green" everyday.

Think refillable, washable

Use refillable items and washable dish ware to try to keep down the trash. Instead of getting a Styrofoam cup from your local coffee shop, bring along your own refillable mug and ask them to fill it with the same amount of coffee. Don't use paper plates, napkins and plastic ware, but instead, opt to wash.

Don't go paper or plastic

Instead of opting for paper or plastic at the store, purchase some inexpensive cloth or mesh bags or make your own. Be sure to store them in your car. If you

can't seem to get rid of the plastic bags, take a few along inside your reusable bags and reuse them. Don't throw them away when they are not usable anymore, but find a recycle location that will take them.

Break the plastic habit

Plastic is one of the worst items that are filling up landfills. Do not throw out plastic bottles, but be sure to recycle. Plastic is now being used in several things that you can buy — be on the lookout.

Make your own cleaners

One of the best cleaning solutions that is good for the environment is vinegar. You can use it to clean your windows, counters and bathrooms.

Carpool or walk

Sharing a ride is one of the most efficient ways to cut down on emissions. If you don't live that far from work, walk when you can.

Buy in bulk

Instead of opting for many packages of smaller items at the store, try to buy them in bulk from bins whenever possible or buy a large bag and sort into reusable containers at home.

Creative ways to recycle

Many items around the house that we might use once and throw away can be recycled or reused for other purposes. For example:

- Cut up this year's Christmas cards and use those to make next years gift tags.
- Styrofoam egg cartons are excellent for sorting and storing small items such as beads or buttons. If you are a gardener, they are great for sorting and storing seeds. Styrofoam peanuts can be used in place of rocks in flower pots for drainage.
- Use alternative gift wrapping rather than paper and ribbon that is used once and thrown away. You can be extremely creative

with this, use newspaper comics, magazines, fabric or any kind of colored paper.

- Old newspaper has many uses in the garden. Use it as a weed block when starting new flower beds. It can also be shredded and put in the compost bin.

Easy switches to be "green friendly"

- Use reusable containers instead of plastic bags for bagged lunches.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
- When buying toys, look for

FSC — certified wood ones. Stay away from PVC's.

- Look for natural cotton and wool for clothing.
- Instead of tossing something out, consider Freecycle, www.freecycle.org/ or give to charity.
- Instead of individual bottled drinks, use a reusable drink bottle and refill.
- Instead of driving your car everywhere, use your legs, bike or bus.
- Use around four tablespoons lemon juice, 2 tablespoons olive oil and 3-4 tablespoons water

instead of store bought as furniture cleaner.

- Homemade toothpaste can be made from 4 teaspoons baking soda, 1 teaspoon salt, a few drops of flavoring extract if you like. Mix all well and keep the mixture in an airtight container.
- Buy a reusable travel coffee mug and always use it instead of disposable ones that are provided at your local coffee stop location.
- Use castor or mineral oils to lubricate switches and hinges instead of lubricants containing solvents.
- Add white vinegar to the

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Hospice Care May Prolong Life

Report shows patients live an average of 29 days longer

A STUDY PUBLISHED in the March 2007 issue of the Journal of Pain and Symptom Management reports that hospice care may prolong the lives of some terminally ill patients.



Mark Schomogyi, M.D.

Among the patient populations studied, the mean survival was 29 days longer for hospice patients than for non-hospice

patients. "In other words, patients who chose hospice care lived an average of one month longer than similar patients who did not choose hospice care," said Mark Schomogyi, M.D., Visiting Nurse & Hospice Home's medical director.

National study

Researchers selected 4,493 terminally ill patients with either congestive heart failure (CHF) or cancer of the breast, colon, lung, pancreas or prostate. They then analyzed the difference in

survival periods between those who received hospice care and those who did not.

Longer lengths of survival were found in four of the six disease categories studied.

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Parishes and school communities going 'green'

Meet green parishioners and educators in diocese

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — One may be surprised how parishioners, parishes and schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are beginning to connect environmental stewardship with a faith perspective. Here are a few samples and some ideas that can benefit the community.

Going geothermal

Harvesting geothermal energy is a relatively new trend in green living and Larry and Michelle Heckber are not shy about exploring it.

In August of 2006, the longtime parishioners of St. Aloysius, Yoder, bought 80 acres next to the proposed 60-acre Archbold Wilson Memorial Park in Ossian — the future site of a geothermal subdivision.

Heckber said his interest in green practices was peaked when he read a few articles about WaterFurnace's geothermal products. WaterFurnace has a manufacturing facility in Fort Wayne.

"We started talking to them and we felt we could be tied in with them," he said about the relationship.

The Heckbers met with the furnace company a few times and found many "incentives to work together."

Once completed, The Bridges,

off State Road 1 on County Road 900 North in Ossian, a bedroom community just minutes south of Fort Wayne, will be the largest 100 percent geothermal housing subdivision in northern Indiana.

A WaterFurnace geothermal system is more efficient than a standard unit because it "uses no fossil fuels in its operation and only uses eco-friendly refrigerant. For every kilowatt-hour (kWh) of energy used to run the equipment, four kWh of energy is pulled from beneath the homeowner's backyard, helping them reduce their energy bills, and their carbon footprint," the company said in a statement.

Ossian-based Colliers Heating and Cooling has been selected to provide geothermal heating and cooling to the subdivision's residents, Heckber said.

"It's a very economical way to cool and heat a home," he said about the green practice. "It's all natural, coming from the earth."

Heckber said the contractor, Barkley Builders, broke ground on the first house in August of 2007 and was completed in November 2007.

Heckber's vision of a 170-lot geothermal subdivision is a four-phase project. His vision for the first phase of the project consists of 23 traditional homes and 25 villas, all using geothermal energy. The couple hopes to sell 75 percent of the lots in phase one before undertaking the second phase.

Heckber said that so far 20 percent of the lots have been sold. Phase one of the project is nearing completion, although Heckber said he "still has a lot of grass to plant."

The Heckbers are partners in

the venture with their daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Kirby Sink.

For questions about the development and to set up a tour, contact Bev Grzych, a representative from BKM Real Estate's Ossian office at (260) 622-1000. A model of the proposed development, as well as photos of the construction and homes, can be found at www.beecreekdev.com

'Green' education

"Go green" has a double meaning for John and Pamela Steinbach.

The couple has developed a model for nonprofits to earn money, while promoting environmentalism. The founders of the local environmental organization, Grassroots Green, have designed a "Green Living Guide" to sustainable living with the intention of enhancing life, benefiting and educating people. The guide consists of feature stories and photographs and coupons that encourage the purchase of environmentally friendly products and services.

The guides are sold to nonprofits for \$5 and then in turn are sold for \$15 on the market at local Kroger and Scott's stores.

The couple is currently working with area churches and schools, like Canterbury High School and Memorial Park Middle School to develop fundraising plans. John said they haven't started talking to Catholic schools but plan to reach out to that segment.

The cofounder said that he encountered "a lot of interest in



churches in sustainability and being green."

The Steinbachs are promoting their upcoming Need to Go Green Conference, June 21 at Indiana Tech. Concurrent sessions addressing environmental practices are on the agenda, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sen. Richard Lugar will conclude the conference with a dinner at 6 p.m. and a talk at 7 p.m.

For more information about the project, see the Grassroots Green Web site at www.grassrootsgreen.us.

Rethinking 'green'

They saw a problem and developed an environmentally friendly solution. Construction Recycling Solutions is a local company that caters to the industrial segment's environmental disposal needs.

It was about three years ago when CRS Vice President Candace Imbody first addressed the issue of used drywall cluttering landfills. At the time, Imbody was working for Zolnik as a project manager at Final Coat, a drywall business.

"We were trying to figure out what to do with (the drywall) besides putting it in a landfill," Imbody said.

After doing some research, Imbody found out that 90 percent of this industrial waste is recyclable.

"If we could stop (the materials) from going to the landfill, maybe we had a business model," she said.

President Jeff Zolnik, a parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, explained how the recycling process is an efficient alternative to traditional waste disposal. CRS processes all the materials and the shreds are put back out into the community, he said. For example, wood is ground for mulch and vinyl siding is melted down and remolded.

Zolnik said materials recycling is becoming more and more popular.

"More and more businesses are focusing on their environmental footprint," he said. "Every business needs to know how we can help them with their waste needs."

The local General Motors plant is a customer, Zolnik noted, as a truck makes a pick up every day.

But recycling is more than just a nicety; it can positively affect a company's bottom line.

"We actually save the company money," Imbody said. "It saves them (money) because it's less expensive for us to recycle than (for them) to haul it to a landfill."

CRS stretches beyond the industrial segment. Zolnik said he would like to work closely with churches and schools to handle recycling materials.

Moreover, Imbody said the company emphasizes the educational component of recycling. "Sustainability hinges on education," she said. "We're willing to educate (the churches and schools.)"

For more information about CRS, see www.constructionrecyclesolutions.com. The general public can drop off materials to be recycled Monday thru Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Celebrating 'green'

The University of Saint Francis has caught the green bug.

The university will accept outdated or broken electronics at the North Campus, 2702 Spring St., Saturday, April 19, from 9 a.m. and running until the semitrailer is full or until 3 p.m. All Fort Wayne residents are invited to participate. Recycling is free, but cash donations will be accepted to offset recycling costs. One "carload" per person will be accepted. This event is cosponsored by Recycle Force of Indianapolis and Action Environmental Inc. of Fort Wayne.

USF students in the Advanced Environmental Science class worked to develop a curriculum of environmental awareness and stewardship the Franciscan way. April 19, from 9 to 11 a.m., third to fifth-grade children and their families are invited to the forested Enviro-Acre, behind Achatz Hall for hands-on, field lessons about ecology.

The school announced it will conclude its Earth Week celebrations with a tree giveaway from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Arbor Day, April 25. Fort Wayne's Arborist Association will give away tulip trees, red bud trees and conifers on the drive in front of Trinity Hall. Free trees will be limited to three per person, based on supply donated. In addition, there will be a tree planted on campus and free demonstrations on proper pruning.

For more information, contact Jim Laughlin at (260) 434-7439.

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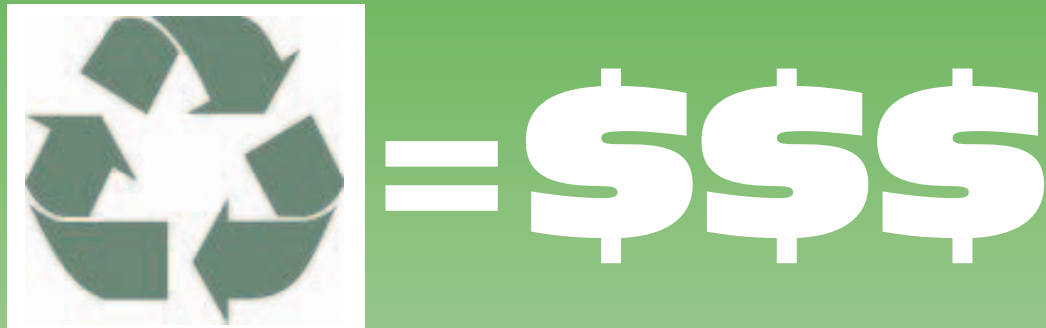
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At St. Patrick parish, Arcola, parishioners fill five 90+ gallon Totes each week with newspapers. Father Cyril Fernandes endorses the recycling program as good stewardship and as a cooperative method of conserving resources. He also appreciates the financial return which supports parish activities.



At Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, seniors Joe Ladowski (left) and Matt Brown are active in the Social Justice Club and assist in recycling efforts. The school's waste paper fills 8 to 9 Totes per week, the money from which supports charities of the Social Justice Club.

To earn dollars for your parish or school, contact PAPERWORX in Fort Wayne at (260) 969-0280. Paperworx collects waste paper within a 50 mile radius of Fort Wayne.



CRS would like to recognize their customers that make the effort to focus on sustainability of the Fort Wayne area by actively recycling materials used in new home construction sites; *Cardboard, drywall, paper, plastic, shingles, vinyl and wood.* Through the systematic efforts of the firms shown here, *more than 20,000 tons of jobsite waste has been diverted from local landfill!*

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Promotion ends June 30, 2008.

Through contacts, past trips, pope has finger on pulse of U.S. church

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI visits the United States this week, he will not be stepping into the unknown.

Through his many personal contacts with American church leaders and papal diplomats, his past trips to the U.S. and his ability to remember much of what he hears and reads, Pope Benedict has his finger firmly on the pulse of the church in the United States.

Bishops from around the world coming to Rome consistently have expressed awe and admiration for the pope's remarkable depth of knowledge, his familiarity with everyday events worldwide, and his recollection of minute or even obscure facts and past events.

"He has always been amazingly well-informed on the U.S.," said U.S. Jesuit Father Joseph Fessio, who studied under the future pope in the 1970s.

Father Fessio, founder and editor of Ignatius Press, said that every time he met with then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger during annual meetings of the directors of

Casa Balthasar — a Rome-based center that aids priestly discernment and study — he would always find him extremely aware.

During those meetings "I would generally have two or three items I wanted to bring to his attention. He almost always was already aware of what I spoke about," Father Fessio said in a recent e-mail response to questions from Catholic News Service.

In a way, the pope's long stint at the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith was the perfect place to become well-versed in the situations and challenges the Catholic Church faces in the United States. The congregation has weekly meetings with experts on current prominent topics — such as advances in medicine — and it also receives regular reports from the world's bishops.

Washington Archbishop

Donald W. Wuerl said a lot of those reports "would have to do with theological issues, but, regularly, doctrine committees of conferences of bishops were asked to provide the (doctrinal) office with overviews of what was going on in that country."

The archbishop said Pope Benedict's attention to and recollection of details are particularly striking.

In a recent phone interview with CNS, he recalled that in January 2005 he had to visit the Vatican's doctrinal congregation for a project on which he was working.

Cardinal Ratzinger was elected pope just a few months later, and that May Archbishop Wuerl returned to Rome and greeted the pope at the end of a Wednesday general audience.

"When I went up to greet him, he said, 'Have you completed that project?' I thought to myself: How would he even remember, with all the things on his desk right now as pope, this little project of mine?" the archbishop said.

Despite this ability to recall surprising amounts of minutiae, Pope Benedict does not get bogged

down in the details, the Washington archbishop said.

The pope "strikes me as a person far more aware of the bigger picture," he said.

Collaborators, both past and present, who have worked alongside the pope are also quick to point out the pope's gigabyte memory bank.

"He has an amazing power of retention. He reads an enormous amount. Still, I don't know how he does it," said Father Fessio.

As head of the doctrinal congregation and as pontiff, Pope Benedict has always had Americans on his staff. For instance, U.S. Archbishop James Harvey is one of his private secretaries, and the former San Francisco archbishop, Cardinal William J. Levada, is now head of the doctrinal congregation.

People who know Pope Benedict say he is a good listener

Despite this ability to recall surprising amounts of minutiae, Pope Benedict does not get bogged down in the details,

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and accessible, and it made meetings with him as head of the doctrinal congregation a positive experience.

"Not only was he present, as opposed to having just someone from the office meet (us), but he would listen, he would respond to questions, and he would seem to already have considerable knowledge of whatever the issues we brought to discuss," said Archbishop Wuerl.

He said bishops' group talks with Cardinal Ratzinger began with a prayer and with him asking participants what their issues and concerns were "rather than give a talk to us first."

"He didn't come to the meeting with an already formed vision of what was happening. He listened, and he responded across the board," the archbishop said.

The pope's ability to see things from so many points of view is also a sign of his having "a very wide vision" and sources of information that "were of considerable breadth," the Washington archbishop said.

Pope Benedict's movements and schedule are much more restricted now that he is the pontiff, but he also has access to a whole new network of information.

Staffers at the Vatican's Secretariat of State and Vatican representatives in the United States — the papal nuncio, Archbishop Pietro Sambi, in Washington and Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the Vatican's observer at the United Nations in New York — act as an information clearinghouse, keeping the

pope up to date on the United States.

One Vatican source said another major resource is the U.S. bishops themselves — with the information they pass directly to the pope during meetings at the Vatican and documents the bishops' conference produces. In addition to the bishops' "ad limina" visits every five years to report on the status of their dioceses, the president, vice president and general secretary of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops also meet privately with the pope once a year.

The other way of staying in tune is the mass media and what the mail brings — "what one finds, hears and then the whole network of people who write to the Holy Father, like religious, bishops and individual faithful," the source said.

He said the Vatican receives a huge amount of correspondence addressed to the pope. General greetings are set aside and tallied up and more important mail ends up on the pope's desk, he said.

Pope Benedict regularly thumbs through the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, which carries a variety of international news. Staffers at the Vatican's Secretariat of State comb through other news sources for a daily news roundup for the pope.

While this week's visit to Washington and New York will be his first trip to the United States as pope, it will not be the first time he has set foot on American soil. As Cardinal Ratzinger, the pope has been to

the U.S. at least five times.

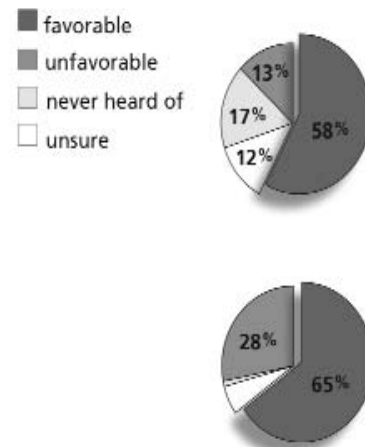
In February 1984 he traveled to Dallas, where he gave two talks, including one to bishops of the Americas, and in January 1988 he traveled to New York City for a public lecture.

He visited Washington in January 1990 to give a talk at the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. In February 1991, he spoke at a bishops' workshop in Dallas, where he delivered an address on "Conscience and Truth."

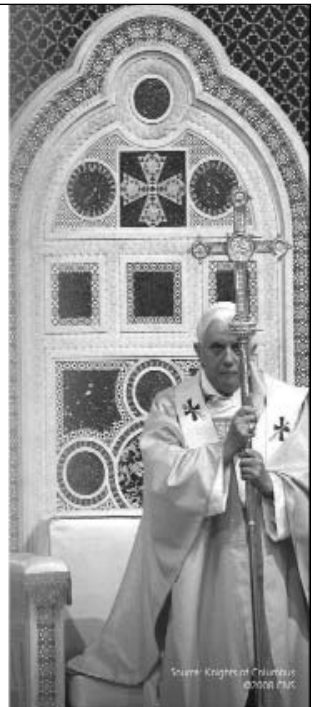
He went to San Francisco in February 1999 for a meeting of Vatican doctrinal congregation officials and doctrinal officials from bishops' conferences of North America and Oceania. He also gave an address at St. Patrick's Seminary and visited his publishers at Ignatius Press.

American View

Most U.S. adults have a positive view of the pope and the church, according to a survey conducted by the Knights of Columbus.



From a survey of 1,015 U.S. adults interviewed between Feb. 25 and March 2, 2006. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.7 percent.



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Contact: Coach Matt Kostoff, (260) 489-6613

Football Skills Development Camp for current Grades 5-8
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Cost: \$40, additional campers \$30, includes shirt
Contact: Coach Chris Svarczkopf, (260) 496-4718

Volleyball Camp for incoming Grades 4-9
June 2-6
Grades 4-7, 4-5:30 p.m. and Grades 8-9, 5:30-7 p.m.
Cost: \$40, includes camp shirt
Contact: Coach John Minnick, (260) 459-3162

Saints Basketball School for current Grades K-8
Session 1: June 9-12 Session 2: July 7-11
Grades K-3, 9-10:15 a.m.; Grades 4-8, 10:30a-12p.
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Contact: Coach Dave Scudder, (260) 496-4700 x336

Future Saints Boys Soccer Camp for incoming Grades 5-8
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Contact: Coach Mike Khorshid, (260) 483-0800

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Contact: Coach John Bennett, (260) 486-5805

Dance Team Camp for incoming Grades K-8
June 16-20, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$40 (\$45 at the door), includes camp shirt
Contact: Coach Haley Wood, (260) 433-2306

Cheerleading Camp for incoming Grades K-5
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Cost: \$60, includes outfit (\$30 w/no outfit)
Contact: Coach Amy Gonzagowski, (260) 496-4700

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Contact: Coach Amy Gonzagowski, (260) 496-4700


All camps are held at BDHS unless otherwise noted. Additional information and forms are available on the website at www.bishopdwenger.com, and in the front office of the school. Please check the website regularly for changes and cancellations. Thanks!

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Patty Schneier

EDITORIAL

Reflections on the papal visit to the U.S.

BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Pope Benedict XVI, the successor of St. Peter, is coming to our nation's capitol and to the great city of New York, "the capitol of the world," as Pope John Paul II called it. I thought it might be helpful to reflect on a few points about him, discovered mostly through his writings but also from conversations during the visit, which each bishop makes to Rome, to the Apostolic See of Peter every five years. These are called visits "ad limina" — "apostolorum," to the tombs of the apostles.

He is by any standards an eminent and accomplished theologian. Before becoming pope, he had written over 50 books, many of them published in this country by Ignatius Press. Most recently, he has completed "Jesus of Nazareth" — the first of two volumes, which he calls, "my personal search for the face of Christ." I first came to know the depths and originality of his thinking when I was teaching a course in spiritual theology to candidates for the priesthood at St. John's Seminary in Boston in the early 1970s after returning from doctoral studies in Rome. I was teaching a course entitled "The Life of Faith and Spirituality of the Priest." I discovered a recently published work entitled, "Introduction to Christianity." It came out of a series of lectures which Father Ratzinger had given in the summer of 1967, at the historic German University of Tübingen. In the opening chapter of the book, this young theologian showed a remarkable understanding of the difficulties which modern man experiences in a life of faith. I find this to be a characteristic of this pope. Because of his great knowledge of philosophy as well as contemporary theology and art, he is able to get inside the heart of the person struggling to be open to the gift of faith. He writes:

"Just as the believer knows himself to be constantly threatened by unbelief, which he must experience as a continual temptation, so for the unbeliever faith remains a temptation and a threat to his apparently closed world." — "Introduction to Christianity."

Cardinal Ratzinger cites St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, and notes that although she grew up in a time in which the signs of faith were everywhere, she experienced in the last years of her life a great sense of darkness and distance from God.

A man not given to the superficial answer

I also found at that time two articles translated from German on the life of the priest. There was a time, shortly after the Second Vatican Council, when there was much controversy over the nature of the priest, especially in light of the emphasis on the Second Vatican Council on the call of every baptized to participate more fully in the work of the church.

Joseph Ratzinger chose to go deeper, rooting the vocation of those holding office in the church — the priest and the bishop — in the call of Christ to the apostles. Thus he writes:

"This office (priest or bishop) rests on the existential posture of the servant who has learned how to allot second place to his own will in favor of the will of the person to whom he belongs. It is essential to the bearer of this office that he stand in the service of another's will." — "Priestly Ministry: A Search for Its Meaning," Emmanuel, May 1980, page 254).

This resistance to the superficial is shown in a talk he gave in his early days as pope. While explaining the practice of celibacy for priests, he refused to place it in a context of availability. This, he says, diminishes the vocation of marriage. Rather, he drew an analogy from the Levites, the priestly family of the Old Testament. Unlike the other tribes of Israel, the priestly family received no land. Their portion was the Lord. This approach calls priests to a much deeper spirituality than mere availability. The Lord must be everything to them. We see why he was always among those who presented what was once called "a kneeling theology" — a theology rooted in prayer and adoration. It is never for him a mere intellectual exercise.

A man devoted to the truth

The Honorable Anne Burke, a justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, was chosen by the U. S. bishops to be chair of the committee which examined the great tragedy of sexual abuse by priests. Eager to see that the Holy Father and his collaborators understood the breadth of this moral crisis, she and two of her colleagues traveled to Rome to visit with some cardinals. When she returned, waiting for her was a fax from then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect for the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith asking to visit with her. She had no idea how much time she would receive, but there on a Saturday, Cardinal Ratzinger and his assistants listened for several hours as Justice Burke and her colleagues — one a noted lawyer and the other a journalist — presented with great clarity what they had learned. The cardinal wanted to know the truth — the full and painful truth.

During my meetings with Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, at the "ad limina" visits, I found him alert to the pastoral problems in our country, especially the importance of careful screening of candidates to the seminary — both in the admissions process and in the course of their formation. Remember, it was only when he became pope that the document, with its strong teaching that those with deep-seated homosexuality should not be admitted to the seminary, was finally published. He faced up to the truth. I hope this document will guide seminaries and bishops in the years to come.

To those who wish to know the mind and heart of this pope, I would recommend a little book entitled "Milestones," which is a kind of biography of his life up until his appointment as prefect for the Congregation of the Faith. We meet a lover of classical music, a man who grew up in a strong Catholic family filled with love for the church and the holy liturgy. I would also suggest "Introduction to Christianity," "Jesus of Nazareth," and a little book called "God is Near Us."

It must have been a cross and a burden when he saw the way the conclave was moving during the papal election, and he has said as much. I am sure the talks that he presents to us, and especially the central talk — the address to the United Nations — will shed light and wisdom on the paths we must take as Catholics and Americans. His message will not be superficial and he will not recommend an easy road.

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

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The traditional rite that many of us have grown up with is truly worth revisiting. Listening to the priest along with the servers and the prayers that are chanted take you deep into mystery of Christ and prepares you for the transubstantiation. This having taken place leaves you with the longing desire to receive Christ into your own body. The Eucharist, after being distributed by the priest as he places the body of Christ on your

tongue while you kneel, leaves you with a fulfilled desire as you return to your seat.

No one should want to pass up the opportunity to participate in such a beautiful Mass and to be able to bring your children and share in the tradition of the Tridentine Latin Mass, now known as the "extraordinary form" of the Roman Missal.

These Masses are offered with the express permission of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, as well as Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

Valerie Frantz
Roanoke

Precious gift

Happy Easter to all. I wonder how each of you celebrated the greatest day of the Christian faith? I had the privilege of celebrating Easter Vigil at our Cincinnati Hispanic parish of San Carlo Borromeo. It was a pull-out-all-the-stops liturgy with the lighting of the Easter fire, a resurrection skit, and a beautiful Mass during which 25 people received baptism and/or holy Eucharist and confirmation. I prayed for each one and wondered what it was like for them on their journey of preparation to being a full member of the Catholic Church.

In Chad, Africa, where I was missioned for 12 years, the preparation time is taken very seriously, a process lasting four years. The catechumenate in Chad is not just catechesis; it's an unrushed journey to discover who Jesus is and to learn how to be open to encounters with him in daily life. Three times a week for those four years, the catechumens gather in celebration place of the community and listen to the catechists talking and teaching about God and his Son Jesus Christ, about the Holy Spirit and the church, about life lived with God who walks side by side with each of his children.

At the end of the first year, there's a celebration in the Christian community where the names of the people asking for baptism are written in the book of the catechumens. At the end of the second year, each catechumen is presented with a special rosary. At the end of the third year, there's another celebration where the names are written in the book of the elect who will receive baptism the following Easter.

During the year preceding their baptism, the newly elected meet once a month for a day-long retreat where they share their experiences of and learn more about this Jesus so new in their lives.

On Palm Sunday, hundreds gather for a week-long retreat that serves as the final formation session before the sacraments of initiation are administered. During this time, I would meet individually with each person in the presence of the Christian community presenting them for baptism. Once again, I would ask them if they really wanted to be baptized. I have heard the most beautiful expressions of faith in these meetings with the community and the elect.

I remember Rosalie and Ndorum, parents of eight children, and married for so many rainy seasons they couldn't count them. They went back in their life together to recount for



COMBONI
MISSIONS

FATHER PETER CIUCIULLA

me the presence of God through the years and how he had accompanied them. They hadn't known it at the time, but now they saw it with absolute clarity.

On Easter Monday, Rosalie and Ndorum came to my house and presented me with a rooster, their special way of wishing me Happy Easter and thanking me. As a few days earlier I was amazed by the faith of this couple, now I was embarrassed at being the recipient of such generosity. A rooster! You don't just give away a rooster in Chad. As potential father of countless broods of chickens, it's way too precious a resource. But they did, and their rooster came with a message: thank you, Father, for sharing Jesus with us. You have come to share your most precious gift; we want to share one of ours.

When it came time for me to leave Moissala later on, this couple asked to accompany me to my new assignment in Doba. Of course, I said yes, but my curiosity prompted me to ask why they wanted to go with me. Rosalie said, "Father, God has given you to us, and now he is calling you somewhere else. We are sad, but we know that right now other people need you. We want just to talk to the women of the other parish and tell them to be good to you because you belong to us. You are one of us."

Rosalie understood the most important thing of all: meeting Jesus Christ is opening oneself to his love and answering the call to share him with others. I had no more words to speak to Rosalie. She was now my catechist teaching me the deepest meaning of my Christian faith.

Father Peter Ciuciulla, MCCJ, is mission director of the North American Province of the Comboni Missionaries, a worldwide religious institute founded by St. Daniel Comboni to carry the Gospel to "the world's poorest and most abandoned people."

The healing gift of tears

Beth, a young mother who had lost her son to leukemia, sat weeping as she told the story of little Alex's struggle to survive. "I'm so sorry," she said, disconcertedly. "I just can't seem to control these tears."

Any one of us who has experienced loss knows there is no apology necessary for this honest expression of the pain she bears deep within her heart.

I believe tears are a wondrous gift from our creator God. I have experienced my own uncontrollable torrent of tears flowing sometimes in stormy bursts or quietly like a soft spring rain. They can be healing and frightening at the same time. Healing because they release the torment of our souls, frightening because they sometimes come unheeded and unwelcomed by ourselves and others.

Like Beth, many of us realize how uncomfortable others are in our pain. Perhaps we grew up learning through family and societal teaching that tears are a sign of weakness. Men in particular may recall the dishearteningly unrealistic, "Big boys don't cry," formula of our grief-avoidant culture.

However, tears communicate our need for comfort. And as the

Kleenex commercial affirms, tears don't compromise our strength, they express our grief.

Many times when we seek compassion from others, or offer comfort to another in times of loss, unconstructive adages such as, "Don't cry. It'll be ok," or "Tears won't change anything," fill the air. Though these words are meant to encourage, those who have experienced the death of a loved one know how painful it is to hear those disheartening words. The message of discomfort is powerful to those who mourn.

And sometimes we choose to stuff our own tears as if to save them for a rainy day. Sue, newly widowed, doesn't cry around her children now that her husband is gone. She feels her weeping would further burden them in their grief.

Whether holding back this important emotional release is due to our misguided understanding of the gift of tears or a personal crusade to save others from enduring our pain, I have learned that denying myself or others the opportunity to touch their pain and release it through tears leads not to healing, but to more emotional distress.

And that distress can later manifest in other and more perplexing ways. Sue has experienced several

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

KAY COZAD

unexplained health maladies since her loved one died.

In our technologically-advanced society, medical research has shown that tears are a natural physical response to both good and unhealthy stress, in which toxins stored in the body are released. But more than that, tears can be our hearts' way of releasing any pain we harbor. As author Kathe Wunnenburg writes, "When we release them, they wash away our anger, guilt and unforgiveness and water our soul's garden."

Following my husband's death I found myself shedding so many different types of tears, sometimes during the most inopportune times. Tears of anger burst from deep within my gut as I shopped for groceries, shaken by the injustice

HOPE, PAGE 19

We draw ourselves into community



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

5th Sunday of Easter Jn 14:1-12

The Acts of the Apostles once more is the source of the first reading. The early chapters of Acts marvelously reveal to us the lives led by the early Christians. Very obvious, and important, in this glimpse into events so long ago is the place of the apostles and among them the place of Peter.

The apostles led the community. Moreover, the Christians recognized the apostles' leadership. The people listened to the apostles. Indeed, reverence for the apostles was so deep that the people placed their possessions at the apostles' feet, allowing the apostles to control even the material assets of the community.

In Acts, this community was situated in Jerusalem. Although the very heart of Jewish life, and a city supremely great in meaning for Jews, Jerusalem was not Corinth. It was not Antioch. It most certainly was not Rome. In the total scheme of things, it was not a very important city.

Actually, the Romans maintained as their capital for Palestine the city of Caesarea, a seaport on the Mediterranean Sea. (The ruins of this city now are in the suburbs of modern Tel Aviv). In Caesarea,

the Roman governor resided, and the Roman occupation had its headquarters.

It is interesting, incidentally, that the only relic of the administration of Pontius Pilate as governor, aside from mention in the Gospels, is a stone carved with his name, and the stone was found in the ruins of Caesarea.

The vast Roman empire, under one system of laws, allowed for movement from place to place. Thus, nationalities mixed. So, Acts refers to Jews, but also to "Greek," as Jews at the time called foreigners.

Care of the needy, and widows were very needy, seemed to prefer Jews. The apostles responded that their task was to teach the Gospel. However, they did not dismiss the obligation to care for the needy.

Instead, they chose seven holy men to be deacons. It was an exercise not just of organization but also of innovation, in the name of Jesus.

First Peter provides the second reading, centering Jesus as essential in salvation. He is the promise of God. The reading urges Christians to be true to Jesus.

St. John's Gospel supplies the last reading. Not a resurrection narrative, it recalls the Lord's discourse with the apostles, consoling them as to what they should expect in the future.

He will be with them always. He is "the way, the truth and the life" belongs only to the Son of God.

Reflection

Almost a month has passed since Easter. For weeks the church joyfully has told us of the Resurrection. He lives.

Before long, the season will end. We will return to life in 2008, with its burdens and uncertainties.

The church tells us not to lose heart. Jesus still is with us. He is our rock and our shield. He lives in the community of Christians. However, if authentic, this modern community must be the same as the community described in Acts.

Applying the picture in Acts to the present is interesting. Which Christian community actually resembles the gathering of Christians in Jerusalem long ago, precisely in their reliance upon the apostles with Peter at their head? It has to be the Roman Catholic Church.

The community profoundly is dedicated to the Lord. It cares for the sick and the needy. Care for others is no charming sideline for Christians. It is of the essence of the religion.

The church tells us, as the Easter season concludes, that Christ is with us. But, in turn, we must draw ourselves into the community that the Lord created. He is in this community.

However, being in the community is more than joining a club. We must give our hearts to the Lord.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7 Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19 1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12

Monday: Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-4,15-16 Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13b,21 Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3,10 Jn 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14 Ps 89:2-3,6-7,16-17 Mk 16:15-20

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2,3,5 Jn 15:18-21

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

This has proven to be a very popular name for popes, though that fact alone leads to confusion. This quiz attempts to slice the Piuses.

- The very first Pius was pope in this century, when Christianity was still illegal:**
 - the first century
 - the second century
 - the third century
- The second Pius was divided from the first by**
 - the separation of the empire into two halves
 - more than 1,000 years
 - the issue of celibacy for Western clergy
- Pius III is not much written about; one reason is that his pontificate**
 - was known as the "Do Nothing" administration
 - was taken up with only writing books on bread making
 - lasted only 26 days
- And he, Pius IV, had this famous nephew**
 - St. Charles Borromeo
 - Leonardo Da Vinci
 - Cesare Borgia
- He also successfully concluded this council:**
 - Trent
 - Constantinople
 - Vatican I
- Pius V, probably because he was originally a Dominican, is thought to have begun the papal habit of**
 - yodeling at dawn
 - wearing a miter
 - wearing a white cassock
- Which decision by Pius V, while justified, was later regarded by most church historians (at least the English ones) as a political mistake:**
 - the burning of Joan of Arc
 - the excommunication of Elizabeth I, Queen of England
 - the coronation of Maeve I as Queen of Ireland
- Pius VI was pope during this momentous event which rocked the French church**
 - the renaming of French fries as "Papal Potatoes"
 - the excommunication of Napoleon
 - the French Revolution
- Pius VII was also concerned with French affairs and in an attempt to wrest concessions agreed to take part in this controversial ceremony:**
 - the coronation of the commoner Napoleon as Emperor of France
 - the execution of Charles IX King of France
 - the revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV
- Pius VIII faced opposition from this clandestine group whose name was derived from "charcoal burners"**
 - Fuegistic del Arbres
 - Carbonari
 - Charros
- Though he suffered political setbacks, including losing the papal states, Pius IX made theological strides. In 1854 he defined this**
 - the dual nature of Christ
 - the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 - the infallibility of the popes
- Pius IX's reign exceeded 25 years. Why was this noted at the time by historians?**
 - because tradition suggested St. Peter's reign had been 25 years and before Pius IX, no pope had reigned longer than Peter
 - because popes up to 1934 were only allowed to serve 25 years
 - because the second secret of Fatima said that if a pope reigned longer than 25 years, the 26th year would represent the beginning of the rule of the Antichrist
- Pius X was famous as a promoter of social justice, He also strongly supported the frequent reception of this by Catholics**
 - holy Communion
 - acceptance into the Freemasons
 - extreme unction
- Pius XI's most important political achievement was the recognition of this by the Italian state codified in the Lateran Treaty**
 - an independent clergy
 - an independent judiciary
 - an independent Vatican State
- In 1950, Pius XII defined this dogma**
 - the reality of the true presence (transubstantiation)
 - the Assumption of the Virgin Mary
 - the infallibility of church councils

ANSWERS:

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

Town cursed by Jesus refused to repent of their sins

What was important about Chorazin, the town that Jesus cursed?

Anonymous

Jesus was upset about the town of Chorazin because he had worked many miracles there and the people did not repent of their sins. So Jesus cursed the town: "It will go ill with you Chorazin. If the miracles had taken place in Tyre and Sidon (in ancient Phoenicia or modern Lebanon), they would have reformed in sackcloth and ashes long ago. It will go easier for Tyre and Sidon than for you on the day of judgment."

Jesus also cursed the towns of Bethsaida and Capernaum for the same reason. And Jesus even cursed a fig tree because it did not produce fruit to ease his hunger. So the fig tree withered up instantly.

Chorazin (modern Korazim) is two to three miles northwest of Capernaum in the hills 900 feet above the Sea of Galilee.

Father J. Murphy-O'Connor calls the town of Chorazin "Capernaum with a view," since it offers a wide perspective over the northern end of the Sea of Galilee. Chorazin is on a flat plateau in the middle of a hill and extends over 15 acres. The town was a complex of streets and houses forming a large agricultural center.

The traveler Aetheria (A.D.

381) spoke of the synagogue at Chorazin that Jesus cursed. When Jesus passed by and asked the Jews working on the synagogue "What are you doing?" they said "Nothing." So Jesus said, "Therefore if it is nothing that you are making, it will always be nothing." So it remains until today. For afterwards, whenever the Jews wished to build, what they did in the day fell down at night, and always remained at the same height it was when it was cursed.

Eusebius (A.D. 330), the bishop of Caesarea in Israel, and St. Jerome, who lived in Bethlehem and translated the Bible into Latin at that time, both spoke of the town of Chorazin. Eusebius described the town as abandoned and desolate with a heap of ruins.

Father J. Murphy-O'Connor says Chorazin had expanded in A.D. 135 when many Jews were expelled from southern Israel by the Roman emperor Hadrian.

It is unclear why the town was in ruins in the early 4th century. One recent excavator in 1987 suggests that the synagogue and town were partially destroyed by an earthquake in the latter part of the 4th century. But nevertheless, life soon returned to Chorazin and the synagogue was rebuilt and continued until the 8th century. The city covered between 80-100 acres.

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

The town of Chorazin continued to exist from the seventh to the ninth centuries, but then it was abandoned. In the 12th to the 13th centuries, a small settlement was established.

The synagogue at Chorazin, says J. Finegan, is on the main road facing south toward the Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem. The synagogue is built of squared blocks of black basalt (the prevailing stone of the surrounding countryside) and is in striking contrast with the white limestone of the synagogue at Capernaum. The plan of the Chorazin synagogue is 65 feet long and 45 feet wide. Three rows of 12 columns set in a U-shape outline a central nave and three aisles. Some original benches still line the wall. A stairway led up to the southern facade with three entrances. On each side of the main entrance was a platform for the Torah or Law and the place of the reader with its chair of

Moses.

Father J. Murphy-O'Connor mentions other places of interest at Chorazin. Near the synagogue is a large public building with a ritual bath and a cistern. East of the synagogue are two large buildings from the fourth century that probably housed an extended family. They entered from a large cobblestone courtyard. The best preserved buildings are from the 12th to the 13th centuries. Here a number of olive presses have survived intact. Olives were spread on mats

smaller than the incised circle and piled one on top of the other. Pressure was brought to bear by means of a screw set between two upright wooden posts. The oil that dripped into the circular incision flowed into a lower basin. Baedeker adds that at Chorazin you can also see an Islamic sepulcher or tomb along the footpath.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for April 20, 2008

John 14:1-12

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Cycle A: a lesson about trusting your welfare to Jesus. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| HEARTS PREPARE TO MYSELF NOT KNOW LIFE SEEN HIM BELIEVE | TROUBLED A PLACE WHERE I AM THE WAY THROUGH ME PHILIP ON MY OWN | DWELLING TAKE YOU THOMAS TRUTH FROM NOW ON SHOW US WORKS |
|---|---|--|

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Y U O M E R A P E R P F
E R T Y I S U W O H S E
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T N M A K O I E L D E I
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E Y S O J O A G H S I L
W O N K T O N P H D E E
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Where have all the heroes gone?

When I was a kid back in the 1960s and early '70s, star athletes didn't seem real to me. Basketball players such as Pete Maravich and baseball players like Henry Aaron were mythical figures.

You would read about them, occasionally see pictures of them in magazines, and perhaps catch them on TV, particularly if you were fortunate enough to be in range of WGN out of Chicago.

But someone like Maravich, who scored points in unfathomable proportions but was seldom seen, was like a character in one of those cheesy sports novels where they would face adversity and always come out on top. Occasional glimpses of the star athlete in real life made them seem that much more mythical.

That certainly isn't the case anymore. Flip on ESPN and you can see anyone and anything. Dial up YouTube on your computer and you'll see a line drive off the forehead of a Notre Dame pitcher the day after it happened.

That now qualifies as entertainment.

For today's sports fan, what you want is what you get. If you follow the Yankees in Yosemite, you can pay a fee and get all the games on TV.

Yet therein lies the problem. The charm of the game and the mystique of the athlete are gone. Athletes haven't done much to preserve that image with men behaving badly away from the arena/field. Of course, many of those mythical figures from days gone by — Maravich included — were abusing alcohol "back in the day." It just wasn't caught on film or captured on a cell phone and posted on a national Web site.



FROM THE SIDELINES

BY TIM PRISTER

How many times have you heard about the high school athlete who was drinking a beer at a party, only to be caught by a cell phone photo and posted on the Internet? Such behavior happened 50 years ago, too, but it wasn't recorded. In fact, the sports media 50 years ago often turned its back on an athlete's bad behavior.

Today, it's "breaking news."

So where have all the heroes gone? Oh, there are still plenty of heroes. Athletes giving money and time to charitable causes are commonplace if you take the time to notice. We are, as a whole, a charitable society, and that even includes those who get paid millions of dollars to play a sport well.

But those stories aren't reported nearly as often as the misdeeds of the stars, and they certainly don't garner the attention of a drug bust or a drunk driving arrest, particularly if there is video online.

Because of the kind of money that athletes make, some revel in the mistakes of the rich and famous. We revile some athletes because, as the old saying goes, familiarity breeds contempt, and we've never been more familiar with the professional athlete than we are now. We know everything there is to know about our athletes. We even feel entitled to know about their personal lives.

Like thousands of Americans, I've enjoyed the fun of participating in fantasy sports leagues. Fantasy sports make all the games important and all the players important.

Now, instead of getting angry with the player from your favorite team, you are just as likely to verbally abuse the wide receiver from Seattle because he's not providing enough receiving yardage for your fantasy squad.

For many fans, athletes are still heroes ... when they perform well, that is. But when they don't, the athletes are possessions. I own him. He's on my fantasy team.

Where have all the heroes gone?

They're still out there, and they don't have to be professional athletes. Moms and dads at local Little Leagues, men and women who volunteer their time to umpire games or work at the concession stand, are just as much heroes as the professional baseball player who hit 50 home runs last season. We just don't view them with the same respect as the guy swishing the 35-footer at the buzzer. But they're lending a hand, making a difference, providing for a good, healthy outlet for athletic competition.

There are heroes all over professional, college, high school and grade school sports. Perhaps we need to look a bit harder today for those heroes than we used to. It would help if we would maintain a healthy perspective on the real importance of athletic competition, even if your fantasy team could use a few more stolen bases.

Tim Prister is a 1978 graduate of Marian High School and a 1982 graduate from the University of Notre Dame.

HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

of my husband's death and all that my young family had lost.

Tears of sorrow, not only for my loss, but the tremendous and far-reaching loss for my two young daughters, streaked my face morning, noon and night that first year. I cried alone in the confines of my bedroom as many times as we wept together. My children, though young, were not untouched by grief and shed many tears of their own not understanding fully what had transpired.

Lonely tears streamed forth in great rivers some nights as I yearned for my spouse. How could I feel so completely alone after experiencing such a joy-filled life with my husband?

Tears of frustration and dismay came and went as I struggled to cope with the many events and chores left for me to attend.

And unexpected tears of gratitude would spring forth from my

broken heart as my family, friends and church community surrounded me in those days following his death, holding my family up with basic necessities such as food, maintenance and just plain love.

My girls and I wept unapologetically, both privately and publicly, for we followed our natural instinct to mourn. God bless those who were willing to simply sit in witness to our pain.

I believe there is something profoundly healing about the sharing of sorrow through the shedding of tears. Even Jesus wept in his sorrow. God says that he notes our wanderings and stores our tears in his heavenly vial. ... He mourns too, sitting quietly with us each time we need a witness to our pain. Give yourself and others the gift of growing on the grief journey through the sharing of tears.

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and writer for *Today's Catholic* newspaper. She is also the author of "Prayer Book for Widows," Our Sunday Visitor, 2004.

Sports

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOSTS GOLF OUTING The Holy Cross College Golf Outing, with proceeds benefiting the Holy Cross College Alumni Association, will be held on Friday, April 18, at Knollwood Country Club in Granger. Registration and lunch will begin at noon with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. There will be an awards ceremony along with a tailgate-style get together featuring appetizers and a cash bar. Prizes will include two opportunities at \$25,000 for a hole in one along with longest drive, closest to the pin and more. Registration is \$100 for an individual and \$400 for a team. Register at www.holycrossgolfouting.org or by contacting Craig Horvath at (574) 239-8368.

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CYO opens softball season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In an exciting opener of the 2008 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) softball season, the girls from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth came up a run short against St. Jude on a sunny afternoon, April 8. The Lady Eagles scored three runs late in the game making the final score 11-10. St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth coach Monica Zwick was pleased with her team's performance in their first outing.

"The girls led much of the game and played well," she said. Schray Hammock and Julia Hayes both hit doubles in the loss.

This year's roster for St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth is 20 deep and includes two eighth graders, five seventh graders, and 13 fifth and sixth grade players. Of the 20, two members are fielded from St. Therese and two from St. John, Fort Wayne.

CYO softball, track and soccer coaches are encouraged to send spring scores to mmcastleman@aol.com.

Luers gains runner-up track meet results

FORT WAYNE — Melanie Huhn's first-place finish in the shot put and discus lifted the Bishop Luers girls track team to the runner-up spot at their own relays on Saturday, April 12. Columbia City took top honors in the meet. Bishop Dwenger also competed at the meet and finished 10th overall.

Other individuals placing for the Knights and Saints were E. Sherburne, M. Pepler, J. Ruich, A. Swygart, K. Baumgartner, A. Kimmel and members of the 4x100 relay team, 4x200 relay team, 4x400 relay team, 4x800 relay team, 4x1600 relay team, sprint medley and distance medley teams.

In the boys' competition of the Bishop Luers Relays, the Knights finished in fourth place. Three of the sprint relay events took home red ribbons — the highest for Luers at the meet. Harding High School was the top team for the day.

Other finishers for Luers included B. Holloway, T. Swygart, A. LaMaster, D. Andrews, A. Phifer, C. Skordos, B. Hendricks, M. Goodwin and members of the 4x400 relay team, 4x800 relay team, 4x1600 relay team and distance medley teams. — MC

Holy Cross College hires Phillip O'Connell as head hockey coach

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College is proud to announce the addition of Phillip O'Connell to its athletic staff. O'Connell has just been hired as the college's head hockey coach.

O'Connell has been playing hockey since he was four years old in Lansing, Mich. He played in several junior leagues as goalie and began to coach children's leagues while still in high school. He was the assistant hockey coach at Marian High School for four years and then established a high school league for Lakeshore/St. Joseph in Michigan. He has served as the head coach of this league for the past two years. He was contacted by Nathan Walker, athletic director at Holy Cross College, and Greg Meola, former head coach.

"It is exciting to bring Phil O'Connell in to coach our hockey team. He is committed to developing both the hockey program and the student-athlete. I am confident that we will be successful in the classroom and on the ice," says Walker.

Comprehensive health fair at St. Matthew

SOUTH BEND — A comprehensive health fair sponsored by the Cathedral of St. Matthew will be Thursday, April 24, from 3-6 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

Included in the fair will be blood pressure and sugar screening, a memorial health works kid museum and a kids obstacle course and a Hummer on site.

St. Joseph Medical Unit will conduct mammograms from 1:30-5 p.m. In the north cafeteria will be a special blood drive project as well as a fitness and information booth. — EJD

DIRECTOR - Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities of Northwest Indiana is currently taking resumes for the position of Executive Director. Must possess working knowledge of the social teachings of the Catholic Church and have experience in providing oversight of programs and service of a charitable agency. Must have a graduate degree in Human Service/Mental Health or a related field. Resumes will be accepted through May 5, 2008. A complete job description is available upon request. Salary and benefits are commensurate with experience. Resumes should be sent c/o

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The earth is God's gift to all



THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to look around and see how poorly many human beings treat the earth and her many gifts. When I was still living at home, my mother would always tell us not to run the water needlessly or to turn off the lights when we left a room. At that time I thought she was just nagging. Now I see that she was probably the first environmentalist I ever met.

The growing violence in the world is disturbing. Who of us is not saddened when we hear of cold-blooded killings or witness the devastation of so many people because of senseless wars? On the other hand, I wonder how many of us reflect on the violence that humans do to the earth daily? It would be interesting to count how many paper and plastic goods each of us use in just one day or one week? How many people pick up plastic forks and knives in a cafeteria or restaurant when the washable utensils are readily available? How many of us wonder where all the trash we generate goes? I remember hearing several years ago on the

news about a barge of garbage that was floating for days on a river unable to find a place that would permit it to dump its cargo.

Do we ever think about the number of trees that have to die to supply us with the reams and reams of paper we use each day? How many of us recycle it, or do we just throw it back into the regular trash that ends up in a landfill? I was amazed at one place I worked. Recycling bins were everywhere yet many people threw paper, cans and bottles into the regular trash. Are we just lazy or don't we care about future generations and the life of earth?

A friend of mine grew up on a farm in California. She often mentions how much it grieves her to see shopping malls built on some of the most fertile land in the country, if not in the world. It is outrageous, maybe sinful, that millions of people go to bed hungry every day, some in our own country, and many die daily while we erect buildings on farmland that could be used to grow enough food to feed the world.

Our economy today has its problems, but we still have been blessed with much more than many of our brothers and sisters around the world. This abundance is not our entitlement. We have an obligation to share it with those in need around the world.

I taught social studies as a young sister and often used an exercise to get across to the students the reality of the world situation as far as consumption of goods is concerned. I would get some great food and 5

percent of the class would be given 60 percent and the rest would have to share the remaining 40 percent. Of course there would be a lot of griping and cries that it was unfair. The exercise usually made the point. Sadly, many years later we still have this inequity.

Yes, it was and is unfair and unjust that a small part of the world has access to the majority of the earth's resources while millions live in poverty. We are surrounded with consumerism and materialism while others do not have their basic human needs met. Some of us also live like these resources will never run out. What about future generations? What is our obligation to them?

All of this can be overwhelming and we can be at a loss as to where to start to address the reality of the situation. Most of us are inclined to think, "What could I possibly do about it?" On the contrary, I think we all can do something. Maybe it is as little as not letting the water run while brushing our teeth, remembering the millions of people who have no access to clean water. We can be conscious of the life of trees by using regular instead of paper plates or taking the effort to recycle all our papers and magazines.

We can do our bit to slow down global warming by carpooling and watching our use of electricity. There are many other examples.

We all can do something. This Easter



YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

season is a good time to move out of our comfort zones and think of others more, including Mother Earth. Remember that God gave all humans the earth and told us to take care of it. How are you doing on that score? How do you use or abuse God's many gifts?

And the next time you buy a new cell phone or computer think about what happens to the old one.

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. mlavonis@cscsisters.org.

Don't let your résumé become your identity

I arrived at the career fair with high hopes, 20 résumés and dozens of story ideas turning in my mind.

I had prepared meticulously, ironing my suit, straightening my hair, frying everything into submission. I had memorized the morning's news, donned my glasses for a scholastic effect and applied a dab of lip gloss. I was set.

The recruiters quickly lowered my lofty expectations. The heavy hitters weren't exactly interested. Neither were the middle-of-the-roaders. The warmest reception I got came from the editor of a teen-

sy-tiny paper offering a yearlong internship for meager pay and no benefits. Is that all I'm worth? I wondered as I filed into a long line.

Finally my turn came to talk to the recruiter of a big-time paper where I had applied for an internship. My application had arrived with that much-hyped distinction, the recommendation of a staff member, and I was eager to follow up with an in-person introduction.

The recruiter spent less time reading my résumé than it had taken to print, proceeding to point out everything it lacked. "Come

back in 10 years," she growled.

The job hunt can be a rude awakening to young adults with super-supportive parents and super-expensive degrees. Not only are many head hunters hostile, so is much of the job-searching advice.

"Your present résumé is probably much more inadequate than you now realize," cautions one Web site. "A job often attracts between 100 and 1,000 résumés these days, so you are facing a great deal of competition."

"No jewelry is better than cheap jewelry," another site

asserts. And when selecting attire, "avoid rayon blends."

And whatever you do, don't you dare use high-quality résumé paper: "Employers HATE pretentious parchment paper. They think they're phony and toss them out."

That is, be polished, but not too polished. Get it?

I'm watching friends conform to these standards, stripping their colorful, three-dimensional personalities to black bullet points. So much is lost between the gifts we possess and the credentials we submit.

The good news is our faith



TWENTY SOMETHING BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

defies all these silly rules. Enough with the generic verbs and padded résumés, St. Paul writes: "Stop lying to one another... Here there is not Greek and Jew, slave and free, but Christ is all and in all."

While career consultants preach neutrality, St. Paul urges us to pile it on liberally. "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."


While career consultants induce panic, St. Paul instills peace: "Let the peace of Christ control your hearts. And be thankful."

We are thankful because we have been granted the greatest mission on earth. No matter what company name is stamped on our paychecks, we are ambassadors of Christ, "heralds impelled by the Gospel," as Pope Benedict XVI put it last month.

God overlooks our typos, seeing us for who we are — and who we might become.

When we seek his kingdom first, everything else is added onto us. Take it from me: I survived that awful career fair one year ago, and four months later, the big-time paper that had rejected me ran my article on its front page.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at christinacap@gmail.com.




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Mother Theodore book author to visit bookstores in diocese

INDIANAPOLIS — Julie Young, author of the award nominated "A Belief in Providence: a Life of Saint Theodora Guérin" will appear at Mitchell Books at 6360 W. Jefferson Blvd. in Fort Wayne on April 19 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Barnes & Noble, Mishawaka, on April 20 at 1:30 p.m. The book is the first all new biography of Indiana's first saint and makes a wonderful keepsake for any member of the family.

"I am very excited to be traveling throughout the northern part of the state and visiting some of the

places where Mother Theodore had such a huge impact," Young says. "Not only did she have an establishment in Fort Wayne, she also worked closely with Father Sorin who founded Notre Dame."

While in the diocese, Young will also be speaking at Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend on



JULIE YOUNG

April 21 where she will sign copies of her book as well. Orders are being accepted through the school.

Young will show her photos from the 2006 canonization and talk to the students about the affect Mother Theodore has in her everyday life.

"I think most younger students assume saints have to walk around with halos and holy water, but Mother Theodore is a great role model for any young Catholic. She was funny. She made mistakes. She wasn't perfect, and yet her reliance on her faith helped her persevere in

some very harsh conditions," Young says.

Julie Young is a freelance writer/author from Indianapolis. Her work includes: "A Belief in Providence: a Life of Saint Theodora Guérin" (Indiana Historical Society Press 2007) and "Images of America: Historic Irvington" (Arcadia Publishing 2008) as well as a number of local, regional and national magazines, journals and periodicals including: *The Indianapolis Star*, *The Indianapolis*



Monthly, Evansville Living, Today's Catholic Teacher, Dance Teacher Magazine, Housetrends, and ADVANCE for Nurses Magazine.

She is a graduate of Saint Mary of-the-Woods College with a bachelor's degree in professional writing. She appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show in 2000 and was a former writer with the Associated Press.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Refugee speaker offered to teens

New Haven — On Sunday, May 4, St. John the Baptist Parish will have a program for high school teens and their parents from 6:30-8 p.m. in the community center. Nyein Chan, refugee resettlement director for Catholic Charities, will discuss "Our Burmese Neighbors" and his experience as a political prisoner and refugee. Donations to help our Burmese neighbors are welcomed but not required.

Run with the Knights

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School with the support from News-Sentinel is hosting a 5K Run/Walk on May 10 at Foster Park. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the race begins at 9 a.m. Pre-registered runners are \$15 per person (ending on May 2) and \$20 per person day

of the race. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.bishopluers.org or contact the office at (260) 456-1261.

Port a pit chicken supports youth

New Haven — St. John the Baptist youth group will have a port-a-pit chicken dinner on Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Scotts at Georgetown parking lot.

Wizard of Oz performed

Fort Wayne — The St. Therese Little Flower Theatre group will perform "The Wizard of Oz" Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10, at 7 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis North Campus Auditorium located on the North Side of Spring Street. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (260) 747-2343.

Family pasta dinner

South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral School Athletic Association along with Papa Vino's Italian Kitchen will host a family pasta night Friday, May 2, from 5-7 p.m. in the school gym, 1015 E. Dayton St. Adults \$7 at the door (\$6.50 in advance), seniors \$6 at the door (\$5.50 in advance), students \$4 at the door (\$3.50 in advance). Carry-outs available for \$7. Children 3 and under are free. Tickets are available at the school or at the door.

RUMMAGE SALES

Spring rummage sale

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will hold a spring rummage and bake sale on Friday, April 25, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 26, from 8 a.m. to noon in the school gym. \$3 bag sale on Saturday.

REST IN PEACE

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Elkhart

Robert J. Ferroli, 77, St. Thomas the Apostle

Antonio Ritucci, 72, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

Betty Jean Carr, 85, St. Therese

William P. Harkenrider, 50, Queen of Angels

Jennie E. Sisolak, 88, St. Charles Borromeo

Letha F. Adang, 81, St. Charles Borromeo

Lois Jean Braun, 72, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Thomas E. Drew, 88, Our Lady of Good Hope

Thomas Freiburger, 71, Queen of Angels

James C. Terrell, 80, Most Precious Blood

Roseann M. Kohrman, 73, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

Alex A. Stopczynski, 81, St. Pius X

Patricia A. Sharp, 62, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Julia Ann Schroff, 80, St. Joseph

Jeanette Minne, 67, St. Bavo

Nicholas M. Carlo, 79, St. Bavo

Eugene L. Gulyanics, 56, St. Monica

David J. Meixel, 66, St. Bavo

Notre Dame

Justine H. Polack, 84, Sacred Heart Basilica

South Bend

Kevin J. Kearnen Jr., 21, Christ the King

Loretta Bukowski, 90, St. Hedwig

Paul E. Hertel, 79, Holy Cross

M. Gertrude Schaefer, 92, St. Joseph

Gertrude H. Szweida, 89, Holy Family

Elma M. Horvath, 96, Our Lady of Hungary

John B. Romano Jr., 67, Holy Family

Genevieve M. Molnar, 94, St. Stanislaus

Rummage sale

Bremen — The St. Dominic Altar and Rosary Society will have a rummage sale Thursday, May 1, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, May 2, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the parish hall, 803 Bike St.

Rummage and Bake Sale

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood School will have a rummage and bake sale Thursday, May 1, and Friday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Director of Middle & High School Faith Formation

Responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing religious education and sacramental preparation programs for the youth of Little Flower Catholic Church in grades 6 through 12. Bachelor's degree in Religious Education, Education, Theology, related field, or equivalent. Leadership experience with youth a plus. Submit resume with references to receive complete job description and application.

Attn: Search Committee, Little Flower Catholic Church, 54191 N. Ironwood, South Bend, IN 46635-1611

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