

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Immigrants built this church

St. Patrick Church, South Bend, celebrates 150th anniversary Mass

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — Immigration and how we let people into this country is a hot topic in today's political climate, but 150-years-worth of immigrant achievement was celebrated Sunday during the anniversary Mass at St. Patrick's Church in South Bend.

"They built this church," said Bishop John M. D'Arcy, referring to the Irish and German immigrants who lived in northern Indiana in the 1800s, "so their children — so you and I — would have a place to worship God. We give thanks to them and honor them. We must live up to their generosity and goodness."

Bishop D'Arcy concelebrated Mass with Father Leonard Chrobot, pastor of both St. Patrick and nearby St. Hedwig parishes in South Bend. They were joined by five other priests in celebrating the Eucharist.

"St. Patrick's was officially established as a parish in 1858, with the church completed in 1886," said Bishop D'Arcy, referring to the many history lessons taught by Father Chrobot at the University of Notre Dame. "Prior to that, Mass was celebrated only once a month in someone's home. About 30 Irish families in Green Township and six German families who lived along the river made up that early congregation. If no Mass was celebrated, those families fasted and made the nine-mile walk to Notre Dame for Mass."

Bishop D'Arcy spoke of the many sacrifices those early immigrants made in their quest for a better life for themselves and their families. As today's politicians debate this country's immigration policy, Bishop D'Arcy remained adamant about the role of the Catholic Church.

"The church can no more neglect the poor than neglect the sacraments," he said, calling those in atten-

150 YEARS, PAGE 3



DIANE FREEBY

St. Patrick Parish in South Bend celebrated its 150th anniversary on May 4 with a Mass celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy. Joining Bishop D'Arcy, center, from left, in the photo are Father Paulinus Odozor, a priest from the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, Holy Cross Father Ken Molinaro and Holy Cross Father Jose Martelli, associate pastor of St. Patrick from 1978-79, Father John Klimczak, associate pastor of St. Patrick and St. Hedwig parishes, and Father Leonard Chrobot, pastor of St. Patrick and St. Hedwig parishes. Not pictured is Holy Cross Father Robert Hoffman who was in attendance but was unable to concelebrate.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER



KAY COZAD

Bishop John M. D'Arcy sings a hymn with other distinguished guests at the National Day of Prayer on May 1 at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne. Clergy, government officials and other community servants prayed in unity for intentions and marked the 57th anniversary of the Allen County prayer service, held on the first Thursday each May.

Pope says trip to U.S. was opportunity to give, receive hope, faith

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said his April 15-20 visit to the United Nations and the United States was an opportunity to give — and to receive — a witness to the power of hope and faith.

Reflecting on his trip during his April 30 weekly general audience, the pope said the hope that flows from faith in Christ can vanquish even the darkness cast by the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Christian hope, "stronger than sin and death, animated a moment filled with emotion, which I passed in silence in the abyss of ground zero, where I lighted a candle, praying for all the victims of that terrible tragedy," the pope said.

The pope began his general audience by publicly thanking the U.S. Conference of

Catholic Bishops and President George W. Bush for inviting him, and all those who greeted him with affection and offered prayers for the success of his visit.

Particularly when celebrating his third anniversary as pope with an April 19 Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, he said "it was a moving moment in which I experienced in a tangible way all of the support of the church for my ministry."

Addressing the 20,000 people who had gathered in St. Peter's Square for the audience, the pope said he set out on the trip "to confirm Catholics in the faith, to renew and increase brotherhood with all Christians and to proclaim to all the message of Christ our hope."

Speaking in German without his prepared text, the pope said that everywhere he

TRIP, PAGE 3



Happy Mother's Day

Taking a look at all the special Mothers in our life

Page 10-13

'Unambiguously Catholic'

Cardinal Arinze challenges colleges

Page 4

Receiving the real Jesus

First Communion teacher to retire

Page 8

Sharing faith

Mothers, faithful survivors

Page 13

Violent video games

And the damage they wreak

Page 18

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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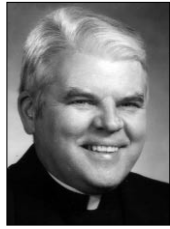
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Let us pray for the gift of the Spirit for ourselves, our diocese



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

The feast of Pentecost

"If I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you." — Jn 16:7. Now we are ready to complete our observance of the paschal mystery. Won for us by the death of Christ on the cross, we are now given the ultimate in intimacy. The very Spirit of God is given to us. The silent person of the most Holy Trinity, the one who is love. The Father is the lover and the Son is the beloved and the love between them is the Holy Spirit. — St. Augustine.

It has been called the birthday of the church. The Fathers of the Church also saw the wound in the side of Christ as the birth of the church and especially the moment when blood and water came forth. This is also declared in the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

As I often tell young people at confirmation, the power of the Holy Spirit can be seen in the Acts of the Apostles, which have sometimes been called the Acts of the Holy Spirit.

We note the fear and timidity of the apostles at the foot of the cross. All except John have scattered, leaving only Mary and several women, her friends and relatives. Later the same men went all over the world preaching the Gospel and dying as martyrs. We note they were in prison and were flogged and when released were "rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name." — Acts 5:41. All this shows that Christ was closer to them in faith than when they walked with him in his physical life, so also to us through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The faith and hope and love within us is the gift of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray at Pentecost for the gift of the Spirit for ourselves and for our diocese. A blessed feast of Pentecost to all.

A day at St. Patrick's

In the 33 years that I have been bishop, when I am in the South Bend area, which is frequent indeed, I stay at the former convent of St. Patrick Parish. So I did not have far to go to observe the 150th anniversary of St. Patrick Parish.

This parish has had an extraordinary history. They were a group of six German families in Green Township and 60 Irish families on the west bend of the St. Joseph River. Mass was said once a month in a home by Father Richard Meagher, CSC. Sometimes when there was no Mass, the people trudged nine miles, often through the snow, to Notre Dame, fasting, which was a requirement in those days and also when I was a young boy. You could not eat after midnight if you were to receive holy Communion. This requirement showed the respect of the church for the presence of

Christ in the Eucharist. Eventually, a small church was built and, like three other churches in our diocese, was dedicated to St. Patrick, bishop and apostle of Ireland. As you probably know, there are more churches dedicated to St. Patrick than any other saint with the exception of Our Lady. This is because the Irish, both as missionaries and as exiles fleeing hunger and political oppression, went all over the world.

Many of those who came must have been fleeing the terrible Irish famine. But St. Patrick's was never merely Irish. It included Belgians, Germans, Polish and others.

In 1886, the new church was dedicated and remains one of the most beautiful churches in the Midwest. Recently restored under the direction of Father Leonard Chrobot, it is a marvelous place for prayer and worship.

An American Catholic story

The story of St. Patrick's is the story of America and of the Catholic Church in America. We are a nation of immigrants and a church of immigrants. I remember my dear father telling me that the first Sunday he was in the Boston area, he just followed the crowds towards a church in Newton,

Indeed, it is not an exaggeration to say
that the history of evangelization and pastoral care
in the west side of South Bend is due to a great part
to the Congregation of Holy Cross
who founded and led many of the parishes there.

Mass. I am not sure if it was Our Lady Help of Christians or Sacred Heart. But he said it was easy to find, you just followed everyone.

When the immigrants came to the west side of South Bend looking to work on the farms or the new small factories, they found a great missionary society, a Congregation of Holy Cross. The history indicates that Father Edward Sorin, CSC, the legendary missionary priest who founded Notre Dame, also founded St. Patrick's. It was the first church in South Bend, since St. Joseph's on Hill Street was located in a place which was then called Lowell. Another historic figure, Father William Conley, CSC, twice president of Notre Dame and chaplain of the famous Irish Brigade that fought at Fredericksburg and Gettysburg, also served as pastor of St. Patrick's.

Indeed, it is not an exaggeration to say that the history of evangelization and pastoral care in the west side of South Bend is due to a great part to the Congregation of Holy Cross who founded and led many of the parishes there.

St. Patrick's welcomed the immigrant, and at one time had a strong school staffed by the Holy Cross Sisters.

Migration continues

I told the congregation on Sunday at the Mass on the beautiful sun splashed morning, that it has always been the teaching of the church that people have a right to migrate. This right is located in the dignity of the human person. If a man cannot feed his family, he has a right to go elsewhere, even across borders to find a place of opportunity. As my father said to me once: "This country gave us a chance."

While we do not support illegality, those who come now and in recent years must be welcomed with the love of Jesus Christ, as brothers and sisters. And like those who came before to St. Patrick's and the west side of South Bend and other areas in our diocese, they are God's children, members of the body of Christ. Those who came to St. Patrick's had an instinct that the church would welcome them. Those who come today have the same hope, and it is our obligation to meet them with the same love that was given to those who came to the beloved St. Patrick's in the last 150 years.

A wonderful breakfast

I could not attend the dinner at the parish in the evening, but it was a joy to go with Father Len Chrobot, Father John Klimczyk, Father Paulinus Odozor, Father Isaac Francis Githinji, and Sister Rosemary Jurkowski, PHJC, to Fiddler's Hearth for a wonderful Irish breakfast. There were Irish singers there and in my off-key voice I sang with them "Boolavogue," a great Irish rebel song. The end of a wonderful morning at old St. Patrick's, South Bend.

A professor pastor

I cannot conclude without a word on Father Len Chrobot, a South Bend native. Father Chrobot takes care of two his-

toric South Bend parishes, which are next to each other, St. Patrick's and St. Hedwig's. The latter is the oldest Polish church in South Bend. Father Len, a sociologist, teaches at Notre Dame, and is an expert on migration and ethnicity. While a professor at St. Mary's University, Orchard Lake, he gave a lecture attended by Cardinal Wojtyla, who later became Pope John Paul II. I am grateful to him for his pastoral care of these two parishes. I also thank Father John Klimczyk, associate pastor. Father John is also from Poland and works in both parishes. It is not easy to care for two parishes, but these priests have done it very well.

On May 1, I was bishop of this diocese for 23 years. I recall the day so well, and my dear mother present and my three sisters, one of whom has now gone to God. Such moments become evermore special as the years go on — so fast the years.

See you all next week.

TRIP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

went in the United States "I was able to experience the fact that the faith is alive, that Christ is there today among the people, that he shows them the way and helps them to build the present as well as the future."

The pope told the German speakers that God gave him an opportunity to try to strengthen the faith of others, "but at the same time, I was strengthened and came back strengthened."

In his main audience talk, Pope Benedict said that the United States, from its founding, was built "on the foundation of a felicitous joining of religious, ethical and political principles, which still today constitutes a valid example of healthy secular-ity."

The United States, he said, is a place "where the religious dimension in all its variety is not only tolerated, but is valued as the spirit of the nation and as the fundamental guarantee of human rights and responsibilities."

Modern life and global realities continue to challenge the country, he said, and the Catholic Church has an obligation to offer its voice in order to help citizens build a society worthy of the human person and one that uses its resources to help others.

The timing of the trip, he said, was chosen to help celebrate the bicentennials of four archdioceses in the United States: New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Louisville, Ky. They were erected from the Baltimore Diocese, the nation's first diocese, which was elevated to an archdiocese in the same year, 1808.

"The original small flock has developed enormously, enriching itself with the faith and traditions of the successive influx of immi-



CNS PHOTO/GIAMPIERO SPOSITO, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI blesses the faithful as he celebrates his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 30. The pope said his April 15-20 visit to the United Nations and the United States was an opportunity to give and to receive a witness to the power of hope and faith.

grants. To that church which now faces the challenges of the present, I had the joy of proclaiming again Christ, our hope, yesterday, today and forever," he said.

Praising the zeal of the bishops and priests who have led U.S. Catholics over the years and "the fervor and generosity of its faithful," Pope Benedict said the Gospel and Christian values — particularly the value of human life and the centrality of the traditional family — must be strengthened in order to face new moral, ethical and political challenges.

As he did throughout his trip, the pope also spoke at his audience about the clergy sex abuse scandal that rocked the U.S. church.

"Thinking of the painful affair of the abuse of minors committed by ordained ministers, I wanted to express my closeness to the bishops, encouraging them in their commitment to bind up the wounds and to reinforce relations with their priests," he said.

Pope Benedict said the "multi-

cultural vocation" of the United States and the active presence of a wide variety of Christian communities and other religions gave him an opportunity to meet with religious leaders to promote closer cooperation among Christians and a dialogue to strengthen peace and religious values with other believers.

At the United Nations, he said, he wanted to help celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and confirm its enduring value precisely because it is based on "the dignity of the human person, created by God in his image and likeness, in order to cooperate with him in his plan for life and for peace."

Respect for human rights and peace can flourish only where there is justice, "an ethical order valid for all times and all peoples," which can be summarized with Jesus' phrase, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

an entire country. Today, the number of churches named for St. Patrick is second only to those named for Our Lady.

Father Chrobot thanked the many people who made Sunday's anniversary celebration possible, noting the evening banquet was completely sold out. The 10:30 a.m. Mass was a reverent and joyful occasion, complete with a

children through school there before it closed.

"All my children were baptized and received first Communion here," she said. "Two of my daughters were married here, and I have so many fond memories. The school was just wonderful, but you go to a church for your faith and not for anything else. I just love it here!"

According to Bishop D'Arcy, he hopes St. Patrick's will serve the community for years to come, and he exhorted those present to continue to welcome the immigrant as others wel-

comed us.

"Let us provide all these beautiful things for our children and their children. Be missionaries. Let's all strive to bring Jesus Christ and his word to our children, neighbors and coworkers by our example. This old church must be kept, fostered and strengthened in every way possible."

special choir put together by members of the parish.

"When we began planning, we wanted a choir," said Father Chrobot. "I thought we would get a group of people together, but I didn't expect the Mormon Tabernacle Choir."

Rosalie Kovach has been a parishioner at St. Patrick or over 50 years, putting three of her four

Big dreams of papal blessing inspires and comforts family

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — Local woman Michelle Ruppert has one word to describe Pope Benedict XVI's recent appearance and Mass at New York's Yankee Stadium — "wonderful."

But then she follows up with a litany of praise for the clear sunny day, the enthusiastic crowd and the pure excitement of participating in the Catholic liturgy along with the 65,000 faithful in attendance.

A busy young mother of three small children, Ruppert doesn't often indulge in whims, but when she spied the ad in *Today's Catholic* several weeks ago announcing a drawing for tickets for the event, she quickly submitted an application. One hundred and fifty tickets for the Mass at Yankee Stadium and 50 tickets for the Mass in Washington, D.C., were being made available through the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Though not expecting to win, when her name was announced as a recipient of four tickets, Ruppert was thrilled and immediately began making plans for the trip.

Michelle and her husband, Chris, are the parents of two sons, seven-year-old Ryan and five-year-old Alex, and a daughter Rachel, 4. But it was for Rachel, who is disabled, that the Rupperts' expectations for the trip were highest.

Rachel suffers from Tay-Sachs disease, a rare genetic disorder caused by a deficiency of the enzyme hexosaminidase A, which breaks down the normal fatty compounds or waste in body cells. Without the enzyme those fatty compounds accumulate and cause nerve and brain damage and a shortened life span.

Ruppert says that Rachel exhibited symptoms of the disease as an infant and began los-

ing muscle control at the age of seven months. After extensive testing she was finally diagnosed with Tay-Sachs and her parents were given a grim prognosis.

But the Rupperts remain optimistic. "Rachel is doing pretty good," says her mother. Though confined to a wheelchair, the child is able to attend special needs preschool classes at Whispering Meadows Elementary School three days a week.

One reason for taking Rachel to New York with them, says Ruppert, is that they were hoping that they might somehow be close enough to Pope Benedict that he might touch their daughter and personally bless her. "I was dreaming big," admits her mother.

The family left their New Jersey hotel by taking public transportation into the city early Sunday morning. Not knowing how much time to allow, they arrived at Yankee Stadium by 9 a.m. for the 2:30 p.m. Mass. "We were there 'literally all day,'" says Ruppert. There were tons and tons of people and tight security, she adds, but the event went off without a hitch. They were especially impressed with the sense of Christian community. "It was a privilege to be there," she adds.

Most important to the Rupperts, however, was the pontiff's benediction at the end of Mass. They had taken numerous items to be blessed — rosaries, papal coins and charms and holy cards to distribute to friends and family upon their return to Fort Wayne.

But they were especially inspired by the papal blessing Pope Benedict bestowed on their daughter and all those present and remain prayerful for Rachel's return to good health.

"There was a reason we got tickets," says Ruppert. "It gave us hope that we may get that miracle. You never know."



PROVIDED BY THE RUPPERT FAMILY

Chris, Rachel and Michelle Ruppert are shown at the papal Mass at Yankee Stadium on April 13. The Rupperts attend St. Patrick Parish, Arcola.

150 YEARS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dance live their faith fully. "Those who built this church faced huge financial obstacles. You and I face obstacles also. We must respect the rights of other immigrants to follow us to this holy place."

Bishop D'Arcy did not call for breaking any laws, but merely to follow the law of Christ.

"We greet with love and respect all those whom the Lord sends us. We must help them find their legal place. We must give them spiritual strength and provide them the word of God through the Eucharist and the sacrament of penance. This is our obligation!"

Bishop D'Arcy went on to say how St. Patrick himself was a slave boy, taken from his family, who then returned to evangelize

Today, the number of churches named for St. Patrick is second only to those named for Our Lady.

Vatican official challenges colleges to be 'unambiguously Catholic'

BY JOE KOHN

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP, Mich. (CNS) — You can't have a college or university that "happens to be" Catholic; the institution's Catholic identity ought to unmistakably permeate every discipline, and its graduates ought to be willing to stand up for the church.

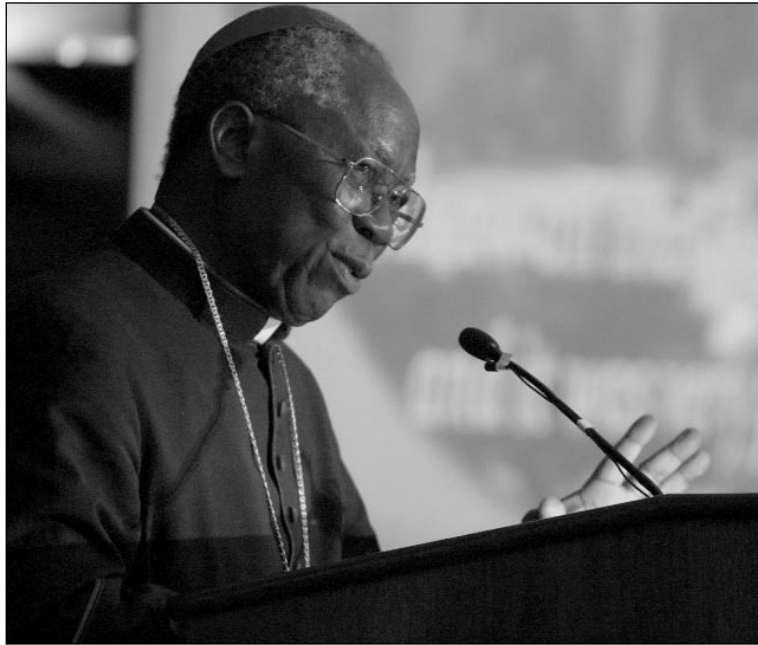
This was part of the message delivered by Cardinal Francis Arinze, who spoke at a fundraising dinner April 16 for the SS. Peter & Paul Educational Foundation. The Nigerian cardinal is the head of the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments and former president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue.

During his speech at the Inn at St. John's banquet center in Plymouth Township, he outlined what the Catholic faith community ought to expect of their institutions of higher learning.

"Not only should it be a community of scholars and students, representing different branches of human knowledge," Cardinal Arinze told the gathering of about 200 people. "But at the same time it should be an academic institution in which Catholicism is vitally present and operative."

The cardinal said a Catholic college or university should explain its Christian mission in a mission statement, and adhere to it by hiring Catholic educators who are experienced in living and teaching the faith as well as their respective disciplines.

"If a high number of its intellectual leaders are, indeed, not Catholic — how can they be expected to live and share what they do not have?" the cardinal asked. "It is particularly important that the Catholic intellectual leaders not just happen to be



CNS PHOTO/JOE KOHN, THE MICHIGAN CATHOLIC

Nigerian Cardinal Francis Arinze, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, speaks about what is expected of Catholic colleges and universities April 16 in Plymouth Township, Mich. Cardinal Arinze was the keynote speaker for the SS. Peter & Paul Educational Foundation, which hopes to establish a Catholic college in southeastern Michigan next year.

Catholic, but that they be scholars who have matured in their studies by years of studies in a university that is already known to be unambiguously Catholic."

Cardinal Arinze spoke in the Detroit area the day before Pope Benedict XVI met with U.S. Catholic educators in Washington. In that address, the pope said he wished to "reaffirm the great value of academic freedom" but said that any appeals to academic freedom "to justify positions that contradict the faith and teaching of the church would obstruct or even betray the university's identity and mission."

In his talk, Cardinal Arinze spoke philosophically about the confluence of faith and reason, and how natural revelation leads to a greater understanding of

faith. All truth comes from the Holy Spirit, he said, citing St. Thomas Aquinas — so naturally all truth will lead back to God.

To acknowledge the connections between academic truths and divine reality, he added, a Catholic institution requires a higher level of education than its secular counterparts.

"A Catholic university demands more — not less — intelligence than another university which has no special link with the Catholic faith," he said.

Cardinal Arinze spoke of students and alumni of such universities as having to be "dynamic" people who embrace their faith and are able to defend it.

"They do not say, 'I am Catholic, but ...,'" he said, to applause. "They should rather

say, 'I am Catholic, and therefore ...' The one that says 'I am a Catholic, but' is really saying 'I am Mr. Dissenter. I am Mr. Disagree. I am Mr. Problem Child of the Church' ... and sometimes, Rev. Problem Child," he added, to laughs from the gathering.

The SS. Peter & Paul

Educational Foundation is trying to raise money to begin a Catholic college in Lake Orion. While they've found a location — the Scripps Mansion, which formerly housed the Guest House Retreat Center for priests and religious — they still need to raise about \$3 million for the college.

Pope says Christians have fundamental duty to work for peace, justice

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians have a fundamental responsibility to work for peace and justice, which is tied inseparably to their mission to proclaim the Gospel, Pope Benedict XVI said.

This social aspect of the faith is crucial as humanity faces new and important challenges in the 21st century, including economic justice and environmental protection, he said.

The pope made the remarks May 3 in a speech to members of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. The academy was meeting to discuss Catholic social teaching and the common good.

The pope said the technical aspects of social justice must be understood by Catholics in a framework of faith.

"The responsibility of Christians to work for peace and justice, their irrevocable commitment to build up the common good, is inseparable from their mission to proclaim the gift of eternal life to which God has called every man and woman," he said.

The concept of solidarity, he said, has a special meaning for Christians. It calls upon them to humble themselves, not merely to seek a situation of social parity.

"Jesus commands us to do unto others as we would have them do unto us, to love our neighbor as ourselves," he said.

"In this sense, true solidarity — though it begins with an acknowledgment of the equal worth of the other — comes to fulfillment only when I willingly place my life at the service of the other," he said.

"Herein lies the 'vertical' dimension of solidarity: I am moved to make myself less than the other so as to minister to his or her needs," he said.

The pope said the principle of "subsidiarity" — the idea that social tasks should be handled by

the smallest and simplest organization that can do so competently — reflects the natural desire for self-governance.

A society that honors this principle liberates people from a sense of hopelessness, leaving space for individual responsibility and initiative, he said.

Praying the rosary is experiencing a new revival, pope says

ROME (CNS) — Praying the rosary is enjoying a revival among Catholics and can be a profound way to relive the events of Christ's life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The pope led the recital of the rosary with hundreds of Catholics in Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major May 3. U.S. Cardinal Bernard F. Law, archpriest of the basilica, welcomed the pontiff and prayed with him.

Speaking at the end of the encounter, the pope said the rosary was "not a pious practice relegated to the past, like a prayer of former times to be remembered with nostalgia."

"The rosary, on the contrary, is experiencing almost a new springtime. This is undoubtedly one of the most eloquent signs of the love that younger generations have for Jesus and for his mother, Mary," he said.

The papal event took place on the first Saturday of May, the month the church dedicates to Mary, at Rome's pre-eminent Marian basilica.

In his talk, the pope emphasized that devotion to Mary through the rosary always has Christ at its center.

Nor should praying the rosary be considered a merely private practice, with no relationship to others, he said.

"When it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanically or superficially but in a profound way, it can in fact bring peace and reconciliation," he said.



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Bishop Boyea installed as fifth bishop of Lansing

BY MARK HANEY

EAST LANSING, Mich. (CNS) — Bishop Earl A. Boyea knocked on the door of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in East Lansing April 29, but he almost didn't want to come in.

Bishop Boyea, 57, said he got very emotional "walking into church at the beginning of Mass." Shortly after his installation Mass, he said, "I didn't think I was going to make it. I started tearing up and thought, 'Oh no, don't start now. It's a long Mass.' But God gave me grace."

He also had a lot of support. Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, was on hand to read the letter from Pope Benedict XVI formally naming Bishop Boyea, an auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Detroit since 2002, as the successor to Lansing Bishop Carl F. Mengeling. Also on hand were more than 25 bishops.

Bishop Boyea, who taught for several years at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, including several classes in history, brought a sense of history to the installation Mass and to his new appointment. He's using the crozier of former Bishop Joseph Albers, the first bishop of Lansing; the cathedra, or chair, of Bishops Albers and Alexander Zaleski, the second bishop of Lansing; the ring worn by Bishop Kenneth Povish, the third bishop of Lansing; and the pectoral cross, or cross worn over the chest, used by Bishops Povish, Zaleski and Mengeling.

"The bishop's chair — the cathedra — represented here today by the one used by Bishops Albers and Zaleski, gives to all of us a guarantee that we shall not lack the truth," he said during his homily.

"The ring worn by the bishop, especially this ring which was worn regularly by Bishop Povish, symbolizes ... a communion across the ages, across the globe and across our 10 counties," he said.

"Certainly the pectoral cross that I wear underneath these garments — the one worn by the bishops and particularly this one which was worn by Bishops Zaleski, Povish and Mengeling — means Christ is at the heart of the bishop's apostolic ministry," Bishop Boyea continued.



CNS PHOTO/MARK HANEY, THE CATHOLIC TIMES

Bishop Earl A. Boyea smiles as he meets the media shortly after his April 29 installation Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Lansing, Mich. He became the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Lansing.

"In the consecration prayer for a new bishop, the ordained bishops pray to God to send on a new spirit — the spirit of governance. It's the only spirit that is called for upon a bishop at his ordination, for apostolic leadership. His governance is the image of the good shepherd and so this crozier, used by Bishop Albers, is a reminder of two aspects of being a good shepherd.

"I know I am unworthy of this duty and this chair and yet we all have great confidence that what God calls us to do God provides the grace to accomplish it. Pray for me, for an abundance of that grace," he said.

Bishop Boyea's parents, Earl and Helen, came down from their Cheboygan retirement home to witness the installation of the oldest of their 10 children. They also carried the gifts to him and got hugs from him in return. "They are gems," he said of his parents. "I don't know what it will be like when they're no longer around."

He was especially thankful for the seminarians at the event, including several who were altar servers for the Mass. "They are great guys," he said. "I want to encourage them in their faith and their dedication. They heard God's voice. He's hard to hear when you have iPods plugged into your ears. They heard God's voice and they responded with a great heart, with generosity of the heart. What more can you ask?"

Vatican theologians see miracle in Hawaiian woman's cancer cure

BY ANNA WEAVER

HONOLULU (CNS) — Theological consultants to the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes have ruled that the cancer cure of a Hawaiian woman was due to Blessed Damien de Veuster's intercession, Honolulu Bishop Larry Silva announced April 29.

The decision represents a major step forward in Father Damien's cause for canonization. The final actions required to declare the priest a saint are the endorsement of the congregation's committee of cardinals and bishops and the approval of the pope.

Father Damien, the 19th-century Belgian missionary of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary who spent the final 16 years of his life caring for the Hansen's disease patients on the Hawaiian Island of Molokai, was beatified in 1995 in Belgium by Pope John Paul II.

"I give thanks and praise to God for the news I received this morning!" Bishop Silva wrote in an e-mail message to diocesan personnel on the theologians' decision.

In his announcement, Bishop Silva included the name of the Oahu woman, Audrey Toguchi, whose cancer disappeared a decade ago after she began prayers to Father Damien that included pilgrimages to Kalaupapa where the priest worked and died. It was the first time the diocese had made her name public.

Toguchi, in a May 1 interview with the *Hawaii Catholic Herald*, Honolulu diocesan newspaper, said that when she first learned she had cancer "I put everything in God's hands."

She decided to pray to Father Damien, who had given his own life in service to others. "Father Damien is not going to let me go," she thought at the time.

The sainthood process generally requires two miracles, one for beatification and one for canonization.

An alleged miracle — usually a healing — must overcome two hurdles. First, medical experts must declare it dramatic and unexplainable. Next, theologians must determine that it was caused through the intercession of the candidate for sainthood.



CNS PHOTO/ANNA WEAVER, HAWAII CATHOLIC HERALD

Audrey Toguchi holds a picture of Blessed Damien de Veuster at her home in Alea, Hawaii, May 1. Toguchi was cured of cancer nine years ago after she prayed to Blessed Damien, the Belgian missionary who cared for the Hansen's disease patients of Molokai, Hawaii, and who died of the disease in 1889.

In Father Damien's case, the medical commission of the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes ruled last October that the healing was "unexplainable according to available medical knowledge." In this latest judgment, the theological consultants determined that the cure was attributable to Father Damien.

The cure in question involved the disappearance of cancer, without treatment, from Toguchi's lungs in 1999. The case was documented in an article about "complete spontaneous regression of cancer" published by Dr. Walter Y.M. Chang, in the October 2000 issue of the *Hawaii Medical Journal*.

According to the article, three malignant lung tumors were discovered by X-ray in September 1998. The cancer was a reappearance of matching malignancies surgically removed earlier from other parts of the body.

Upon learning of her condition, Toguchi began praying to Father Damien and visiting Kalaupapa.

Before therapy could be applied, an X-ray a month later showed that the tumors had decreased in size.

Monthly X-rays revealed further shrinkage until scans in May and October 1999 could find no sign of the cancer. The doctor's report stated that the "lung metastases disappeared with no therapy at all."

The Diocese of Honolulu in 2003 convened a tribunal to investigate the miracle. The monthlong process involved seven meetings and interviews with six medical doctors, the former cancer patient, her husband and sister, and two priests who had counseled the patient. Of the doctors, most of whom were not Catholic, five were connected with the care of the patient and one was independent.

The tribunal's findings were formally opened at the Congregation for Saints' Causes Sept. 11, 2003.

The ensuing process wasn't all smooth sailing. The congregation asked the Honolulu tribunal to reconvene in 2005 to clarify parts of its original report. And last November, an official at the congregation quietly visited Hawaii for further examination of the case.



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Washington archbishop says denial of Communion is up to local bishops

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Following criticism that high-profile Catholic politicians who support keeping abortion legal were permitted to receive the Eucharist during the U.S. papal Masses in Washington and New York, Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl reiterated that such an action should be left to the discretion of the bishop heading an individual lawmaker's diocese. In the archbishop's April 30 column in the *Catholic Standard*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington, he does not agree with those who say he supersede the authority of an individual bishop when dealing with public figures from those jurisdictions who serve in the District of Columbia. "A decision regarding the refusal of holy Communion to an individual is one that should be made only after clear efforts to persuade and convince the person that their actions are wrong and bear moral consequences," he said. "Presumably this is done in the home diocese where the bishops and priests, the pastors of souls, engage the members of their flock in this type of discussion." An April 28 column by syndicated columnist Robert Novak criticized Archbishop Wuerl and Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York for inviting to the papal Masses U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Sens. John Kerry, Christopher Dodd and Edward M. Kennedy and former New York mayor and GOP presidential candidate Rudolph Giuliani, all Catholics who have supported keeping abortion legal and all of whom were reported to have publicly received Communion.

Catholic Worker Movement marks 75th anniversary without fanfare

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Seventy-fifth anniversary or not, lunch still must be served at the New York Catholic Worker's Maryhouse. Hungry people will be waiting, as they are every day. Jane Sammon knows the routine: hospitality, meals, conversation, responding in whatever way possible to people in need. She's been at Maryhouse for nearly 36 years, arriving in the summer of 1972 from Cleveland to live a life of voluntary poverty and personal sacrifice with a deep commitment to the works of mercy. It's a way of life many admire but few venture to try. Maryhouse is a place where the world is made better for people "little by little," as Catholic Worker co-founder Dorothy Day often would say, recalling the example of St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus. It's a place where people are readily welcomed and their human dignity is uplifted. Day wanted a place where Christ would feel at home. "It's an amazing thing that really has very little to do with us," said Sammon, 60. "It's the grace of God that keeps us going."

NEWS BRIEFS

POPE POSES WITH LEADER OF ANGLICAN COMMUNION



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI poses with Archbishop Rowan Williams of Canterbury, spiritual leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion, during their meeting at the Vatican May 5. The two reportedly discussed Christian-Muslim relations in their first meeting since the Anglican leader caused a storm in Britain with comments on Sharia law.

Vatican letter directs bishops to keep parish records from Mormons

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In an effort to block posthumous rebaptisms by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Catholic dioceses throughout the world have been directed by the Vatican not to give information in parish registers to the Mormons' Genealogical Society of Utah. An April 5 letter from the Vatican Congregation for Clergy, obtained by Catholic News Service in late April, asks episcopal conferences to direct all bishops to keep the Latter-day Saints from microfilming and digitizing information contained in those registers. The order came in light of "grave reservations" expressed in a Jan. 29 letter from the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the clergy congregation's letter said. Father James Massa, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, said the step was taken to prevent the Latter-day Saints from using records — such as baptismal documentation — to posthumously baptize by proxy the ancestors of church members. Posthumous baptisms by proxy have been a common practice for the Latter-day Saints — commonly known as Mormons — for more than a century, allowing the church's faithful to have their ancestors baptized into their faith so they may be united in the afterlife, said Mike Otterson, a spokesman in the church's Salt Lake City headquarters.

CRS chairman says agency practices church teachings on condoms

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a letter to U.S. bishops, the chairman of the board of Catholic Relief Services said the agency's HIV/AIDS programs practice church teachings on condom use and abstinence before marriage. "In no cases does CRS promote, purchase or distribute condoms," said Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of Milwaukee, CRS chairman, in the letter obtained April 29 by Catholic News Service. Saying that "all HIV programs supported by CRS promote abstinence until marriage and mutual fidelity within marriage," Archbishop Dolan noted that CRS' positions "are fully in keeping with (U.S. bishops') conference policies." CRS is the U.S. bishops' international relief and development agency. The archbishop wrote the letter, dated April 23, in response to an article by *The Catholic World Report* which said that CRS was not adhering to church teaching because it was promoting condoms and omitting its logo on a Zambian HIV informational tool. Archbishop Dolan said "CRS' name does not appear on HIV pedagogical flip charts because the tools belong not to us, but to the government of Zambia's Ministry of Health." In fact, he noted, "CRS was able to convince the government of Zambia to include discussions on abstinence, behavior change and fidelity in marriage within the material, information that was absent in previous drafts."

Pope meets Cuban bishops, praises church's work despite 'limitations'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The many "difficulties and limitations" placed on the Catholic Church in Cuba have not stopped it from growing and from reaching out to help the poor and the sick, Pope Benedict XVI said. "Continue carrying out a bold and generous effort of evangelization which will bring the light of Christ to all spheres and places," the pope told the bishops of Cuba May 2 at the end of their "ad limina" visits, in which they reported on the status of their dioceses. "At this moment in history, the church in your country is called to offer the entire Cuban society the one true hope: Christ Our Lord, victor over sin and death. This is the force that has kept Cuban believers firmly on the path of faith and love," the pope said. Archbishop Juan Garcia Rodriguez of Camaguey, president of the Cuban bishops' conference, told the pope, "At this moment in Cuba there is talk of changes which the people and the church greet with hope."

Archbishop Flynn resigns; Archbishop Nienstedt succeeds him

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI accepted the resignation of Archbishop Harry J. Flynn of St. Paul and Minneapolis May 2. As coadjutor archbishop of the archdiocese for the past year, Archbishop John C. Nienstedt, 61,

automatically succeeds him. The changes were announced in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Archbishop Flynn's resignation was accepted on the day he turned 75, the normal retirement age for archbishops. "I am grateful to His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, for his confidence in naming me archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis," Archbishop Nienstedt said in a statement. "It is a tremendous responsibility for pastoring the people of God now assigned to my care. I ask for the prayerful support of both Catholics and non-Catholics alike." He congratulated Archbishop Flynn on his birthday and thanked him for his nearly 14 years of service to the archdiocese.

Pope to spend 10 days, including 3 of rest, on July trip to Australia

SYDNEY, Australia (CNS) — The Catholic Church in Australia and organizers of World Youth Day in Sydney have identified a "serene, beautiful and suitable" place in Australia for Pope Benedict XVI to rest for three full days in July before joining the youth gathering. While refusing to identify the place for reasons of privacy and security, Sydney Auxiliary Bishop Anthony Fisher, World Youth Day coordinator, said the pope would have "the opportunity to see some of Australia's beautiful flora and fauna." Passionist Father Ciro Benedettini, assistant director of the Vatican press office, said May 2 the place chosen was near Sydney. Pope Benedict will leave Rome July 12, stop briefly in Darwin, Australia, July 13 for refueling, then proceed to Sydney, Father Benedettini said. The pope will spend July 14-16 resting and recovering from jet lag, said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman. Pope Benedict will be involved in World Youth Day activities July 17-20 and will leave Sydney July 21.

Bishop Pelotte's resignation accepted nine months after injuries

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The resignation of Bishop Donald E. Pelotte of Gallup, N.M., was accepted April 30 by Pope Benedict XVI, citing the canon law provision for ill health or other serious reason. The resignation was announced in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Bishop Pelotte, 63, had been on a medical leave of absence since December, five months after he said he was injured in a fall at his home. Phoenix Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted was named apostolic administrator of the Gallup Diocese in January and will serve in that position until a permanent replacement is named by the Vatican. Bishop Pelotte suffered head injuries and severe bruising to his shoulder, arms, legs, hands and knuckles at his home last July. Although initially the extent of his injuries led to speculation that he might have been assaulted, the bishop said he had fallen down the stairs and authorities did not pursue the matter further.

Afternoons of Reflection offered for lay ministers

The Office of Worship provides Afternoons of Reflection to supplement parish retreats for extraordinary ministers of holy Communion and proclaimers of the word (lectors). Many parishes provide their own parish retreats.

All extraordinary ministers of holy Communion and proclaimers of the word must spend some time once a year in a retreat experience. This retreat experience does not have to be a diocesan retreat. It can be a personal retreat, a parish retreat or a diocesan Afternoon of Reflection.

The pastor (not the Office of Worship) determines whether each minister has fulfilled this requirement.

Other lay ministers are welcome to attend the Afternoons of Reflection. All these Afternoons of Reflection will be led by diocesan seminarians, except for the one at Church of Loretto, which will be led by Deacon John Tugman.

There are no registration fees for Afternoons of Reflection.

The following afternoons of reflection are offered: Sunday, June 1, 1-4 p.m., at St. Therese Church in Fort Wayne and at the Church of Loretto, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame; and Sunday, June 8, 1-4 p.m., at St. Joseph Church, Garrett or Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw.

To register, attain a form at the diocesan Web site, www.diocese-fwsb.org/WORSHIP.

University libraries renamed in Father Hesburgh's honor

NOTRE DAME — The University Libraries of Notre Dame have been renamed the Hesburgh Libraries, in honor of Holy Cross Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, president emeritus of the university.

"Renaming the entire university libraries system after Father Ted is an appropriate way to honor the depth and breadth of his vision for interdisciplinary excellence at Notre Dame," said Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, the university's president. "Now, the 'Hesburgh Libraries' include not only the monument to learning called the Hesburgh Library, but also the various subject-specific libraries that bring world-class resources and expertise to faculty and students all around campus."

The university's principal, 14-story library was designed and constructed under Father Hesburgh's leadership in the 1960s and has borne his name since his retirement in 1987. His name now also will apply to the other 10 libraries within the campus system, which, along with the main facility, contain a total of nearly 3 million volumes, more than 5,850 electronic titles, more than 3 million microform units and 25,200 audiovisual items. The libraries subscribe to approximately 12,100 serials and are managed by a faculty of 50 and a staff of 145.

Of the new Hesburgh Libraries, Father Jenkins also said: "They, like Hesburgh the priest, will help

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SERRANS AWARD LUERS, DWENGER SENIORS



DON CLEMMER

Recipients of the Fort Wayne Serra Club's 2008 Christian Leadership Award stand with their principals and pastoral ministers at the May 2 award ceremony at St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne. The award is given every May to two students from Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger High Schools. Left to right are Dwenger pastoral minister Barb Loomis, Dwenger Principal Fred Tone, Dwenger recipients Erin Sherburne and Keith Welch, Luers recipients Janae Meyers and Eric Ware, Luers Principal Mary Keefer and Luers pastoral minister Sue Matthias.

us to educate minds and hearts with a great sense of community that bridges past, present and future."

Considered one of the most influential figures in higher education in the 20th century, Father Hesburgh, now 90 years old, led the university from 1952 to 1987. Among his many honors, his public service career was recognized in 2000 when he became the first person from higher education to be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. He also received the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Lyndon Johnson in 1964.

Holy Cross-St. Stanislaus announce May procession and crowning

SOUTH BEND — The students, parents and Holy Cross-St. Stanislaus communities will come together Friday, May 16, and process from Holy Cross Church at 1050 Wilber St. to St. Stanislaus Parish, 415 N. Brookfield. Beginning at 9 a.m. Holy Cross Father Michael Mathews, pastor, will lead the procession along with Holy Cross Fathers Bradley Metz and Gregory Haake, associate pastors. Seventh graders will carry the statue of Blessed Mother, with the rest of the school processing through Wilber Street,

Lincolnway West and finally down Brookfield Street. Police escorts, as well as police blocking off all of the streets, will ensure the students safe passage from one church to the other.

Upon arrival, participants will gather around the grotto north of the church for prayer and the crowning of Mary. In case of rain, they will process around Holy Cross Church.

Auburn parish to host parish mission May 18-22

AUBURN — Immaculate Conception Church, located at 500 E. 7th St., Auburn, will be having a parish mission May 18-22, from 7-8 p.m., to renew the spiritual growth of adults and children of the parish and the wider community.

The mission, with the theme "Sing a New Song Unto the Lord!" will offer five evenings of prayer, Scripture readings and music with reflection on the following topics:

- Sunday: Family — Baptism.
- Monday: Christ the Cornerstone
- Tuesday: Reconciliation. Several priests will be available after the program to hear confessions.
- Wednesday: Holy Eucharist
- Thursday: Christian family concert, featuring Tatiana, an

internationally-acclaimed vocalist from Croatia.

Morning presentations will be available Monday through Wednesday after the 8 a.m. Mass for those unable to attend the evening sessions. A children's mission will be offered during the evening sessions for ages three through grade 2, and child care is available for infants through age two.

Immaculate Conception extends a warm welcome to all, active and inactive Catholics as well as those of other faiths.

"From Old 2 Gold" sale May 24 to benefit local charities

NOTRE DAME — As students prepare to leave campus for the summer, the University of Notre Dame is planning its fourth "From Old 2 Gold" year-end campus yard sale to benefit participating local charities.

The event will be held from 7-11 a.m. Saturday, May 24, in Notre Dame Stadium and will feature items left behind and donated by students, including electronics, clothing, computers, carpeting, furniture, appliances and sports equipment.

The sale is open to the public and admission is free between 9-11 a.m. A \$5 "early bird" admission will be charged for those over

12 years of age wishing to shop in the stadium between 7-9 a.m. There is no charge for children 12 and under. To alleviate "camping out" around the stadium this year, shoppers will be permitted to wait in line no earlier than 5 a.m.

This year's goal is to attract 5,000 shoppers and raise \$50,000. Last year, 39 local charities shared more than \$43,000 raised during the sale, which attracted some 3,900 shoppers. In addition, more than 3,500 pounds of food were donated to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, and an estimated 81 tons of items were diverted from area landfills. Since 2005, the sale has raised more than \$114,000 for local charities and diverted more than 216 tons from landfills.

Students will donate items in serviceable condition to be collected, organized, priced and sold. All net revenues, as well as any unsold items, will be donated to the participating charities.

"The program offers our students the opportunity to give back to the community in which they have studied and lived during their time at Notre Dame by providing financial assistance to local charities," said project organizer Daniel Skendzel, director of administrative services for the Office of Business Operations. "It is run primarily by volunteers from the community, and right now we are accepting applications through our Web site <http://old2gold.nd.edu>."

Each year, numerous Notre Dame departments offer support and resources for the program. This year's sponsors include Notre Dame Federal Credit Union, Martin's Supermarkets, Graphie-Tees, Waste Management, Catering by Design, PAC BannerWorks and Brinks.

Annual meeting, Super Weekend planned for Serra All American Conference

SOUTH BEND — The USA Council of Serra International and the Serra Club of South Bend will host the Serra All American Conference June 19-22, preceded by the USA Council of Serra International Officers Conference June 18-19, at Notre Dame.

The conference will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Conference Center at Saint Mary's College.

Daily Mass is available at Christ the King Church and Little Flower Church in South Bend. The Super Weekend closes with Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame and at the Lourdes Grotto on the campus of the University of Notre Dame.

Entertainment will include Vicki Quade performing "Put the Nuns in Charge." Cost for the performance is \$30. Tours, golf and other activities will be available.

Registration for Serrans and guests is \$150 per person and can be made by calling (888) 777-6681 or by downloading a registration form at the Web site, www.serraus.org. Dick Dornbos, of the Serra Club of South Bend, is also available for additional information at (574) 271-7853.

'They are going to receive the real Jesus'

Devoted second grade and first Communion teacher retires from Corpus Christi

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — When you find something you like, you tend to stick with it. And that's exactly what Loretta Manley has done for 24 years, preparing two generations of children to receive Jesus in the sacrament of the holy Eucharist while teaching second grade at Corpus Christi School in South Bend.

Mrs. Manley, as she is referred to by children and their parents alike, is retiring after this school year. Known for her devotion to the children under her care and for being "old school," Manley celebrated her final class of second graders receiving their first holy Communion this past Sunday.

Together with fellow second grade teacher, Mary Derda, whom Manley also taught many years ago at Corpus Christi, they began preparations for this day back in August.

"We start at the beginning of the year saying they'll be receiving a special gift and they have to get ready for it," explains Manley. "The only thing I want them to truly know is that they are going to receive the real Jesus! We use videos and meditations and ask the children to think about sitting next to Jesus. We ask them what they would say to him. He's like your best friend."

Originally from Anderson, Manley came to Corpus Christi in

1983 after teaching for several years in the South Bend Community School System. She still marvels at the way she was hired by then-principal Sister Paschal, who relied heavily on what the Holy Spirit told her. Manley heard about the job from a friend and was hired sight-unseen by Sister Paschal.

"When she called me about the job, she says, 'I want to hire you!' And I said, 'But you haven't even met me, you haven't checked my credentials.' She said, 'Well, the Holy Spirit told me.'"

Manley was so devoted to teaching second grade that one time, and one time only, she found herself disagreeing with the sister who called the shots.

"I had been teaching second

grade maybe five years when Sister Paschal came down and said, 'The Holy Spirit told me he wanted you in seventh grade, teaching language.' And I said, 'You know what? I think the Holy Spirit got the wrong number this time because I am not going to seventh grade.' Now, that's the only time I ever bucked Sister Paschal."

Manley has her own methods for surviving this long on the job: Once-a-week visits to the Blessed Sacrament. With the chapel right across the parking lot, Manley says she doesn't think she could be in the classroom without spending

that one hour a week with Jesus.

"I've been doing this for 10 years," she explains. "Before I signed up for a holy hour, I didn't think I could sit still and be quiet for that long. The very first time I tried it, before I knew it, the hour was up, and I didn't know where it had gone. And I had the best feeling ... I signed up right away."

Manley, who in addition to her teaching duties takes care of her 93-year-old mother, says having a hectic life is no excuse for passing up on the opportunity to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament.

"When people say, 'Oh, giving up that hour!' It's not giving up. It's a gift. And for us to have perpetual adoration ... I wish more people were

aware of what a special gift we have here. It's just the most refreshing thing for me. I mean, I would truly miss going — and I will continue going after I retire. But I just wish more people would give it a chance because you get so much out of it."

Retirement won't mean much slowing down for Manley. She plans to help her mother sell her home, but there is one other task to which she must attend.

"The first thing my husband wants me to do is clean out the basement," she admits. "I'm not kidding ... I'm a saver. I think I probably have the first paper any

"I would like to hope that I have instilled in them something they will appreciate and love for the rest of their lives."

LORETTA MANLEY



DIANE FREEBY

In the photo, Loretta Manley, a second grade and first Communion teacher at Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend, poses with, in the top row, Father Camillo Tirabassi, pastor, and Mary Derda, another second grade teacher. They are shown with some of the first communicants from the May 4 first Communion. First communicants are, from left, Rachael Rotundo, Jimmy Verhiley, Michael Godfrey, Alexandra Osowski, Mary Osowski, Matthew Cysewski and Katilyn Barany.

child ever turned in to me. I have three walls of shelves in my basement filled with teaching materials."

She and her husband Mike, who owns Aquinas Catholic Bookstore in South Bend, also plan to visit their two children and see more of their six grandchildren. But walking away from the second grade classroom won't be an easy thing to do.

"I will miss the children terribly," says Manley, choking back the tears. "They're just so loving. I don't say every minute is a joy because that's not realistic. But they are just fun. They're fun. And I'll miss that. It's work, but there sure are a lot of benefits."

Preparing the children for first holy Communion remains the most important part of the job to

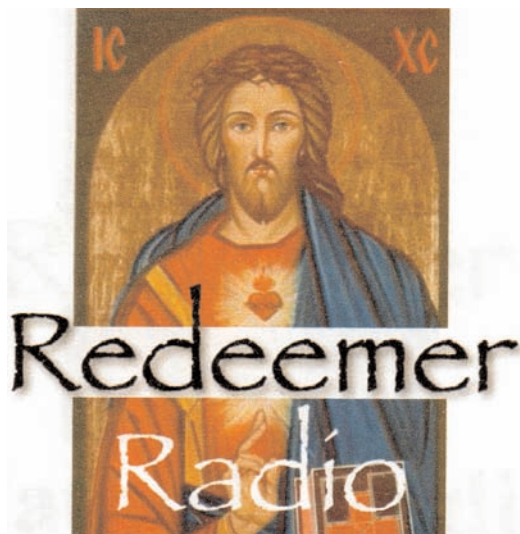
Manley. She says it is also the most rewarding.

"I would like to hope that I have instilled in them something they will appreciate and love for the rest of their lives," she says. "I hope they build on that first step and really have an ongoing, living relationship with the Eucharist throughout their life."

Life will go on at Corpus Christi, with the former student fully taking over the reins now in the second grade. Derda is waiting to find out who will take Manley's place as the other second-grade teacher, but she will clearly miss her mentor.

"It's been good learning from the best," Derda says of her former teacher and current teaching partner.

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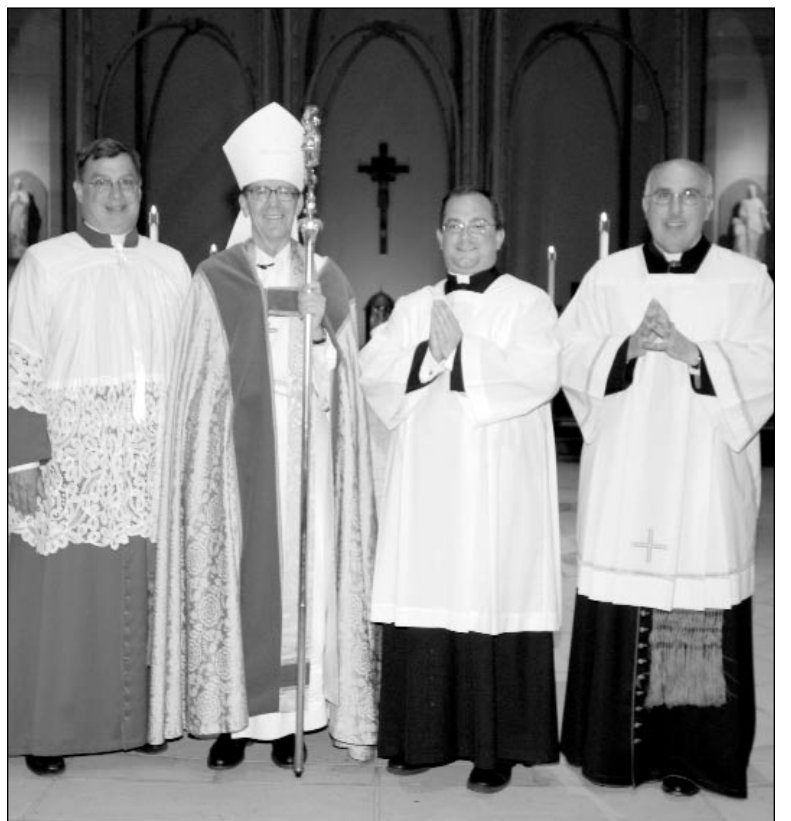
Seminarian Andrew Budzinski admitted to candidacy for holy orders

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The liturgy of Evening Prayer marked a defining moment in the priestly formation of nine seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum on April 26 when Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted of Phoenix, admitted them to candidacy for holy orders in the seminary's St. Turibius Chapel. Diocesan seminarian Andrew Budzinski was one of the nine seminarians.

The rite of admission to candidacy for holy orders is celebrated when a seminarian has reached a maturity of purpose in his formation and has demonstrated the qualifications for ordination. In the presence of the bishop, he publicly expresses his intention to complete his preparation for holy orders and his resolve to fully invest himself to that end, so that he will serve Christ and the church faithfully.

"There are three traits ... that are the distinguished goals for which these candidates strive," said Bishop Olmsted in his homily. "Holiness of life; true art — the art of loving others as Christ loves us; and universality — being Catholic in identity, life and mission."

The candidates will continue studies at the Josephinum for two more years before being ordained to the priesthood.



KEN SNOW

Andrew Budzinski, a seminarian in priestly formation at Pontifical College Josephinum, was admitted to candidacy for holy orders in a celebration at St. Turibius Chapel on April 26. In the photo, from left, are Msgr. Nevin Klinger, School of Theology vice-rector; Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted of Phoenix; Andrew Budzinski; and Msgr. Paul Langsfeld, rector-president.

Chris Godfrey speaks at the Right to Life Prayer Event

BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — “The culture of death is pure evil” and “greater prayer for life is urgently needed,” remarked Holy Cross Brother Bill Mewes as he offered the opening prayer of the second annual St. Joseph County Right to Life prayer event on April 22.

In his remarks, Brother Mewes noted that a mother’s womb is the most dangerous place for a child to be today and compared abortionist to terrorists because of their destructive work.

The event was organized and emceed by St. Matthew Cathedral parishioner Jay Dunlap. His strong commitment to the Right to Life cause is undergirded by the fact that he is the adoptive father of five children. Dunlap summarized the prevalence of abortion as a “crisis of love” as young unwed mothers are told to “deal with it”

as they are abandoned by the father and their families. He characterized the mission of the Right to Life movement as to “bring that love to life” that will make it possible for a woman to carry her baby to term and find the support she needs to raise the child.

St. Joseph County Right to Life president Tom Gill shared how he thought the “prayer was supplementary to what we do” but that now he realizes “it’s the other way around — prayer is the main event.” The mission of his organization “is to educate, encourage legislation, advocate for the unborn and the infirm, and most importantly, to pray.”

Gill announced an important upcoming Right to Life event. Friday, May 9, at 8:30 a.m. there will be “a peaceful, prayerful procession in honor of Mother’s Day (May 11) in front of the Women’s Pavilion abortion facility at Ironwood Circle in South Bend.



TOM UEBBING

Chris Godfrey, shown here at the podium, shares the Right to Life message at the second annual prayer event hosted by the St. Joseph County Right to Life at the Landing in South Bend on April 22.

Right to Life event

Friday, May 9, at 8:30 a.m. there will be a peaceful, prayerful procession in honor of Mother’s Day (May 11) in front of the Women’s Pavilion abortion facility at Ironwood Circle in South Bend. Tom Gill, president of the St. Joseph County Right to Life urges people to come out for the event and emphasizes, “this is one to me where numbers are really important.” Abortions are performed on Fridays there, and it is hoped that at least one life will be saved.

Girls Scouts awarded religious medals

FORT WAYNE — Girl Scouts numbering 125 and representing eight different parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend earned religious medals this spring. The requirements for medal recipients can take months to complete. Given the number of girls, parents and leaders involved in this achievement, literally thousands of hours were spent on the effort.

The girls earned one of the following medals, based on their grade in school: Family of God, second and third grade, helps children discover the presence of God in their daily lives; I Live my Faith, fourth through sixth grade, focuses on the girl’s role as a participant in the community of faith; Marian Medal, seventh through 12th grade, promotes an understanding of Mary as model of openness and spirituality.

Monica Gonda, Girl Scout organizer at St. Charles Borromeo in Fort Wayne, noted that the medals were earned through “hard work, diligence and prayer.” Gonda’s troop, along with other St. Charles recipients, received their medals on April 19 at a ceremony before Mass with Father Tony Steinacker, associate pastor of St. Charles Church.

The following received medals:

- From St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne — Rachel Brames, Laura Eckrich, Morgan Fuze, Marissa Godfrey, Emily Harrigan, Mackenzie Hartig, Bailee Hughes, Jazzlyn King, Allison Kochanski, Aicia Robinson, Rachel Robinson, Courtney Stise, Linhsey Trinh, Lauren Adamson, Kaitlyn Coffee, Sarah Fick, Kathryn Gonda, Madison Shutt, Melinda Rose Maria Earnest, Tori Fisher, Olivia Koehler and Heather Lothamer

- From Holy Family Parish, South Bend — Allie Buszkiewicz, Madison Fadely, Haley Hessey, Taylor Pritchard, Madison Singer,



PROVIDED BY RENEE BRYON

Father Tony Steinacker, associate pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, distributes religious medals earned by Girl Scouts in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Alexis Thornburg, Autumn VanOverberghe, Allison VanTournout, Estelle Wroblewski and Jordan Zobrosky

- From St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton — Rachel Makowski;

- From St. Mary Parish, Avilla — Molly Morris, Rachel Hayes, Emily Rorick, Sammantha Ley, Katie Ley, Sammi Jo Gram, Julia Ormiston, Danielle Replogle, Mya Diffenderfer and Baily Hankins

- From St. John the Baptist, New Haven — Jessica Gabet, Kimberly Goodman, Megan Heckman, Katja Morton, Helen O’Shaughnessey, Mariah Painter, Norah Painter, Hannah Summers, Abby Tippman, Whitney Tippman, Bailey Trabel, Adia Wolf and Casey Wright

- From St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne — Grace Klein, Emily Anglin, Kelli Damman, Meghan Lapp, Lily Schenkel, Cassidy Klinker, Morgan Bair, Victoria Cooper, Aspen Curry, Amber Curry, Winnie O’Brien, Kennedy O’Boyle, Miranda Wenk, Haley Wenk, Megan Lopez, Brooke

Kumfer, Josie Ray, Ava Kennedy, Regan Murdock, Brooke Kinder, Holly Reith, Madeline Parent, Julia Till, Kendra Frederickson, Isabella Parrish, Rachel Swaim, Sydney Blake, Hannah Branam, Audrey Boedeker, Jessica Beauchot, Samantha McLeish, Genevieve Reith, Amanda Wilder, Moriah Heath, Karena Parrish, Isabella Stanley, Stella Rama, Anya Boyden, Cassandra Lombardo, Maria Till, Claire Zurbuch, Kristi McDonald, Tess Houlihan, Gabby Holly, Lindsey Sutter, Chelsea Heise, Olivia Wyatt, Christina Wilder, Hanna Lapp, Emma Winkeljohn, Lucy Klein, Samantha Sliger, Sarah Morris, Rachel Key, Rebekah Stump, Taylor Blake, Molly Brunner, Page DiRenzo, Jessica Heise, Becca Kraeutle, Lauren Lehman and Marissa McDonald

- From St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, Troop 135 — Samantha Allen, Madeline Brown, Rachel Hentz, Nicole Kessling, Rachael Seals, Sabrina Streicher and Mercedes Rodriguez.

Chris Godfrey, an attorney and Notre Dame Law School graduate was the main speaker. He began by sharing his Christian testimony. After graduating from the University of Michigan in 1980, Godfrey embarked on a career in professional football. His career was bottoming out after he had been cut from the National Football League three times.

In that moment of personal defeat that “brought me down on my knees” he had a conversion experience and committed his life to Christ.

“Once I let the Lord into my life, it was like the roof of my life being blown off. I knew I had work to do.” Subsequently Godfrey joined the New York Giants and went on to be a Super Bowl champion. He uses that notoriety and the diamond Super Bowl ring he sports not for self-aggrandizement but to attract youth to the Right to Life message and lives of Christian virtue.

Godfrey is the founder of Life Athletes (www.lifeathletes.org), a

pro-life outreach that numbers “an impressive list of real achievers who know the value of life.”

The Super Bowl champ shared the Life Athletes commitment that young people are asked to make: “I will try to do what is right even when it is difficult. I will give myself only to the special person who I marry as my partner for life. I will respect the lives of others, especially the unborn and the aged. I will not quit or make excuses when I fail. I will try again.”

Life Athletes also inculcates four principals for young people to build their lives on: “We are made in the image of God; human life is sacred; we are valuable; and that God has a plan for our lives.”

Through this event, St. Joseph County Right to Life hopes to foster ongoing community wide prayer for life and greater unity and leadership involvement by the clergy.

The life prayer event was attended by 100 supporters. Clergy and religious were encouraged to attend, and 19 were present.



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MOTHER OF GOD

Diocesan parishes hail Mary as their patron

BY DON CLEMMER

The Virgin Mary is such an integral part of Catholic faith life and devotion that she becomes as familiar and close as the bricks of the buildings around us. In fact, in many cases, she's part of the buildings around us, in particular, our parish homes.

In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, 18 parishes have some connection to Mary as their patroness, either by name — like St. Mary in Fort Wayne or Huntington — by a teaching associated with her — such as the Immaculate Conception or Assumption — or by a title associated with her — such as Queen of Angels, Queen of Peace or Our Lady of Hungary.

One parish even includes Mary by association — Holy Family in South Bend.

The history of parishes named

for Mary goes back earlier than the diocese itself, the oldest church being the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, although it was called St. Augustine prior to the formation of the diocese in 1857.

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur dates back to 1838 and was founded by the same Catholic immigrants who founded the town itself. The current church is the third for the parish, built in 1954.

Back in Fort Wayne, in 1848, 30 German families left the original St. Augustine Parish and formed St. Mary Parish only a few blocks away. The parish has been renowned over the years for its vibrant community outreach through its soup kitchen and spin-off ministries like the Matthew 25 clinic and Vincent House, now Vincent Village.

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Avilla dates back to 1853 and owes its earliest origins to the efforts of the early missionary priests of the area, including Father Stephen Badin, first priest to be ordained in the United States.

This period of time also saw the founding of three parishes in a row named not directly for the blessed mother, but for her Immaculate Conception, namely the parishes at Ege (1853), Kendallville (1867) and Auburn (1872). This trend coincides with the 1854 declaration by Pope Pius IX of the Immaculate Conception as an infallible teaching of the church, meaning the new dogma would have likely been a popular name choice for new parishes at the time.

The remainder of the 1800s saw parishes named for Mary in cities and towns scattered across the diocese. St. Mary of the Assumption in South Bend, which has since been merged with St. Jude in South Bend, began as a German parish in 1882. St. Mary of the Presentation in Geneva, the far southeast corner of the diocese, began in 1883 and was staffed by Precious Blood priests until 1966. St. Mary in Huntington began in 1896, its second pastor being then-Father John F. Noll, who served from 1910 until his appointment as bishop in 1925.



During this time, Father Noll founded the *Our Sunday Visitor* newspaper and publishing house.

The 20th century saw the founding of an array of parishes named for Mary, including the ethnically diverse Our Lady of Hungary (1921), which began as an ethnically diverse offshoot of St. Stephen Parish, South Bend, and St. Mary of the Annunciation (1941) in Bristol, which began in a barn.

In 1945 came the aforementioned Holy Family in South Bend, and in 1947, Bishop Noll asked Father William Faber to found and name a new parish in northwest Fort Wayne. Father Faber, drawing on his longtime devotion to the Blessed Mother and a love of angels, asked Bishop Noll if he could name the parish after part of the litany of the blessed virgin. The bishop said this was fine, only to have Father Faber share that he wished to name the parish "Refuge of Sinners." The bishop was taken aback until Father Faber shared that he was joking and that the parish would really be called Queen of Angels.

In 1948, Father Joseph Lenk, an Army chaplain in World War I,

founded St. Mary of the Lake Parish in Culver. Mishawaka received its only parish named for the Blessed Mother with Queen of Peace in 1957. Fort Wayne received its newest Marian parish when Father William Hodde founded Our Lady of Good Hope in 1969.

In 1972, a small parish to minister to the Latino community of the diocese began in Milford. This parish, Our Lady of Guadalupe, moved to Warsaw in 2005 and now boasts the newest church building in the diocese.

The recurring use of Mary as a patroness for parishes throughout the history of the diocese attests not only to the devotion of the area faithful to Mary, but to the church as a whole and its belief that it received an ever-attentive, ever-loving helper and guide when Jesus spoke the words on the cross, "Behold your mother."

Research for this article came from works by Sharon Little, Mark Weber, Joseph White and Msgr. William Faber.



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Mary, noble Lady of the wisdom years

BY SISTER ANGELITA FENKER

Mary:

How often do we think of you, as any age but ageless in the youthful loveliness of younger years?

Perhaps we see you sometimes painted as a woman in her early middle years, attentive then, and standing in a crowd to drink-in messages or miracles your Son was sharing with a group which just had stopped to watch.

And certainly we've seen you stand beneath the cross, and after that, we've witnessed heart-drenched pain when then you held the broken body of your Son upon your lap.

And though not written anywhere, we do believe within our hearts, you held the risen Christ before he greeted others on that Resurrection day; then too, we know that you were present when the Spirit-fire descended on the ones who'd waited for that day with baited breath.

Tradition tells us that you went to be with Christ when tasks on earth were through; Assumption — celebration speaks this truth, and we believe.

But, what about the years that filled those life-gaps in between, and led you through the maturing journey on the way that other women go?

Tradition in Franciscan view, believes that 72 was the stretch of years for you upon the earth; yet, no one knows for sure, except you went to stay with John for years not numbered — in a place apart.

I'm sure you didn't get "old" with all the stagnant view that holds, but rather, you grew older-with a focus both on "grew" and "older" indicating that maturing was your choice and not a dead-end place in which to slide.

The wrinkles on your face were badges showing courage for the years you'd journeyed through and etched the tender care you'd given all your life to those who needed special love that only you could give.

Your calloused, well-worn, painful hands spoke volumes and were tribute to the love they'd shared so long through years of household chores; those hands which baked, and cleaned and sewed, and tended wounded knees; they held new warmth and tender care that only come with marks, and scuffs and creases of the years, to still embrace, and touch all those who needed new your help.

The sprinkles of the gray as highlights in your hair caressed your radiant face, and looked like stardust scattered there as light reflected from the Light you harbored deep within; these spoke of transformation through the pain of life, and gave a testimony to the courage, strength and hope you've lived now for so long.

Your queenly gait, still dignified but slower now, when walking to the well, still spoke to all you met of grace and tenderness as you took time to stop and speak with friends along the way, and give a smiling witness to the



PROVIDED BY SISTER ANGELITA FENKER

Love you held within.

The years had added on, and with the years came all the human flaws that growing older brings; for if your Son, grew older in his wisdom, age and grace before his God and humankind, then you did too, and weren't exempt from that which other women face.

And if, as Scripture states, your Son was like us all, except in sin, then you were too, and in this likeness you, who lived beyond the years of him, knew changes he would never know as years were added unto years as ripe maturing seed.

You were not always young, and flawless as at early stage; but still, your smile was there, and held a radiant light that never graced your youth; it now held beauty new that only living fully could have brought.

Your face reflected gracefulness of growing older in a woman who through life had sung a quiet love song with her being through her daily "yes" of love, sung as a true "magnificat" to music in her heart — which realized the Mighty One had truly done great things within and through and in her total personhood to change the world around her and to drench it with the love Christ brought to earth.

It must have been as much transition as for other women too, to realize your life had changed in ways you couldn't have known, when you were young; to see the toll the years had brought to human frame, and yet, you knew within your heart of hearts, your spirit — life was still untouched by anything that took your heart from him, from Christ, the center of your life.

Your life's transitions, grace-filled as they were, were building unto transformation through the years that added on.

Yet still, your task on earth seemed somehow not complete, for there was yet one other thing you knew that you must do: and that was then to bring to birth your Son, in lives of those who'd follow after you.

You were aware that Incarnation had to be prolonged within the lives of those he'd given you; and so within your ministry that changed and moved beyond the needs of early years, you were caught up in wants and fresh necessities of early church, that needed to mature from being just a follower to that of bearing Christ into the world.

In your advancing years, you realized your love had grown beyond the love that graced your

younger years; you had a lot of love to give yet, and this love would keep your spirit vibrant and as young as when your God had first conceived your spirit through the love he had for you.

Your eldering years brought forth new life as each new day required new birthing of your Son within the lives of those he'd given you; the Incarnation could not be a one and only time, but sought to be enfolded anew within the heart and soul and spirit of the ones who would come after you to keep his love and life and light and presence true alive within the world!

You realized that all of those who love Christ so must be empowered then to let him change the world by flowing through, and with, and in them as they carry Christ in their own way, at any age in life, and any generation yet to come, out way beyond the confines of a closed-in group into the daily world that hungers for the love he'd brought to earth.

As years were added unto years, your body bent and slowed, but spirit never lessened, as it grew in love and grace and full maturing to the pinnacle of what the Father called you to.

Your years evolved, and yearn-

ing for your Son increased with every breath, until your breath became so full of love your older body could not hold the depth of it; your spirit needed to take leave for just a while until your body, never touched by sin, could, so to speak, "catch up" to where your spirit was; and in your final "yes" to God, your Son enfolded you in quick embrace and took you up to where your body could catch up, and let its breath dissolve into Eternal Breath of endless love and Presence fully known.

And still you knew your mission down upon the earth was not complete; for still throughout eternity, your only task from heaven now would be to help enable and empower those who know and love your Son, to birth him fresh and new in Incarnation, and continue in each time and place the miracle your "yes" had brought about so many years before.

And so in each new joyful "yes" that's uttered from your children here on earth, your heart sings new the love song which you sang so many years before: a true "Magnificat" which reaffirms that he who is the mighty one has truly done such wondrous things to you!

So even now, your task of birthing Christ in humankind continues through the years, and is not really over then until the ones who let you teach them how to carry Christ are with you in the fullest light of Presence, and can join you in the song that filled your heart and life: the symphony of rich "Magnificat" will be then sung by you and all who let the miracle that touched your life become alive in theirs.

Within this glorious masterpiece of music yet unheard, the voices and full orchestra of all the ones who gave new birth to Christ upon the earth, and smiled their "yes" to let this birth take place, the love song of "Magnificat" will then reverberate throughout eternal space, and be fulfillment of your own life's task which first sang such a song of love so true.

You did not know when you were young that this resounding melody would be forever played before the God you love, with crashing tones of instruments, and chorus strong, where all would join you in your song that resonates forever.

The "Magnificat" will still go on throughout eternity to praise and thank the One who truly has done wondrous things to you, and so to us, in whom the miracle continues as we say our "yes," to sharing in your miracle of letting Christ become alive again upon the earth.

This song is ours, as it is yours; you hear us sing, and know your life was crowned with greatest joy; you look at us, and see your Son, and know the miracle continues as we join with you to sing our own "Magnificat" to pleasure the beloved of our hearts.

Magnificat! And only that; it is enough! Magnificat! Magnificat! Through all eternity, with you!

Johnnette Benkovic brings grace to women

BY KAY COZAD

WINONA LAKE — The women of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are in for a special spirit-filled day this fall when Johnnette Benkovic, author, speaker and founder-president of Living His Abundant Life Ministries, and the inspired Catholic apostolate, Women of Grace, comes to town. A Day of Grace for Women is a full-day conference sponsored by the diocesan Office of Spiritual Development to be held in September at Grace College.

Holy Cross Father Edmund Sylvia, advisor and chaplain of Living His Abundant Life Ministries and the Women of Grace apostolate, will join Benkovic in offering four inspiring talks at the conference titled, Women of Grace: Called and Gifted; Women's Influence; Women of Grace: Chosen and Sent; and Male and Female, He Made Them.

This jubilant and faith inspiring speaker comes from surprisingly humble beginnings. A deeply faithful Catholic from Pennsylvania, Benkovic, like many young adults, fell away from the practice of her faith during her college years at Penn State University. She graduated with a degree in education and married her beloved Anthony and together they raised three children.

By 1981, Benkovic had established herself as a successful insurance agent and was enjoying secular living.

But she soon found herself drawn to a friend whose deep faith sustained her through a painful divorce. Together they attended a charismatic retreat, and she says, "I realized that I longed and hungered for that which I once knew. I full-heartedly came back."

Benkovic returned to the church and eventually began work at the diocesan level.

Then in 1987, a radio opportunity presented itself and after much prayer and discernment Benkovic left the lucrative insurance business and entered Catholic radio and TV ministry full-time. By 1993, she had established the Abundant Life Ministry

International, Inc program, which she says changed her life.

"I can honestly say I believe God entrusted a ministry to me to come to a deeper appreciation of the Catholic Church," Benkovic says. Her faith, she adds, is the



JOHNNETTE BENKOVIC

very fabric of her life.

Of Living His Life Abundantly International, Inc., Benkovic says, "It's a Catholic communications ministry with outreaches in all manner of media," with TV and radio programming, printed materials and a presence on the Internet.

As host of "Women of Grace Live," a one-hour call-in radio talk show and executive producer of the TV program "The Abundant Life," Benkovic works with EWTN and has authored of five books. The dynamic speaker travels extensively offering retreats, parish programs and seminars as well.

Ten years later, in response to Pope John Paul II's exhortation in his letter to women calling for an "effective, intelligent campaign for the promotion of the dignity of women," a new apostolate was

developed out of the Abundant Life Ministry appropriately named, Women of Grace. "It's a ministry to affirm women in dignity and vocation as daughters of God," says Benkovic, adding, "It hopes to help them embrace the gift of authentic femininity."

Women of Grace is a multi-tiered, interdisciplinary program "rich with the treasures of the Catholic faith," using Benkovic's own book "Full of Grace."

Each lesson of the series incorporates video teaching by

Benkovic herself, reading and topic discussions. And though the program integrates catechesis, doctrine and philosophical issues, it also aims to reach the psychological aspects of women as well.

"It appeals to the full human person; to heart, emotions and intellect," says the author, who wrote biographies of lesser-known female saints to include for the edification of the participants.

To date close to 50,000 women have participated in the program nationwide.

"I am awestruck by what God is doing," says Benkovic, of the far-reaching and transformative effects of the Women of Grace program.

But this dynamic and authentically feminine woman of God has had her own faith tested in recent years, when in 2004, shortly after his return from service in Iraq her precious son, Simon, was tragically killed in an

accident. Then in 2007, her husband of nearly 34 years, Anthony, died as well.

Though difficult, Benkovic says of the last four years, "They have been grace-filled. I have come to deeply understand and appreciate the gift of suffering. I have

new insight and a deeper understanding of the cross."

And her faith witness brings new depth to her work.

Of her approaching encounter with the women of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Benkovic says, "I'm so eager to be with the women of the diocese and experience together the abundant blessings God has in mind."

The women who come, she adds, will have the opportunity to discover who they are in God, what his special purpose is for them and how they can discern God in the midst of life's circumstances. And perhaps most importantly, the women will explore why they are God's secret weapon in this new millennium.

Benkovic, whose deeply-centered ardent faith is evident in her every word, believes wholeheartedly that "we can reclaim our culture for Christ" for ourselves and future generations. She adds enthusiastically, "It's the age of Mary. There's no stopping the women filled with the power of God."



Do it for the children Foster parenting provides a divine mission

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Doing 21 loads of laundry a week hardly sounds like a mission from God, but don't be fooled.

Mary Jo Parrish is on a mission from God to raise a foster child. The 33-year-old Bishop Dwenger graduate is a proud mother to seven, including a foster child.

Parrish and her husband Bill have been happily married for 14 years, having met in the recruiter's office in the United States Navy.

Coming from a large Catholic family herself, Parrish said she felt a vocation to raise a large family.

"I made my husband agree to seven kids before we got married," she said jokingly.

Parrish said she always knew she wanted to raise a "non natural" child, so she and her husband explored the foster program. And after the birth of her fourth child, Parrish said she felt a strong calling to become involved in a foster program.

"You just know you need to do something," she said about her vocation.

Parrish and her husband looked into the foster program thoroughly to ensure they made the right choice.

"If we're gonna do this, we'll do it right," she told her husband.

Parrish knew another family who went through the Phoenix Institute agency and encouraged her to look into it.

After being licensed, Parrish and her husband were blessed with the placement of a three-month-old baby, followed by a 15-year-old girl, 4-year-old boy and finally their current foster child, Kendra in June 2006.

Kendra, age 7, is a welcome addition to the Parrish family: Landon, 13; Karena, 10; Isabella, 8; Landon, 5; Aidan, 2; and Adelina, 10 months.

Parrish said her Catholic faith plays a significant part in her role as a foster parent. She said the program is a way to remain open to life, without conceiving a natural child. Women have an innate tendency to nurture and God created them to raise children, she said.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Mother are sources of daily inspiration, Parrish said.

"The only way your virtues grow is when you use them with your neighbor ... that's what Christ did," she said.

Raising a foster child has its ups and downs, Parrish said. Visits with the foster child's biological parents can be particularly straining on the foster family, she said, because the child can feel torn between two sides — the child's biological family and foster family.

Making Kendra feel special yet ensuring her natural children feel valued is another challenge, she said.

The foster experience has been eye opening for the other children. Parrish said that at one point she realized her children were acting spoiled, and she wanted to put an end to the behavior.

"More than anything my kids appreciate what they have," she said. "It's a ripple effect."

Raising a family of seven is not easy, but rewarding in the end.

"I don't feel like God intended us to live the easy way," she said. "People are so set on what feels good, but they should be concerned with the will of God."

The foster mother said she has been pleased with the support of the community, especially St. Vincent de Paul Parish and School.

The school has been very welcoming she said, showing (Kendra) the "same rights and dignity" as one of her natural children.

The busy mother offered some advice for those considering fostering a children. She said it's difficult to put your life goals on hold for something larger than yourself, like fostering a child.

"It's not about you," she said. "Do it ... (the children) are desperate for good homes."

Parrish said many parents are reluctant to foster because of the temporary nature of the situation, but it should not be viewed as a setback.

"It's selfish to say I can't put myself out there because I will hurt from seeing them go," she said. "You give them the best and then let them go. You can give them a taste of God."

For more information about the Phoenix Institute and requirements visit www.phoenixfostercare.com or call (260) 424-0411.



The Parrish family spends time coloring. Mary Jo and her husband Bill (not available for the photo) are foster parents through the Phoenix Institute. "It's not about you," Mary Jo Parrish said. "Do it ... (the children) are desperate for good homes."

Mom and daughter team up on Honduran mission trip

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — What began as an intriguing, but fleeting thought, turned in to a special once-in-a-life time opportunity for one Fort Wayne mom and her middle-school-aged daughter.

Julie McNamara and her daughter Nancy teamed up this past January to serve on a mission trip to Honduras. The eight-day trip took them to Comayagua where they joined about a dozen others from around the country to volunteer at a dental clinic for orphaned children.

Julie, a pediatric occupational therapist, heard about the mission trip through her family dentist, Tom Blake, who has volunteered in the Honduras dental clinic for over five years. It was to be a dental mission primarily for pediatrics — right up Julie's alley.

She recalls thinking, "I'd always wanted to go on a medical mission ..." But with husband, Dan, and their four children at home the logistics were questionable.

With encouragement from her husband, Julie asked their then 12-year-old daughter Nancy to pray about serving with her in Honduras.

"That was hard," says the tweenager, adding, "I tried to separate my desire to go and what God wanted."

Nothing told her not to go, she says smiling, so she agreed enthusiastically.

The seventh-grader, who attends St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth

Ann Seton School, where the students receive Spanish lessons, seemed a perfect candidate for the trip.

"She does well in school, so it was not a hardship for her to miss classes," says Julie. Nancy has recently been awarded the Carson \$1,000 College Scholarship after writing a winning essay on her desire to become an author.

The trip soon became a family affair, where Julie's mom offered to help and Dan's sister would stay with the McNamara children while Dan worked. "She was excited to help with the cause," says Julie.

So while the logistics of the trip were attended to by Dr. Blake, the McNamara women set to work packing their allotted 100-pounds-per-person luggage. "We each got 50 pounds for personal baggage and 50 pounds for supplies. Nancy and I packed light, so we could take things for the kids," says Julie. And take things they did.

After contacting Principal Lois Widner at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School about the mission trip, the student body rallied to donate over 200 books for the children in Honduras. Julie reports that they were able to take about half the books, with the other 100 to be donated to the Fort Wayne Area Literacy Alliance. Other donated items included crayons, paper, stuffed animals and balls.

With luggage and passports in hand the McNamaras arrived in Honduras on Jan. 26.

"It was nice weather, not much humidity," says Julie, adding, "The color of the sky was different, vibrant."



PROVIDED BY THE McNAMARA FAMILY

Julie McNamara, second from left, and daughter, Nancy, right, pose with two children awaiting dental services in Comayagua, Honduras.

After resting overnight in their hotel, the mother-daughter team got to work early the next morning, setting up the clinic and spending the afternoon screening the children at the area orphanages. Workdays began at 7:45 a.m. and sometimes lasted until 7 p.m.

Two dentists performed dental repairs, reports Julie, while another pulled teeth and worked with the anesthesia. She, Nancy and the other volunteers collected trash, organized charts, held flash lights and played with the children as they awaited treatment. The clinic saw over 200 children in its four-day session. Grateful area families were seen at the clinic as well.

One touching moment Julie recalls had her cradling a crying child while her sibling was being treated. "She fell asleep in my arms," she says wistfully.

In midweek, Nancy went up

into the mountains with several volunteers to assist with children there.

"We rode in a flatbed truck... and set up a clinic in an old school," says Nancy. Translators were teens from a bilingual school there.

But most of the week, Nancy played with the children.

"They were so cute," she says, smiling. "I gave them crayons and they colored five pictures for me."

She also played soccer with the children and was a hit with her super ball follies. The children, she says, waited all day for dental treatment, but were well behaved and patient.

Though Julie contracted a 24-hour viral bug, she remembers the food as "very good." The menu included rice and beans with salsa and fried plantains, a banana-potato hybrid. The volunteer group

became close friends over meals, says Julie.

From the walled and guarded compound in which they stayed, the McNamaras could see the village surrounding them with its homes in disrepair and dirt floors. But they say, the children there were clean and "just typical kids."

On their final day in Comayagua, the McNamaras assisted in clinic clean up and transported all left over materials to the orphanages they had become so familiar with. Both were exhausted but happy to have met the people they volunteered with and the children they served.

Nancy celebrated her 13th birthday upon their arrival home with a family gathering replete with a slide show of their amazing adventure.

Of the mission experience, Nancy says thoughtfully, "Jesus says, 'Serve people less than you,' and you come back with more questions."

As she contemplates those questions, her mother replies, "She appreciates what she has. You don't need what you think you need. We saw people happy with nothing."

The two have become closer than ever since the mission trip and hope to return to the orphanages of Comayagua one day. But for now this faithful mom and daughter are satisfied to bring the spirit of mission to their own hometown. "A mission doesn't have to be overseas," says Julie. "There's so much I can do in a two-mile radius of my own home."

Mothers — faithful survivors

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

Allow me to vent

There are days when I feel like turning in my mother badge. Don't get me wrong, I love my young adult children, but sometimes the expectations, or my "perceived" expectations of motherhood, get the best of me, and I just have to vent. I'm not trying to be negative about motherhood or anything, but just thinking about the challenges of motherhood for one weekend makes me exhausted ... laundry, house cleaning, landscaping, grocery shopping, church, cooking, entertaining family and attending a reception or two ... writing reports, paying the bills, listening to thesis papers or heartaches at two in the morning... I know you moms can finish the list. Oh, we can't forget our guilt for not having visited our aging parents or married children, or a whole host of friends and acquaintances, that we have made promises to about "getting together soon." In addition, we women have the added expectations of looking great, eating right, exercising three times a week for at least 30 minutes and being in a great mood all the time ... for everyone." We thought weekends were for resting up, so we could be reinvigorated for Monday's "to do" list. Maybe this was never true for

mothers and "The Donna Reed Show" has deceived us once again.

How many mothers out there occasionally feel like turning in their mom badge? I hope I am not alone. Do you suppose the Blessed Mother ever had moments like this?

Words for thought

"It can thus be said that women, by looking to Mary, find in her the secret of living their femininity with dignity and of achieving their own true advancement. In the light of Mary, the church sees in the face of women the reflection of a beauty which mirrors the loftiest sentiments of which the human heart is capable: the self-offering totally of love; the strength that is capable of bearing the greatest sorrows; limitless fidelity and tireless devotion to work; the ability to combine penetration intuition with words of support and encouragement." — "Mother of the Redeemer," John Paul II, par. 46.

Female faith companions

Fatigue and frustrations are inevitable for women who are sincerely trying to live out their authentic femininity in our society today. Too often we attempt to be female survivors, going it alone, without the support of peer mothers or the counsel of "mother fig-

ures" who could direct us in times of uncertainty. Many times, connecting with other women on issues that are intrinsic to our authentic feminine nature is unheard of or neglected. In college, I rarely talked with other women in my dorm about matters of faith, because there was never "an avenue" to do so. As a young mother, living in a rural area, I often longed for adult female companionship as I attended to the demands of family life. I wondered if other Catholic women had the same desire to develop a deeper closeness with the Lord, so that in turn, they might be better wives and mothers. Today, I have found that women of all ages, vocations and occupations, look to each other, for affirmation, support, wisdom and the opportunity to further develop their faith in Jesus Christ. The challenge for all women is to find the time to connect with other women who share a common faith. If Mary, the Mother of God, could take the time to visit Elizabeth, another woman of faith, why shouldn't we?

Mary journeyed to Judah to help care for her cousin Elizabeth who in her "old age" was pregnant with St. John. Mary, young and pregnant too, sought the support, faith and wisdom of her older cousin, Elizabeth. I would love to have heard some of their conversations, as in joy and surprise, fear



Sharing Faith

and wonder they share with each other the mission God had called each of them to undertake. I would imagine that together they spent time reflecting on the ancient Scriptures, praying and discussing their "yes" to the Lord, relying on each other for strength and companionship.

Women of faith, like Mary and Elizabeth, need the spiritual support of one another. Women can and should be life-bearers to one another, so that we can support one another for our many missions.

Johnette Benkovic in "Full of Grace" writes, "By virtue of the gift of our gender, each of us is intended to be 'mother.' Just as our bodies have been created with the capacity to bear physical life, our souls have been especially created by God to bring spiritual life to the world. Thus, our call to motherhood is in no way diminished or negated by a life of celibacy or an inability to physically bear children. All women are meant to bring life."

Womanly advice

Women, don't isolate yourselves. You have Christ within you. Pick up your purse and go visit another woman. Pray with them, see how they are coping with life, and ask them about their faith journey. We all have great stories to share.

Start a small faith sharing women's group in your home. Pray, read the Scriptures, the stories of women saints, think of a question or two to discuss about the readings, have coffee and cookies, and be together. Talk about your families and the challenges before you and seek the counsel of those more seasoned in life.

Most importantly, pray for one another. Pray for your children, your friends, those women who have been either physical or spiritual mothers for you. Seek the intercession of the Blessed Mother as you pray ... "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you ... pray for Johnnie, Annie, Martha, mom, grandma ... now and at the hour of their death. Amen."

EDITORIAL

The family is the basic unit of society

Celebration of Mother's Day should also be a celebration of families, and on his visit here last month Pope Benedict II reminded us of how important families are.

The family is the basic unit of society and the primary place for passing on the faith, but the pope reminded us that a healthy family life also contributes to world peace. It is in the family, he said, that we experience the fundamental elements of peace: "justice and love between brothers and sisters; the role of authority expressed by parents; loving concern for the members who are weaker because of youth, sickness or old age; mutual help in the necessities of life; readiness to accept others and, if necessary, to forgive them."

It is no wonder then that the pope expressed his "deep concern" over the "sharp decline of the family as a basic element of church and society." He cited increases in divorce, infidelity and cohabitation without commitment, all of which deprive children of the secure environment that they need in order truly to flourish as human beings. In turn, he said, "Society is denied the stable building blocks, which it requires if the cohesion and moral focus of the community are to be maintained."

Indeed, nearly every major problem in society can be traced to a breakdown in the family. According to the Institute for American Values Center for Marriage and Families, more than one of every three U.S. children is born to a never-married mother and only about 60 percent of children are living with their own biological or adoptive married parents.

The institute points out that children raised outside of intact marriages are "significantly" more likely to be poor, use drugs, drop out of school, commit crimes, suffer from depression and emotional distress, be neglected or abused, be sexually active early, commit or consider suicide, bear children out of marriage and get divorced themselves.

In addition to the damage to society and to the children themselves, the breakdown in marriage also puts a huge financial burden on the U.S. taxpayer. Columnist Michael Medved observed last month that people who can't depend on strong families "far too often become the dependents of government."

One study estimates that the breakdown in marriage costs taxpayers \$100 billion a year for more jails, welfare payments, police, social workers, medical costs, remedial education, court costs, etc. This study led Medved to write: "Defending and repairing the institution of marriage is therefore not just a moral issue; it's a major factor in healing a wide range of social problems, rejuvenating our troubled economy and avoiding governmental bankruptcy."

In his talk to the U.S. bishops, Pope Benedict praised them for setting marriage and the family as a top priority for the next few years and reminded them that the bishop of a diocese is the person principally responsible for the pastoral care of the family.

"It is your task to proclaim boldly the arguments from faith and reason in favor of the institution of marriage, understood as a lifelong commitment between a man and a woman, open to the transmission of life," he said. "This message should resonate with people today, because it is essentially an unconditional and unreserved 'yes' to life, a 'yes' to love, and a 'yes' to the aspirations at the heart of our common humanity, as we strive to fulfill our deep yearning for intimacy with others and with the Lord."

Now it is up to us laity to be inspired by the pope's words and the guidance of our bishops and recommit ourselves to building strong marriages and strong families. This necessarily entails hard work, dedication and self-sacrifice, but the benefits of strong marriages and families are immeasurable, not only for the people involved but also for society and the world.

Choosing life in film

Speaking of families, we are pleased to see the interest of young people in the recent movies "Bella" and "Juno." Both movies revolve around young women who become pregnant out of marriage and briefly consider abortion.

In the end, both women wind up placing their babies for adoption because they realize that is the best choice for themselves and their children. The message of both movies is not only strongly pro-life, it also offers an affirmation of adoption that highlights the generosity of birth mothers who choose life for their babies, as well as the joy those babies bring to their adoptive families.

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

COMMENTARY

TODAY'S CATHOLIC welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification. Today's Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today's Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

Two popes

BY FATHER WILLIAM PEIL

A new feastday in the Catholic Church — at least since 2004 — is the feast of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, under the title of Our Lady of Fatima on May 13.

Mary has been honored under many titles, all stemming from the title "Mother of God," defended at the Council of Ephesus in 431 where some 200 bishops paraded in torchlight procession through the city streets singing her praises.

The title Our Lady of Fatima is the latest in a long list of titles given her by Peter's successors.

Pope Pius XII, little knowing the date was so significant, was consecrated — we say "ordained" now — bishop on May 13, 1917, the very day Mary first appeared to the three children Lucy, Jacinta

and Francesco, at Fatima, Portugal. And it was he who consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary — as requested at Fatima — in 1942. And it was he who concluded the holy year of 1950 at Fatima with a delegated visitor representing him in his absence.

Pope John Paul II was nearly killed by a would-be assassin's bullet on May 13, 1981, but, as he put it, Mary "diverted the bullet." Aware of his narrow escape on such a significant date, he donated one of the bullets to the shrine at Fatima, where it was placed in the crown of the statue of Mary, made by the statue's artist according to the description given by Lucy after the appearances. He also beatified two of the three children Jacinta and Francesco on a May 13 at Fatima.

All hail to Our Lady of Fatima! And plaudits, too, to two of her

most devoted fans, a pope from Italy and one from Poland.

Two things every devotee of Mary will find themselves doing — both requested by Our Lady of Fatima: Rosary for peace in the world every day; and holy Communion on the first Saturday every month.

They say there's no such thing as a coincidence, but only times when God prefers to remain anonymous.

He must have not tried very hard to cover up his tracks with the May 13 date. It has all the signs of divine intervention, to which every believer would do well to pay attention. Especially on May 13 — this year, this coming Tuesday.

Father William Peil is a retired priest from the Diocese of Gary.

'I saw the pope with my very own eyes'

BY ANTHONY CHRISTIE

I saw the pope with my very own eyes. Not a lot of people can tell you that. Boy was it something else!

I can't lie though; I wasn't planning on going on this trip when I first heard about it through announcements at Luers. I wasn't going to try until Father Dom (Carboneau) gave me a request form to complete and enter the essay contest. In the end I wrote a good essay and was elected to go on the trip. Now I look back on the trip and owe Father Dom one of greatest experiences of my life.

I met so many people and gained many lifelong friends from this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. To see the pope, there is no other experience in life like it.

This one man gathered a crowd larger than that of a sold-out Yankees game. There was not an empty seat in that stadium. No doubt there were hundreds of others who had wanted to come but could not because it was sold out. Nor was there any breathing space at the youth rally because so many people came just to hear one man's message from God — and what a message!

The pope emphasized purity, as well as vocations to religious life.

He said that there were four important things that young people need to remember more than anything: Personal prayer or contemplation, which is quiet prayer by yourself; charity or love — we need to love our enemies as much as our friends and we need to learn to love everyone as Christ did; church every Sunday — not only because it's a mortal sin to miss

Mass, but because we love God and want to be with him more; and vocations — through contemplation and church every Sunday, we will help us to find our vocation in life that God wants.

The trip was amazing. We left from St. Vincent Parish at about 7:30 a.m. Eventually we stopped at St. Mary Parish in Ohio for Mass and lunch. After lunch, we had an icebreaker game to get to know everyone. We then loaded on the bus and arrived at the hotel around 9 p.m., had evening prayer and went to bed.

On Saturday morning, we woke up and had Mass in a hotel. That was quite the experience that most people haven't done. After breakfast, we loaded the bus and arrived where the shuttle buses took us to the seminary. At the seminary, we found a spot on the grass and set out our free ponchos and began to relax.

From about 10 a.m., we played euchre and listened to the concert with Kelly Clarkson and Toby Mac. Both performed live. It was amazing. The pope arrived at the seminary at 5 p.m. He made his way out to the stage where people began to perform for him as well as give him gifts. Kelly Clarkson sang "Ave Maria."

After making our way back to the shuttle buses that took us to our charter bus, we left for our hotel. We ordered Domino's pizza. We were fooled twice by two Domino's guys who were there for deliveries to someone else before ours arrived.

Then we hit the hay. We were out before you could say, "Pope Benedict XVI." The next morning we packed our stuff on the bus and headed out to Yankee Stadium. We

arrived at the bus parking lot and began a mile walk to Yankee Stadium.

On our way there you would have thought it was a baseball game. People on the streets selling Pope Benedict tee-shirts, lanyards, flags, pennants, dog tags and buttons.

There were also some things I did not wish to see. People on the streets protested Catholicism and made obscene gestures at the priests. As hard as it is to believe, there are people like this out there.

At Yankee Stadium, there was a short concert. About one hour before the Mass, a color guard came out and circled the field waving giant fishing rods with fake doves on the end. There were more than a 100 of them. Finally after about 30 minutes of this, they let three cages full of real doves loose, which circled the stadium and flew off.

Finally the pope came. The crowd was going nuts. People were chanting, and nuns were doing the wave. Mind you, this was all before Mass. The music was beautiful, and there were so many priests. It was a sight to see!

After the Mass we were locked in Yankee Stadium to wait for the pope to clear the city. Once we were allowed to leave, we saw them load the popemobile onto the trailer on our way back to the parking lot. Once arriving at the parking lot, we headed back to Indiana.

Anthony Christie is a junior at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne and member of St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder.

Our grief-avoidant culture

Any of us who have experienced a loss know of the social and cultural issues to be addressed as we grieve. To mourn well we must have the opportunity to express the pain of loss safely and with permission from those around us to do so.

Mourning takes time and requires our patient attention. At times, in our grief-avoidant culture, it becomes difficult to find support in grief.

In our culture, we are sometimes encouraged to repress, avoid or deny the instinctual spiritual and emotional pain of grief, judged to be negative, in an attempt to resolve it quickly and move on. Our natural expressions of loss make those around us uncomfortable.

By today's standards we are limited to three business days to complete the funeral of our loved one. Many are now opting to eliminate the funeral ceremony altogether.

After a month or two, those around us expect us to be "getting over" our loss. And certainly the first anniversary of our loved one's

death marks, for others, our return to "normal." Unfortunately, that is when many bereaved find the real work of grief only beginning.

The shock I felt at my husband's death led me numbly through arranging the funeral and all that it entailed. Friends and neighbors showered my confused and hurting family with meals and assistance with chores for several weeks. I was so grateful even in my numbed state.

Then life settled again, and I felt left behind to experience the intense pain of my loss as life seemed to march merrily on around me, all the while being encouraged to "get over it." I had hoped, in my misguided way, that after the first anniversary of Trent's death, my life would get back to normal. That hope was dashed as I found myself awakening from my shock to the confusing reality of life without him. Where was I to turn then?

In eras past, cultures around the world, including the United States, honored the bereaved with special privilege. Those in loss were easily identified by black clothing or arm

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

KAY COZAD

bands that were worn no less than a year.

Family and community members sat witness to the bereaved as they honored the body and memory of the deceased. Stories were told and retold, while an abundance of food was shared.

As those in mourning later mingled in the marketplace within their community, they were encouraged by friends and strangers alike to continue to "tell their story of loss." This provided the opportunity to mourn publicly and heal their hearts in a safe and natural setting for as long as was required.

HOPE, PAGE 16

Pentecost is a great church feast



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Feast of Pentecost Jn 20:19-23

Pentecost, the feast celebrated on this weekend, is the greatest day of the church's year, save for Easter and Christmas. It is interesting in this sense. It is the only ancient Jewish feast still observed by the church.

In the beginning, Christians almost invariably were of Jewish origins. However, quite early in Christian history, the apostles themselves took the Gospels far and wide. As a result of these missionary efforts, many came into the church who were not of Jewish backgrounds.

Also occurring was a series of political upheavals that in turn created great stresses in traditional Judaism.

All these developments meant that the attention that once would have been paid to Jewish feasts, just as the Lord observed these feasts, faded and eventually ended altogether. Pentecost is the lone exception.

For Jews, Pentecost celebrates the divine bringing together of them as a people. In this act of God, more than just ethnic or genetic unity was created. They were unified as a people in their mission to be true to God and to profess God before all the nations.

Christians see Pentecost as their holy day, recalling the moment when God the Holy Spirit vivified

the apostles. Receiving strength and power from the Holy Spirit, the apostles then went forward to proclaim salvation in Christ to the entire world.

This first reading recalls this event and its aftermath. Under the leadership of Peter, the apostles were united. They were emboldened. They never relented from their mission of declaring Jesus as Lord and Savior. According to tradition, all but one died as a martyr.

For the second reading, the church presents a passage from First Corinthians. Absolute faith in Christ, as God, and as savior, is key. It also is vital. Without grace, humans are confused and liable to even fatal misstep.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading, a resurrection narrative. The risen Lord appears before the apostles. As God, possessing the Holy Spirit, Jesus gives the apostles the power to forgive sins, extraordinary because only God can forgive sins.

Reflection

For weeks during this season, the church has rejoiced in the Resurrection. It has excitedly proclaimed that Jesus is Lord, and Jesus lives.

As this season has progressed, the church, through the readings at Mass, has called us to realize what effect the Resurrection has upon us and upon human history.

The salvation achieved by Christ on Calvary never will end. It is for all time and for all people.

How will it be accomplished? It will be accomplished through the Lord's disciples in every consecutive age.

While true conversion requires a completely free and uncompromised individual decision, Christians are bound together in the church, because they share their identity with Christ and the

grace of the Spirit.

Thus, they bear together the mission to bring God's mercy and wisdom to the world. Christians, however zealous, cannot be ships passing each silently in the night.

Rather, as Acts reveals, they are part of the community still gathered around the apostles, under the leadership of Peter, and still looking to the apostles for guidance and direction.

The church offers itself. It is the gathering of true believers, who rely upon the apostles for their knowledge of the Savior. Through the apostles, the community links itself to the Savior, to the Father and to the Spirit.

On this feast, the church teaches a very contemporary lesson. In 2008, as 20 centuries ago, it is the apostolic church, the community created by God to bring divine mercy to weary and wandering humans. As was the case in Jerusalem so long ago, it loves all, serves all, and speaks of hope to all.

Quite visibly, it still gathers around the apostles, with Peter at the center.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34 1Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 Jn 20:19-23

Monday: Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 Ps 113:1-8 Jn 15:9-17

Thursday: Jas 2:1-9 Ps 34:2-7 Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26 Ps 112:1-6 Mk 8:34-9:1

Saturday: Jas 3:1-10 Ps 12:2-5, 7-8 Mk 9:2-13

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

It's the time of year to look at Pentecost history and traditions.

1. Although Pentecost was an ancient feast amongst the Hebrew and later Aramaic speaking Hebrews, the name is actually

- a. Greek b. Latin c. Chilean

2. The name means

- a. the fifth day b. 50 days c. 500 days

3. By the time of Jesus, Pentecost had lost most of its original agricultural and pastoral meaning symbolized by the ritual use of

- a. wheat and lambs
b. ploughs and horses
c. iron and bronze tools

4. Instead it had come to be associated with this event:

- a. the feeding of the 5,000
b. the captivity in Jordan
c. the receipt of the Law on Mount Sinai by Moses

5. This was likely because this event was supposed to have happened 50 days after

- a. the battle of Megiddo (Armageddon)
b. the revolt by Josiah against Nebuchadnezzar
c. the exodus from Egypt.

6. When Pentecost came around after the first Easter, where were the apostles?

- a. in 12 different countries as they had spread out as missionaries
b. all gathered together in Jerusalem
c. They were all in Galilee except the newest member Barnabas who was on his way there to join them.

7. The Spirit descended upon them with the appearance of

- a. white robe figures (presumably angels)
b. a dove
c. tongues of fire

8. They began to "speak in tongues." What is meant by that?

- a. The assembled people could hear voices even though the apostles were not speaking.
b. The assembled people heard a multitude of unintelligible languages.
c. The assembled people heard them each in his own language.

9. What reaction did this produce at first?

- a. confusion b. elation c. fear

10. The assembled crowd wondered about this because all the apostles were

- a. Galileans
b. Greek speakers by birth
c. fluent in Latin and Aramaic

11. Amongst the places listed as home for the Jewish pilgrims, two modern African countries are mentioned. These are

- a. Tunisia and Morocco
b. Libya and Egypt
c. Ethiopia and the Sudan

12. Some explained the phenomenon of tongues mockingly, suggesting

- a. that the apostles were drunk
b. that the apostles were ventriloquists
c. that the apostles were speaking gibberish (barbarian languages)

13. When Peter preached, many of those present joined the Christian community. What was the sign of this?

- a. They ate from the bowl of holy cat food.
b. They accepted baptism.
c. They shaved off their beards, a sign of Jewish identity.

14. The earliest Christian community had this radical system of property distribution:

- a. They would not use any items that were not described in the Bible.
b. They sold their property and divided the proceeds amongst the faithful based on need.
c. They rejected wealth and so destroyed their property and gave away all their possessions.

15. Despite the possible danger, the early Christians continued to meet in this area:

- a. the temple area in Jerusalem
b. Galilee
c. outside Pilate's tent

ANSWERS:

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

St. Anthony and an association with pigs

I would like facts regarding a statue of St. Anthony of the Desert. At the base of the statue is a pig. I read that the pig signifies the healing of a hog outbreak of some malady and that the disease stopped because of St. Anthony's intercession. The other theory is that the pig is a symbol of the devil. Who is right?, T.K., Cedar Rapids, Neb.

St. Anthony of the Desert is St. Anthony or Antony of Egypt (251-356). J. Delaney says Anthony was born near Memphis in Upper Egypt of well-to-do parents. When they died in 269, he distributed their inheritance, placed his sister in a convent and became a hermit in a tomb in a cemetery. He lived a life of prayer and penance and ate only bread and water once a day.

Then in 285, Anthony wanted greater solitude, so he moved to an old fort on top of Mount Pispir (or Der el Memun). He ate only what was thrown to him over the wall of the fort.

Finally in 305, he formed a colony of hermits that had grown around the fort into an organized monastery with a rule. Each monk lived in solitude, except for worship. This was the first Christian monastery. St. Anthony is called the father of eastern monasticism. Later on, St.

Benedict in Italy is called the father of western monasticism.

In 311, during the Christian persecution by the Roman emperor Maximin, Anthony went to Alexandria in Egypt to encourage the Christians. Then he retired to Mount Kolzim near the Red Sea. He then returned to Alexandria to help the bishop Athanasius battle the heresy of Arianism that lessened the divinity of Christ. St. Athanasius eventually wrote a book called the "Life of Anthony." He returned to Mount Kolzim where he died at the age of 105.

Many people sought Anthony's advice, even the famous Roman emperor Constantine who ended the persecution of Christians.

The pig or sow, says H. Biedermann, was an attribute of St. Anthony, because the bacon, derived from the pig, was considered a remedy for measles. The disease of measles was nicknamed "St. Anthony's Fire." The relationship between the pig and the devil is seen in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, where Jesus casts out demons from a possessed man and sends them into a herd of 2,000 swine who rush down the hill and plunge into the sea.

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Some ancient cultures had a natural fear of the pig, because when they cooked the pork, they did not always realize it had to be well-done, and so they got sick. Thus trichinosis is often used to explain the Jewish and Muslim aversion to the pig. In contrast, some cultures admired the pig. The Celts honored a swine goddess. Some Greeks considered the pig a sacred animal of sacrifice. In the Canary Islands, some prayed to the pig for rain. The ancient Chinese said the pig symbolized manly strength. The ancient Egyptians wore amulets depicting pigs.

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

Architecture ideas, and faith

In my Walter Mitty life, I'm not turning two with Cal Ripken at Camden Yards, or playing the Emperor Concerto with the National Symphony; I'm not even writing the Great American Novel. No, when I imagine a different life it's as an architect.

On the face of it, my architectural fantasies are quite absurd. I can't draw a circle. My mathematical skills are challenged by the family check book, and I'm clueless about engineering. But I love great buildings, and to think of the exhilaration involved in designing and building one is ... well, exhilarating.

Which brings me to one recent experience, and one splendid book.

The experience took place in Barcelona where, this past November, I fulfilled a long-standing ambition to visit Antonio Gaudi's Temple of the Sagrada Familia, perhaps the world's most famous unfinished structure. How to describe the Sagrada Familia? It's an utterly unique mix of naturalism and the gothic, sprawling over an entire city block and weaving elements of nature and classic Christian symbols together into a stone fabric unlike anything in the world. From another point of view, it's a kind of colossal Christian forest, inside and out; there will eventually be 18 exterior spires (Jesus, Mary, the apostles, the evangelists), and inside the gothic nave, the supporting columns resemble nothing so much as gigantic trees. The three facades — Nativity, Passion and Glory — are mini-catechisms of the basics of Christian doctrine.

I was in Barcelona to receive an honorary degree along with my old friend Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, former secretary to John

Paul II and current archbishop of Cracow; we climbed to the very top of the temple, hundreds of feet above Barcelona, neither one of us feeling at liberty to tell our hosts that hiking up open-air scaffolding at those altitudes wasn't our favorite pastime — and the cardinal did it in a cassock! But we made it, and I'm glad we did, because it's only from that angle that you can get a full sense of both the enormity of Gaudi's vision and his remarkable attention to detail. The current head of construction told us that they hoped to finish what Gaudi had begun in 1892 in, say, 25 or 30 years. I hope they make it — and I hope Barcelona isn't the capital of the Islamic Republic of Catalonia when the Sagrada Familia is done.

The splendid book in question is "The Architecture of Ralph Adams Cram and His Office," by Ethan Anthony. In the first half of the 20th century, when architectural modernism was riding high, Ralph Adams Cram was the leading classical architect in America. His most famous buildings include the Princeton University Chapel, the Post Headquarters at West Point, St. Thomas Episcopal Church at Fifth Avenue and 53rd Street in New York (home to the greatest stone reredos in North America), Fourth Presbyterian Church on Michigan Avenue in Chicago, and, of course, the never-completed Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. In addition to his magnificent churches — which he did in Gothic, Romanesque, Tudor and Spanish Colonial, among other styles — Cram designed college campuses (Princeton, Rice, Sweet Briar, Boston University), public buildings, offices and homes.



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

As Ethan Anthony puts it, neatly, Ralph Adams Cram was the "crusading knight" of American architecture, contesting for buildings that gave expression to the nobility of the human spirit and our aspiration to touch the true, the good and the beautiful. If, as architect-friends tell me, contemporary construction economics make Cram's stone-based work impossible to replicate, then we are much the poorer, aesthetically, for it.

Antonio Gaudi and Ralph Adams Cram were two very different architects, whose work could hardly be considered parallel. Except, I would submit, in the most important sense: both men worked out of a profound Christian sensibility, informed by classic Christian ideas about the way the world is — and the way our stewardship of the world should function. If the banal plainness of Bauhaus modernism bespeaks spiritual aridity, the architecture of Gaudi and Cram is redolent with an intellectually sophisticated faith that never loses sight of the mystical, of that which is beyond our reason. That's why their works soar.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for May 11, 2008

Acts 2:1-11

Following is a word search based on the First Reading for Pentecost Sunday: the appearance of wind, fire and tongues. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

WIND	ENTIRE HOUSE	OF FIRE
DEVOUT JEWS	HEAVEN	JERUSALEM
SOUND	CROWD	LANGUAGE
GALILEANS	NATIVE	MEDES
MESOPOTAMIA	CAPPADOCIA	PONTUS
ASIA	LIBYA	CYRENE
ROME	CRETANS	ARABS

WIND

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

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HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Telling our story is one of the most important ways to express the pain of loss. But a compassionate listener is required for healing to occur. And because there is no time schedule for grief it becomes difficult over time to find those who will not judge your experience of loss.

Unfortunately as our culture began to fear death and avoid the pain of grief, communal support was replaced by expediency.

Grief is a natural response to loss and must be allowed to run its course. Matthew's Gospel reminds us that "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." It speaks of doing the work of expressing grief and receiving the compassion of God through his people.

Sam shared how devastated he felt when his best friend asked him when he was going to get over his grief and on with his life. "I was so shocked when he asked that I was speechless. It had only been four months since my wife died. He was tired of listening to my story," he said sadly.

In today's grief-avoidant culture it remains up to the individual to find healthy ways to express

grief. Fortunately, Sam has found refuge in a support group where he feels safe sharing the issues he faces as he moves slowly into the future.

While a support group is an important venue to meet the natural need to express grief, those who support their loved ones in loss may consider taking the time to do some "compassionate listening." That may require hearing the same story over time. But being present to another's pain goes a long way in the healing of the heart. Your patient companionship may be just the lifeline your loved one needs to begin to create a new and meaningful life after loss.

I have learned over time that I will never "get over" my grief, no matter how much others wish it so. But as I continue my life journey and do the work of mourning, my pain softens. With faith and hope I continue to integrate my loss into my life and have become transformed by it. We can believe God's promise that he will turn our mourning into joy.

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

CYO track competes last time in regular season play

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — With the city meet just a week away, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) track teams competed one last time for the regular season at both Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers fields.

St. John the Baptist, New Haven, secured both the boys' and girls' competition at Bishop Dwenger while St. Charles dominated at Bishop Luers setting up a much-anticipated showdown between the two teams who did not meet during the season.

At their respective meets, team depth added up for both the Lady Raiders from St. John New Haven and the St. Charles Cardinals girls, each winning nine out of the twelve different events. Cardinal sprinter Ali Tippmann clocked a quick 13.60 in the 100-meter dash and Paige Sordelet leaped 12-09 in the long jump for blue ribbons. While St. John eighth graders Leah Painter (4-10), Kori Current (4-10) and Emily



Lahrman's (4-08) high jumps are sure to lead the pack this weekend.

Defending city meet record setter Kayla Fendel is throwing well with a 31-07 effort in the shot put last week and a 71-08 heave in discus. Courtney Heddins turned in the fastest time at the two meets for the 200-meter dash (28.90) and the 100-meter hurdles

(18.00). Heddins also led off for the blistering fast 400 relay foursome, which included Current, Painter and Lahrman, who has already outrun their city meet record from a year ago of 55.86 turning in a 55.60 at Bishop Dwenger on May 1.

Raider Coach Greg Lawrence is pleased how hard his team has worked to this point. "They have stepped up, really come together and accomplished outstanding things. They are a lot of fun to coach," he summarized.

In boys' action, St. Jude's Andrew Eckrich's phenomenal 4:53.30 mile in last week's competition shattered his own 2007 city

meet record time of 5:03.14. He also finished first in the 800-meter run (2:19.8), anchored the 800-relay group (2:02.1) and thus, boosted his team to the second place spot for the final regular season meet. Raider Andrew Hoffer got firsts in all four of his events at Bishop Dwenger — the long jump (14-04), the 100-meter dash (13.10), the 200-meter dash (26.10) and the 400 relay (51.0).

Eighth grader Andrew Yaney produced the same results at Bishop Luers for St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth with a 14-02.75 long jump, a 12.50 time in the 100-meter dash, a 26.10 sprint in the 200-meter dash and an anchor leg for the winning 400 relay team (53.40).

The Cardinals' Bryan Tippmann led all throwers with a 35-11 shot put and a 117-08 discus toss.

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

ICCL baseball rushes to season finale

SOUTH BEND — The spring baseball season of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) steps into high gear with just games left to be played on May 5.

In varsity action on Wednesday, April 30, Christ the King defeated Queen of Peace, 9-0.

The Kings were led by Jake Stone with a base-clearing triple and Giotto Irons with two key RBI singles. Queen of Peace was held scoreless by Christ the King pitchers led by Tom Mackey with six strikeouts. C. Hack and T. Rogers had base hits for Queen of Peace.

Also in action April 30, St Thomas defeated Corpus Christi, 11-2.

On Thursday, May 1, St Joseph (South Bend) Gold beat Holy Cross, 13-7, and St Anthony beat St. Matthew, 7-3. Kyle Springer

had two hits, Tony Spalding scored three runs and Mike Taelman had two RBI's for St. Anthony's. Brian Florin pitched a complete game and had 12 K's in the win.

In a game played Saturday, May 3, Christ the King beat Holy Cross, 17-2.

The King's offense was led by Patrick Klima with two triples and Jason Mulligan going 3 for 3 with four RBI. Stone, Speybroeck and Getz combined for the win. Jon Sommers had two base hits for the Crusaders.

Leading teams in the varsity baseball standings posted on the ICCL Web site as of May 5 were St. Thomas in the Martin De Porres division and Holy Family Blue in the Father Mike division with 4-0 each and Holy Family in the John Bosco division with 2-0.



Sumrall sets golf record

SOUTH BEND — Marian High School's smooth stroking golf leader Adam Sumrall honed his skills once again in the prestigious 45th annual Kaeppeler Memorial Golf Tournament at the Morris Park Country Club.

Sumrall set an individual record by snaring the low medalist prize for the third successive year. He also set a record of 31 strokes for the first nine holes as he led the golfing Knights to their first victory in five years and at the same time dethroning champion Mishawaka Penn.

Sumrall's brilliant 72 led Marian's 309 and edged Penn's 314, while Saint Joseph's of South Bend was third with 331 in the eight team tournament.

Sumrall's 31 on the front nine included an eagle on No. 3. The 31 was the lowest recorded in the time honored tournament.

In addition to Sumrall's 72, other Marian individual scores were Bryant Demeter, 75; Stephen Sexton, 84; Danny McShane, 85 and Nick Fitzpatrick, 78.

Saint Joseph's team total of 331 was compiled by Ryley Fitzsimmons, 81; Tyler Bliha, 82; Andrew Thomas, 82; Brooks Demarais, 86 and Tyler Kanczuzewski, 87.

Other team scores were Mishawaka, 352; Riley, 359; Clay, 388 and Washington, 421. — EJD

HOCKEY TEAM POSES WITH BISHOP D'ARCY AT CONFIRMATION



PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Bishop John M. D'Arcy held confirmation at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame on April 27. Stewart Carlin and Christiaan Minella, members of the Notre Dame hockey team, received the sacrament of confirmation from Bishop D'Arcy. Joining them are other members of the hockey team, which played for the national championship in Denver this year. In the photo, from left are the following: Ben Ryan, Garrett Regan, Erik Condra, Stewart Carlin, Bishop D'Arcy, Christiaan Minella and Mark VanGuilder. Another team member, Dan Kissel, was baptized at Easter.

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Violent video games prove their own source of worry on the tube

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Don't like what you see on TV? Pick your poison.

One kind of poison is the unwelcome stuff that's sent through the airwaves (or public rights-of-way, thanks to cable) with offensive or objectionable content that you, the viewer, never asked for in the first place.

Another kind of poison is the offensive and objectionable material that's part and parcel of many top-selling video games. The horror here is of a different sort, since someone in the household had to have actually acquired the video game somehow for it to be shown on the TV screen.

"You can't fast-forward through a video game," said Cheryl K. Olson, the former teen issues columnist for *Parents* magazine and the co-author — with her husband, one-time *Parents* magazine "Ask the Expert" columnist Lawrence Kutner — of a new book, "Grand Theft Childhood: The Surprising Truth About Violent Video Games and What Parents Can Do."

Olson was the principal investigator of the first federally funded large-scale research project to look at the effects of electronic games on teenagers and preteens. The survey included 1,200 middle-schoolers in South Carolina and Pennsylvania and 500 of their parents, plus focus groups of 42 middle-schoolers and 21 parents.

Among the findings: Children who play games rated "M" (for "mature" — beyond their age range) spend more hours and days per week on video games; are more likely to play with older siblings; are more likely to play games to "get my anger out" or because "I like to compete and win"; are more likely to play with friends than kids who don't play M-rated games; and are more likely to have a game system or computer in their bedroom. Olson said nearly half of the kids had a game console and almost a third had a computer in their bedroom, with about one in five having both.

One solution is to "keep game consoles in a common area of the house," Olson said.

Problems were also detected with the violent content of M-rated games. Boys who played violent M-rated games were more than twice as likely to get into physical fights, to hit or beat up someone, to "damage property for fun," steal something from a store, report poor school grades or get into trouble with a teacher or principal. They were also three times more likely to report being "threatened or injured with a weapon such as a

gun, knife or club." The odds of boys' involvement in all of these behaviors increased with each additional M-rated title on their "frequently played" game list.

Although a smaller percentage of girls play M-rated video games, the numbers for them are worse. Girls were four times more likely to be in physical fights; three times more likely to damage property just for fun, to skip classes or school without an excuse, to be suspended from school, or get poor grades; and twice as likely to hit or beat up someone, to get into trouble with a teacher or principal, or to be threatened or injured with a weapon.

Olson told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview from Boston, where she and Kutner are co-founders and directors of the Harvard Medical School Center for Mental Health and media and psychiatry faculty members at Harvard Medical School, that her first surprise was "how many seventh- and eighth-grade children were playing M-rated video games" — two-thirds of the boys and one-third of the girls.

While there is an allure to M-rated video games, Olson cautioned parents against giving the games a "forbidden fruit" effect. "If you say 'you will play that game over my dead body,' that cuts off the opportunity to talk with your child about your values and your concerns," she said. "Video games they can certainly play all they want at college (and outside of parental control). If you don't talk with them about your values, they won't have any-

thing to go on. They'll talk to their peers" instead, she said.

"Grand Theft Childhood" was published two weeks before the April 29 release of "Grand Theft Auto IV," the latest in the popular series of M-rated video games. Olson said she doesn't have the Xbox 360 or PlayStation 3 consoles and can't yet test the new version herself.

It's true that in past versions of "Grand Theft Auto" "you can light people on fire, you can beat up a prostitute and get your money back," Olson said. Yet "we think that the main reason that the attraction to 'Grand Theft Auto' is that it's a very open environment," she added.

"Kids said in focus groups you could be a good guy or a bad guy at the same time. In the game you could choose to go on the missions or take over some evil empire, or drive an ambulance. Or you can drive around and listen to the radio. 'Grand Theft Auto Vice City' had a terrific video parody of public radio fundraising."

Mark Pattison is media editor for Catholic News Service.

"One solution is to keep game consoles in a common area of the house"

CHERYL K. OLSON

Summer movie season warming up



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

"Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay" (New Line/Mandate)

Potentially acute satirical adventure, overwhelmed by sophomoric excess, in which a drug-addled slacker (Kal Penn) and his slightly more motivated friend (John Cho) are mistaken for terrorists, escape from the titular detention camp, and embark on a road trip to Texas where the former's ex-girlfriend (Danneel Harris) and her politically connected fiancé (Eric Winter) may help clear their names. Co-writers and directors Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg's buddy sequel revels in the salacious and the scatological while glorifying drug use. Graphic and frequent rear, upper-female and full-frontal nudity; sexual activity; some aberrant, pervasive rough, crude and crass language, including at least 100 uses of the f-word, seven uses of profanity, sexual and graphically scatological humor; drug use and references; a prostitution theme; and a pornography reference. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"Iron Man" (Paramount/Marvel)

Sleekly effective science-fiction tale about a devil-may-care playboy weapons manufacturer (Robert Downey Jr.) who, after being captured by an ambitious Afghanistan-based warlord (Faran Tahir) and ordered to build a replica of his most advanced product, with the help of another captive and scientist (Shaun Toub), instead constructs an impregnable suit of armor, escapes and begins to re-evaluate his life, with the support of his loyal girl Friday (Gwyneth Paltrow) and despite the doubts of his junior partner (Jeff Bridges) and military liaison (Terrence Howard). In between the impressive special effects, executive producer-director Jon Favreau's screen adaptation of this popular comic-book series charts its main character's conversion from callous genius to dedicated defender. Nongraphic sexual activity, torture, a graphic medical procedure, sci-fi violence, occasional crude language, a brief profanity, sexual humor and innuendo. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

"Made of Honor" (Columbia)

A callous playboy (a charming Patrick Dempsey) comes to realize he loves his longtime best friend (Michelle Monaghan) just when she announces she's engaged to a Scottish lord (Kevin McKidd), and he agrees to be her "maid of honor" in the hopes of dissuading her from the marriage. Paul Welland's formulaic but ultimately winning film starts with some highly problematic elements having to do with the playboy's unbri-

dled love life, but settles into a sentimental story about the hero learning the true meaning of love, while generally promoting an acceptable moral worldview. Nongraphic encounters, divorce, alcohol use, innuendo, and some crude words and expressions. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

"Son of Rambow" (Paramount Vantage)

Rollicking but also touching chronicle, set in 1980s Britain, of the unlikely friendship between a reserved schoolboy (Bill Milner), who's being raised by his puritanically religious widowed mother (Jessica Stevenson), and a ram-bunctious fellow student (Will Poulter) who's been left in the care of his dictatorial older brother (Ed Westwick), as they collaborate on a frenetic sequel to one of Sylvester Stallone's "Rambo" movies with the aid of a charismatically cool French exchange student (Jules Sitruk). Writer-director Garth Jennings' warmly humorous, semi-autobiographical film portrays the Amish-like sect as stifling enough to justify its main character's conflicted resistance, but ends by affirming faith as well as friendship. Shoplifting, underage smoking, a painful accident, occasional crude and profane and some crass language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

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MISC. HAPPENINGS

Memorial Mass for mothers
Granger — The Elizabeth Ministry of St. Pius X Parish will have a memorial Mass at 7 p.m. Monday, May 12, for those who grieve the death of an infant or child, miscarriage or abortion, or the loss of becoming a parent because of infertility. For information, contact Theresa at (574) 243-8770. Following Mass members of the Elizabeth Ministry Support Group will meet in the Holy Cross room to share, pray for comfort and healing and support one another. For information call Mary O'Callaghan at (574) 247-5572.

Rosary Bowl
South Bend — St. Jude's Altar and Rosary Sodality will sponsor a rosary bowl on Saturday, May 17, at the gazebo (across from the office/rectory), p 19704 Johnson Rd., at 11:30 a.m. Refreshments will follow. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets.

Performance scheduled at PB
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood School will be performing "Once On This Island Jr." May 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Tickets can be pur-

chased in advance by calling the school (260) 424-4832 or purchased at the door. Child ticket is \$3, adult is \$5 and family is \$14.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, May 16, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic toast and coffee. Carry-out available.

ND football season ticket raffle
South Bend — The St. Hedwig Holy Name Society will have a raffle for two Notre Dame football season tickets. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Drawing will be Aug. 24. Send check to St. Hedwig Holy Name Society, 1104 B, Elliot St., South Bend, IN 46628.

St. Aloysius barbecue chicken dinner
Yoder — St. Aloysius Church will host a drive-through barbecue chicken dinner, Sunday, May 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dinner includes half a chicken, cole slaw, baked beans and dinner roll. Cost is \$7.50 for the dinner or \$5.50 for the half-

chicken. Pick up at the north parking lot. St. Aloysius is located just south of the I-469, exit 6, on Bluffton Road.

Kick off Fiesta, Cinco de Mayo
South Bend — Mothers Day breakfast — Dia de las Madres will be held Saturday, May 10, from 8-10 a.m. at St. Casimir Parish, 1308 Dunham. Mistress of Ceremony: Ana Velasquez with music by Mariachi Zelaya and a special performance by Balet Folklorico Mexicano de San Adalberto (infantil). Tamales, pancakes, sausage, champurrada, pan dulce. Tickets are \$10 per person. Tickets available by calling Socorro Marie Adams at (574) 904-9700 or Camelia Gonzalez (574) 292-0597. A Unity Parade begins at Madison Center at 10 a.m. Fiesta, Cinco de Mayo at Howard Park from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Blood drive
Fort Wayne — St. Therese Parish will have a blood drive Wednesday, May 21, from 3-7 p.m. Call (260) 747-9139 for information.

Spaghetti dinner
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Boy Scouts will have a spaghetti

REST IN PEACE

Bremen
Josephine Richardson, 86, St. Dominic

Bristol
Cheryl Lynn Champagne, 58, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Churubusco
Linda L. Clark, 61, St. John Bosco

Elkhart
William J. Deputy, 63, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne
William Arthur Steel, 78, St. Peter

Mary A. Kohne, 91, St. Patrick

Nancy A. May, 68, St. Patrick

Jack M. DeHaven II, 42, St. Vincent de Paul

Christine Joan Byrde, 80, St. Peter
Jose G. Garcia, 26, St. Joseph

Nancy Weller Kennedy, 67, Our Lady of Good Hope

Carl George Rizzo, 54, St. Charles Borromeo
Wilma M. Spade, 77, St. Vincent de Paul

Magdalen Schweier Beuret, 103, St. Patrick

Gerald D. Ternet, 62, St. Peter

Goshen
A. Jean Ankney, 84, St. John the Evangelist

Mishawaka
John William Dorbin Sr., 66, Queen of Peace

Margaret A. Reeves, 83, Queen of Peace

Nix Settlement
Ralph T. Clarke, 71, St. Catherine of Alexandria

Notre Dame
William H. Dyer, 76, Sacred Heart Basilica

Plymouth
Delbert L. Pulley, 82, St. Michael

South Bend
Eleanor C. Norris, 92, Holy Cross

Florence J. Zoncick, 97, St. Matthew Cathedral
Brigid L. Griffin, 94, St. Joseph

Stella M. Nowostawski, 91, St. Patrick

Ann L. Duffy, 94, Little Flower

Margaret Zielinski, 77, St. John the Baptist

dinner Thursday, May 17, from 5-7 p.m. in the activities center, 1600 W. State Blvd. Adults \$7, grades K-8 \$4, families \$25. Dinner includes spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, drinks and dessert. 50/50 raffle plus other prizes.

Christ Child garage sale time
Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a garage sale Friday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, June 7, from

8 a.m. to noon at Queen of Angels activity center, 1500 W. State Blvd. Proceeds assist needy children in the area.

Queen of Angels to host Tajci concert
Fort Wayne — Catholic singer Tajci (Tatiana) will be in concert Friday, May 23, at 7 p.m. at Queen of Angels Parish in Fort Wayne. For information, contact (260) 482-9411.



Simply Cash Raffle

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

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