

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Local youth witness message of pope at World Youth Day

BY KAY COZAD

WARSAW — This summer's World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia, will long be remembered as a life-changing, faith-inspiring pilgrimage for thousands of young Catholics from across the world. For 15 youth and chaperones from Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, it was no different.

Ida List, director of youth ministry there, led the group of 11 students and three adults on an adventure of a lifetime. Though she originally hadn't planned to attend World Youth Day (WYD), due to expense, she issued a challenge to the parish community.

"We needed a minimum of 15 pilgrims to go and if God wanted us to attend, 15 would sign up ... and they did. So we went," says the inspired List.

The trip was two years in the making and had the pilgrims raising funds with a car wash, garage sale and even sales from producing their own CD on praying the rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

List worked with Youth in Europe, a tour company, to arrange for an extended stay of 12 days. But more than the logistics, List attended to the spiritual preparation of the students.

"We prayed a lot," says List, who adds that she also read the monthly e-pilgrimage letters that provided information on the upcoming WYD events and the theme taken from the Book of Acts, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses."

Eventually, the group began to meet weekly for Mass, prayer and planning.

July 11 finally arrived and the well-prepared and enthusiastic group boarded their flight to the land down under in anticipation of meeting the pope. Upon

WYD, PAGE 20



PROVIDED BY IDA LIST

Youth from Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw pose near the Opera House in Sydney, Australia. The group, led by Ida List, director of youth ministries at Sacred Heart, gathered with thousands of other faithful youth from around the world to see Pope Benedict XVI at World Youth Day. Also attending from the diocese were Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne and Deacon Jacob Runyon.

## WATERMELON CONTEST



TIM JOHNSON

John Chandler, center, of Ossian, won the watermelon eating contest at the St. Aloysius, Yoder, Summerfest on Aug. 9. With its "back to the basics" theme, Summerfest included a few new agenda items including the watermelon eating contest, an apple pie contest, a quilt show and Sunday music jam session.

## As China's influence grows it should open itself to Gospel

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI, visiting the birthplace of an Italian missionary to China, said that as China's economic, cultural and political influence grows "it is important that this great nation opens itself to the Gospel."

St. Joseph Freinademetz, who was born in the northern Italian village of Oies, showed the Chinese people of the late 19th century that it was possible to maintain their culture and remain fully Chinese while embracing the Gospel, the pope said.

The pope and his brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, went by helicopter Aug. 5 from their vacation residence at the Bressanone seminary to Oies to visit the house where St. Freinademetz was born.

Speaking to several thousand people who had gathered to see him in Oies, Pope Benedict said the saint "shows us the path of life and is also a sign for the future of the church."

"He is a saint of great relevance: We know that China is becoming more and more important in political and economic life and also in the life of ideas," the pope said.

The pope said St. Freinademetz demonstrated to the Chinese people of his day the fact that "the faith does not mean an alienation from any culture for any people because all cultures await Christ and are not destroyed by the Lord. In fact, they reach their maturity."

Pope Benedict prayed that the saint would be a model for all Christians, reminding them to live their faith and to realize that only in Christ will peoples and cultures unite.

The papal trip to Oies was the first publicly announced outing of the pope's July 28-Aug. 11 stay in the northern Italian Alps.

But after spending a week behind the Bressanone seminary walls, Pope Benedict

CHINA, PAGE 3



## Young Catholics

Those 20 somethings have much to celebrate

PAGES 10-13

## Faith communities and AIDS

Growing role in policymaking

PAGE 4

## Poor Handmaids celebrate jubilees

Sisters honored for service

PAGE 8

## Butterflies and healing

Scout project offers hope

PAGE 20

## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day is Friday, Aug. 15

PAGE 2



Think Green  
Recycle this paper

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the  
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend  
P.O. Box 11169  
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

**PUBLISHER:** Bishop John M. D'Arcy

**EDITOR:** Tim Johnson

**ASSISTANT EDITOR:** Don Clemmer

**STAFF WRITER:** Kay Cozad

**Editorial Department**

**PAGE DESIGNER:** Francie Hogan

**FREELANCE WRITERS:** Lauren Caggiano,  
Ann Carey, Michelle Castleman, Elmer  
J. Danch, Michelle Donaghey, Bonnie  
Elberson, Denise Fedorow, Diane  
Freeby, May Lee Johnson, Sister  
Margie Lavis, CSC, Jennifer Murray  
and Deb Wagner

**Summer Intern:** Monica Eichman

**Business Department**

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Kathy Denice

**AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:** Mark Weber

**BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION:** Kathy Voirol  
kvoirol@fw.diocesefwsb.org

**Advertising Sales**

Tess Steffen (Fort Wayne area)  
(260) 456-2824

Jeanette Simon (South Bend area)  
(574) 234-0687

**Web site:** [www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY)

Published weekly except the fourth  
Sunday in June, first and third weeks  
in July, first week in August and last  
week in December by the Diocese of  
Fort Wayne-South Bend, 1103 S.  
Calhoun St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne,  
IN 46801. Periodicals postage paid at  
Fort Wayne, IN, and additional mailing  
office.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort  
Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or e-mail:  
kvoirol@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** Domestic in  
advance, one year \$20. Bundle rates  
available on request. Single copy 50¢.

**MAIN OFFICE:** 915 S. Clinton St., Fort  
Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260)  
456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.

**BUREAU OFFICE:** 114 W. Wayne St., South  
Bend, IN 46601. Telephone (574) 234-  
0687. Fax: (574) 232-8483.

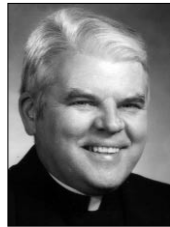
News deadline is the Monday morn-  
ing before publication date.  
Advertising deadline is nine days  
before publication date.

**LETTERS POLICY:** Today's Catholic wel-  
comes original, signed letters about  
issues affecting church life. Although  
we cannot publish every letter we  
receive, we strive to provide a bal-  
anced representation of expressed  
opinions and a variety of reflections  
on life in the church. We will choose  
letters for publication based on read-  
er interest, timeliness and fairness.  
Readers may agree or disagree with  
the letter writers' opinions. Letters  
must not exceed 500 words. All let-  
ters must be signed and include a  
phone number and address for verifi-  
cation. We reserve the right to edit  
letters for legal and other concerns.

**Mail letters to:** Today's Catholic,  
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN  
46856-1169; or e-mail:  
[editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org](mailto:editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org)

ISSN 0891-1533

# Catholic education one of our community's highest priorities



## NEWS & NOTES

**BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY**

### Catholic schools: Another year

August seems too early to begin school. When I went to grammar school we would start not Labor Day week, but the week after Labor Day. I found it difficult even then. During the summer I worked in my father's store and played baseball when I could get time. Baseball was our sport up until the end of August, and only then did we break out the footballs. Now baseball ends at the end of June. Summer was a time for work and baseball. Now school begins the middle of August. It's almost against the law of nature, but begin we must. We keep the Catholic schools going and ever stronger at great cost, but it is worth every effort. When he was in Washington, D.C., Pope Benedict XVI made clear in the talk to the bishops the value of this sacrifice.

"No child should be denied his or her right to an education in faith, which in turn nurtures the soul of a nation." and "The Catholic community here has, in fact, made education one of its highest priorities. This undertaking has not come without great sacrifice ... This sacrifice continues today."  
— Pope Benedict XVI

We labor constantly to raise funds for our schools, so that our children will have an education in faith. Four Catholic high schools and 40 elementary schools and almost 14,000 children. This past year, in addition to all the funds raised for tuition at parish fundraisers, \$1.1 million dollars was given to parish schools. Over \$800,000 of this came from the Legacy of Faith, and \$300,000 came from the bishop's appeal; but there is more. The Annual Bishop's Appeal and other sources will give over \$1 million dollars to students who otherwise could not attend our schools.

Our Sunday Visitor Institute in honor of my golden jubilee as a priest gave \$1 million to each of our high schools. Beginning this year, from that fund 5 percent or \$50,000, whatever is greater, will be provided to each high school for tuition grants. It has been a long time since St. Mother Theodore Guérin and the saintly Msgr. Julian Benoit founded our schools, but our people have not been lacking in generosity.

### And this year a new school

Catholic schools are closing around the country, and this year we merged some schools — Benoit Academy was joined to St. John's in Fort Wayne. The last I heard, 40 students from Benoit will attend St. John's. Many thanks to Father Daryl Rybicki, pastor of St. John's, and Principal Jane Sandor for their intense work in mak-

ing this possible. St. Patrick's, Walkerton, after extending its life for three years, was closed. Six students have enrolled at St. Michael's, Plymouth, which is about 25 minutes distance.

An extraordinary event takes place next week on Aug. 24. I will dedicate St. Pius X Educational Center in Granger. As most of you know, even those who live in Fort Wayne, Granger, once a small Indiana town if indeed a town at all, has exploded in its population in the last 30 years. People who moved in from around the country to work in South Bend or teach at Notre Dame and live in Granger were amazed that there is no Catholic school attached to that large and growing parish. Now that anxiety is over. Under the leadership of Father Bill Schooler, assisted by Father Dan Scheidt, and more recently, Father Bob Lengerich and outstanding lay leadership, a large education center is ready to open. The principal, Elaine Holmes, an experienced public school principal, was hired one year before the opening. As a result of the hard work of all concerned, 430 students, including pre-school, will be on hand at opening day. From kindergarten through seventh grade, there will be 350 students.

Some of these have come from other Catholic schools in the area, although almost all of them reside within the lines of St. Pius X Parish. Many have also come from public schools and from a non-religious private school.

This is a success story. While many people deserve thanks and appreciation, the pastoral leadership of Father Schooler must receive special recognition. They raised close to \$9 million for what is more accurately an education center. It will also house religious education initiatives. It is very special indeed. This new building is

small. The closing of the school after 53 years, while supported by many, also left pain in the hearts of some even though we extended it for three years after the first decision to close. It surely was the right decision, with only 38 students registered. But such things are not done without pain, and that could be sensed on the faces of some parishioners this past Sunday.

On the other hand, there was great joy to greet a new pastor who comes to us from far away in Nigeria. Already Father Pius has made a positive mark on this beloved old parish, which was founded in 1856. I have been there many times in recent years; and unavoidably, there have been several priests giving pastoral care. While this has presented difficulties, with the collaboration of our priests, and especially Father Bill Kummer, there has been a priest there every Sunday. They have never missed a Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. In fact, it was also celebrated on three weekdays. Now, they will have Mass every day and a permanent pastor.

It was with special joy that a large number of people came from St. Vincent's, Fort Wayne. Father Pius served there for 18 months. It was wonderful to see so many coming from St. Vincent's as well as several members of the Nigerian Catholic community from South Bend.

I was impressed with the singing and the good spirit of the people. Walkerton is special to me and close to my heart. I have tried to stay with them in the good times and in the difficult times. The bishop must go to every parish, not just to the large and populous ones, but to the small and struggling communities. I know the good people there and how much this parish means to them.

### Feast of the Assumption

This feast is a moment of great promise. Because she carried in her womb the Eternal Son of God, it had been a common belief in the church that Mary not only was not subject to sin but to the effects of sin. One such effect is death, and so the church in a definitive declaration, binding us in faith, declared that she was taken body and soul into heaven. This is a great promise to us also.

This Assumption, I am mindful of my dear sister, Mary. A few days after this feast I will have my 76th birthday. Her presents always came first and sometimes months before, including two tickets to a Red Sox game. She was the oldest, and I was second. So it will be one year. I think of her daily. I am convinced she is with God — and with her beloved parents.

Happy back-to-school everyone. My Red Sox continue to struggle. See you all next week.

"It has been a long time since  
St. Mother Theodore Guérin and the saintly  
Msgr. Julian Benoit founded our schools,  
but our people have not been lacking in generosity."

matched at the other end of our diocese by the enlargement of St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School in Fort Wayne. These two institutions, when everything is complete, will house over 1,000 students; thus ensuring a strengthening of our secondary schools, as most students from our parish schools move on to a Catholic high school.

We must continue to help those who cannot afford our tuition. It is our obligation as the Holy Father told us: "No child should be denied his or her right to an education in faith, which in turn nurtures the soul of a nation."

### A visit to Walkerton

It was a joy to install Father Pius Ilechukwu as pastor of St. Patrick's, Walkerton. The church in Walkerton is very



Pope Benedict XVI shakes hands with the faithful as he arrives to visit the home of St. Joseph Freinademetz in the northern Italian village of Oies Aug. 5.

CNS PHOTO/ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

## Pope calls for immediate end to military action in Georgia

BRESSANONE, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI appealed for an immediate end to military operations in Georgia and its breakaway province of South Ossetia.

Citing reports of heavy civilian casualties and a large number of refugees, the pope called on the international community to act quickly to bring Russian and Georgian leaders to the bargaining table.

"It is my fervent wish that military actions cease immediately," the pope said Aug. 10.

He urged both sides to "refrain, also in the name of a common Christian heritage, from further confrontations and violent retaliations that could degenerate into a wider conflict."

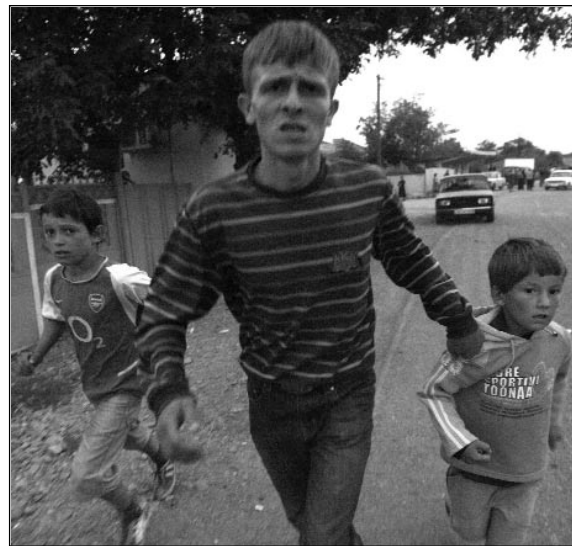
The pope made the remarks in the northern Italian city of Bressanone, where he was ending a two-week vacation. Vatican sources said he was following the swiftly moving events in the Caucasus region, where a Georgian army operation in South Ossetia Aug. 8 prompted a heavy Russian retaliation that extended far into Georgian territory.

The pope expressed his "deep anguish" at the fighting so far, which he said already had led to dramatic and tragic consequences. He said it was important to resume the process of respectful and constructive dialogue and spare the civilian population "additional painful suffering."

"I also invite the international community and the countries most influential in the current situation to make every effort to sustain and promote initiatives aimed at reaching a peaceful and lasting solution, one which favors open and respectful coexistence," he said.

The pope said he was praying along with Orthodox Christians, who form the majority of the populations in Georgia and Russia, so that peace will come to the region.

In a separate comment, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, said the Vatican was concerned deeply about the explosion of violence in



Villagers leave their houses near the city of Ts'khinvali, Georgia, Aug. 8. Georgian troops, backed by warplanes, have launched a major offensive to regain control of South Ossetia, a breakaway province. Russia responded to Georgian actions with military force.

CNS PHOTO/DAVID MDZINARISHVILI, REUTERS

Georgia. He said the Caucasus region has proven itself to be an area where long-standing tensions can re-emerge even after years of relative calm.

South Ossetia, which borders Russia on the north, broke away from Georgia in the 1990s and has been run by an autonomous government since then, although its independence has never been recognized by the United Nations.

In recent years, Georgia has engaged in a military buildup in the area, and its current action was apparently aimed at reasserting control over the province.

Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, apostolic nuncio to Georgia, told Vatican Radio Aug. 11 that the people of the region "are suffering atrociously" and the situation could become horribly worse.

"There is a need for a stable peace here because it is a fuse that could make an entire continent explode," the archbishop said.

"I make an appeal, which is also a prayer, a supplication to the Lord and to all people of good will ... that they understand how this kind of war produces only destruction and places at risk the poorest and weakest," he said.

Caritas Internationalis, the Vatican-based umbrella organization for national Catholic charities

around the world, reported Aug. 11 that thousands of people have died and tens of thousands have been driven from their homes in the conflict.

Caritas partners in the region are responding by providing food, shelter and counseling to the survivors and the displaced, the international office said. In addition, as casualties threaten to overwhelm hospitals in Tbilisi, Georgia's capital, Caritas Georgia is attempting to assist with medical care.

Caritas Georgia program manager Liana Mkhaidze said: "Many people are coming to Tbilisi from Georgian villages around Ts'khinvali and ... from Gori. Their houses have been damaged and they're escaping the bombardment."

In addition to distributing canned food, she said, the organization is baking bread in its own bakery and distributing that to the displaced, and Caritas soup kitchens are expanding their programs to meet the increased demand caused by the fighting.

The director of Caritas offices in the Russian region North Ossetia, Sergey Basiev, said: "There are lots of refugees seeking shelter. They have nothing. The situation is dreadful. We will try to meet these urgent needs."

## CHINA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

paid an unannounced visit Aug. 3 to the nearby village of Sant' Andrea, praying at the tomb of Father Anton Agreider, a missionary friend who died in 2003.

No one was expecting the pope and, in fact, the pastor of the Church of St. Andrew, where the village cemetery is located, was on vacation and missed the papal visit.

Margit Jocher, who lives across the street, told the Italian news agency ANSA: "I saw the dark cars stop right out front. The pope and his brother got out and went toward the tomb."

A few people in the village came out to see what the commotion was, but the pope's security detail would let only the children get close to the pope. Jocher's daughter and son, Johanna and Mathias, were among them.

Things were different in Oies, a small collection of houses outside Val Badia, which was part of Austria when St. Freinademetz was born in 1852, but is now part of Italy.

The Vatican had given villagers and visitors three days to prepare for the papal visit; locals organized a small concert for him in the church and outsiders trekked over hills and through meadows to be on hand.

The pope's remarks about China in St. Freinademetz's home village came just two days after Pope Benedict had expressed his best wishes for China as it hosts the Olympic Games.

Vatican Radio asked Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, if China was particularly present in the pope's thoughts and the spokesman responded, "The church continually has its heart turned toward China," as does the pope.

The example of St. Freinademetz "is very important," Father Lombardi said. "He went through a process of learning about and appreciating Chinese culture" and in the end was "extremely loved by the Chinese."

The saint's example, he said, shows "the possibility of understanding one another, of dialogue and of bringing a spiritual message to China with full respect for the extraordinary culture of this great country."

News Service in a phone interview that St. Patrick Church in Dennison and St. Mary Church in Sherman, near the site of the crash, prepared places for family members to gather, rest, get a meal and receive other assistance.

Those injured in the crash were taken to regional hospitals, where chaplains were scrambling to find translators and pastoral assistance from local Vietnamese-speaking priests, Gonzales Taylor said.

The Red Cross and Catholic Charities of Dallas offered to help families from Houston find lodging while they tended to injured relatives or made arrangements for the bodies of the deceased to be sent home.

Gonzales Taylor said there was some difficulty identifying victims — both the injured who were unconscious and those who

were killed. Because the crash occurred shortly before 1 a.m., many passengers had settled in to sleep and weren't carrying identification, she explained. Hospitals reported treating at least 40 people with injuries.

Tens of thousands of Vietnamese Catholics travel to Carthage, Mo., each summer for Marian Days, a weekend of prayer, talks and renewal held at the motherhouse of the Congregation of the Mother Co-Redemptrix.

Bishop James V. Johnston of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Mo., issued a statement of sympathy, saying that "our church is profoundly saddened by this tragic accident." He asked prayers for God's consolation for the grieving, healing for the injured, and mercy and eternal peace for those who died.

The bus hosted by Vietnamese Martyrs Parish was one of a caravan of buses and cars that left Houston the evening of Aug. 7.

Texas newspapers reported that the National Transportation Safety Board was investigating the accident, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration quickly ordered the bus company to cease all commercial operations immediately. The news stories said the safety administration called the Houston business, Iguala Busmex, which is part of a company called Angel Tours, an "imminent hazard."

The safety administration Aug. 10 said the company's "grossly deficient maintenance" contributed to the crash. Another company bus carrying pilgrims to Carthage from the two parishes arrived without incident but was

taken out of service in Missouri under federal orders.

In Houston, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo issued a statement saying he and the entire Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston mourned for the crash victims, their families and the spiritual communities from which they came.

"We pray for the intercession of our mother, Mary, that she may grant the families peace in knowing that their loved ones are now with her son, Jesus," said the statement.

Gonzales Taylor said another complicating factor for providing pastoral help at hospitals was that many of the Dallas Diocese's Vietnamese clergy were themselves in Missouri for Marian Days. Dallas Bishop Kevin J. Farrell was out of the country, she said.

## Pilgrimage bus crashes en route to Marian Days; 17 dead

SHERMAN, Texas (CNS) — Seventeen parishioners from Houston-area Vietnamese Catholic churches were killed early Aug. 8 when the pilgrimage bus they were taking to Marian Days in Carthage, Mo., ran off a highway overpass north of Dallas and crashed onto the road below.

Family members of the dead and injured hurried to Dallas after the early morning crash, while others gathered at Our Lady of Lavang and Vietnamese Martyrs churches in Houston to pray and await word on victims. Special Masses were planned for Houston and Dallas Vietnamese parishes the evening of the accident.

Twelve passengers died at the scene and another five later died in area hospitals.

Annette Gonzales Taylor, communications director for the Dallas Diocese, told Catholic

# Faith community gains respect in AIDS policymaking, say observers

BY PAUL JEFFREY

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — Faith-based organizations, which for years have been relegated to the margins of discussions on AIDS policy and planning, are finally beginning to gain recognition, said participants in the XVII International AIDS Conference, which concluded Aug. 8 in Mexico City.

"This isn't perceived as a friendly place to be a religious leader, but increasingly the faith community is being respected and taken seriously," said Linda Hartke, coordinator of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, a group that includes several U.S. Catholic groups, including the U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services and the Catholic Medical Mission Board.

"Yet with respect comes new responsibility and challenges. The more engaged we are, the more other people expect of us. The challenge for us is to do more, to do it better, to learn from our experience, to build bridges to other sectors of civil society as well as governments and the private sector, because it's only by working in partnership and not in isolation that we'll be more effective," Hartke told Catholic News Service.

During a speech to a gathering of 600 religious leaders that preceded the conference, Craig McClure, executive director of the International AIDS Society, applauded the churches' response to HIV and AIDS. The Geneva-based International AIDS Society, the main sponsor of the international AIDS conference, is the world's leading independent association of HIV and AIDS professionals.

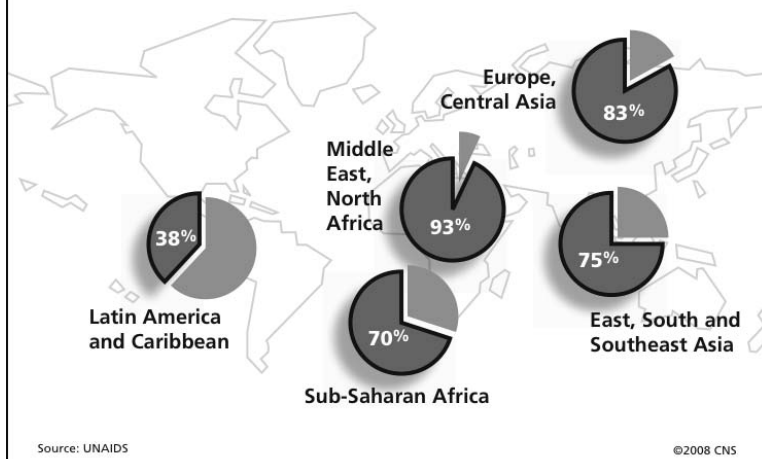
"Many faith-based organizations have been at the front line of the response to HIV since the very beginning. In the early years of the epidemic, some were the only groups willing to provide solace for the dying. When many others shunned those living with HIV and AIDS, many Christians and people from other religions reached out with compassion to those in their communities who were in need," he said.

Nonetheless, McClure said, "the significant proportion of HIV services that are delivered by faith-based organizations throughout the world is not reflected in their influence globally, regionally and

## HIV Treatment

Antiretroviral drug therapy lengthens life expectancy for those with HIV by inhibiting the replication of the virus.

ESTIMATE OF HIV PATIENTS NOT RECEIVING ANTIRETROVIRAL DRUGS



Antiretroviral drug therapy lengthens life expectancy for those with HIV by inhibiting the replication of the virus.

nationally on policy setting and regulatory processes and this must change."

He said some lingering tensions complicate making faith-based groups full participants in policymaking.

"Particularly in the area of prevention, there remains a disconnect between the moral teachings of some of the great religions regarding such topics as homosexuality, polygamy and the use of condoms and the reality of people's day-to-day experience," he said.

"Many members of the most marginalized and HIV-affected communities such as gay men, sex workers and drug users feel shunned by their religious leaders. Some have abandoned their religion entirely even if many of the services provided by faith-based organizations are done ... without prejudice or judgment," McClure said.

U.S. Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo, who serves as the special adviser to Caritas Internationalis on HIV and AIDS, agreed that the relationship between faith-based organizations and secular groups involved in AIDS work is getting better. Caritas Internationalis is the Vatican-based umbrella organization for national Catholic charities around the world.

Msgr. Vitillo pointed out that in 2006 the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS published

a book he wrote on faith-based responses to HIV and AIDS in southern Africa.

Yet he acknowledged that some friction remains.

"In the past few years there has been a lot more interest on part of the International AIDS Society in learning about faith-based organizations, in finding ways to partner with them. But some other groups don't have such an open posture toward faith-based organizations and see them as an obstacle to responding to HIV," he told CNS. "I think they're mistaken. They need to open up and include some of the excellent models developed by faith-based groups, especially in those parts of the world where faith-based organizations provide half or more of the health care, let alone the social services and development work.

"It's a shame when they try to exclude faith-based organizations from the mix. There's no one group that can respond fully to HIV and AIDS. It's much too complex. We all need to work together on this, otherwise we'll continue to lose the battle," he said.

Msgr. Vitillo said the tension is unlikely to go away soon, given that the church's positions are not likely to change.

"The Catholic Church strongly promotes value-based prevention of HIV, and its whole approach to

human sexuality and human relationships is value-based. We have a strong teaching of sexual abstinence outside of marriage and mutual permanent fidelity within marriage. That's brought some reverse discrimination against the Catholic Church from people who don't accept or want to live by that teaching and who want the church to change its teaching. But the Catholic Church doesn't change its teaching. It's been there long before the HIV pandemic and I believe it will be there long after. This is an important base of values for human relations," he said.

One religious leader argued that it was the churches' task to publicly repent of their contribution to stigma and discrimination. Bishop Mark Hanson, the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, began his presentation to the religious leaders gathered before the main AIDS conference by washing the feet of two women living with HIV.

"I am absolutely convinced that we, as religious leaders, and we in the religious community have so

shunned and shamed people with HIV and struggling with AIDS that we must begin first by engaging in public acts of repentance," said Bishop Hanson, who is also president of the Lutheran World Federation.

Hartke told CNS that the international AIDS conference, which takes place every two years, provides an important venue for moving forward the dialogue between faith-based groups and others involved in the struggle against HIV and AIDS.

"Although we're making progress, in many communities there isn't a lot of trust, and there have been painful experiences with religious leaders and faith-based organizations. Overcoming that doesn't come at a conference, but back in local communities. Here you'll see religious leaders sitting down with sex workers in a conversation that's respectful and proactive, exploring ways to work together and collaborate. Yet translating that back home into action at a community level is a much bigger challenge," she said.

## Pope tells priests to be generous giving sacraments to young people

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said the church should be generous when it comes to administering the sacraments to young people, recognizing that Jesus would have done the same.

The pope made the remarks in a closed-door meeting Aug. 6 with about 400 priests and religious in the northern Italian city of Bressanone.

Although reporters were not allowed inside the city's cathedral for the one-hour encounter, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, described some of the give and take in an interview with Vatican Radio.

One of six questions posed by priests touched on the pastoral care of children, Father Lombardi said. In his response, the pope spoke about the need to take a broad approach to the administra-

tion of sacraments, reflecting the merciful attitude shown by Christ.

"The pope said, 'I used to be more strict about this, but the example of Christ led me to become more welcoming in cases in which, perhaps, there is not a mature and solid faith, but there is a glimmer, a desire of communion with the church,'" the spokesman said.

The pope concluded that in such cases one can be "broader and more generous in the administration of the sacraments," Father Lombardi said.

The spokesman said the pope answered questions with a combination of clarity and humility, underlining at times that what he was imparting was his own best advice, not an infallible response.

Asked about environmental issues, the pope said that in recent times the church has made a greater effort to connect its teachings on redemption with the need to safeguard the gifts of creation.



All Saints!  
I just love 'em!

## All Saints Religious Goods

3506 South Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne  
260-456-9173

(across from South Side High School)

Baptismal Gowns and Gifts

Books, Bibles, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Statues,

Hours: Mon. & Tues. 9:30 to 5:00,

Wed. & Thurs. 9:30 to 7:00, Fri. 9:30 to 5:00, Sat. 9:30 to 4:00

## Bishop Luers High School

Celebrating 50 years of leadership in Faith and Education  
1958 - 2008



The August 31st issue of  
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Will include a special section dedicated to the 50th anniversary of Bishop Luers High School. Alumni and friends of Bishop Luers are invited to salute the school or send greetings to friends in advertisements priced as low as \$40.

CALL TESS STEFFEN 399-1457  
or email: sales@fw.diocesefwsb.org

## Court asked to throw out resolution criticizing church adoption stand

BY RICK DELVECCHIO

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — A San Francisco Board of Supervisors resolution harshly critical of official Catholic teaching on adoption by same-sex couples crosses the constitutional line between church and state and should be thrown out as unlawful, an attorney for the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights told a federal appeals court panel.

The resolution, adopted March 21, 2006, by an 11-0 vote of the city and county governing body, not only condemns Catholic beliefs but urges church subordinates to defy Vatican authority, attorney Robert Muise said during a July 16 hearing in San Francisco.

"It's remarkable," he said. "I've never seen anything like this."

Muise, who works for the Thomas More Law Center of Ann Arbor, Mich., a public-interest law firm that defends Christian religious beliefs, said later that he expected a ruling within a year.

Letting the resolution stand "would establish a double standard that has no place in our history," Muise told a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that is weighing the Catholic league's appeal of a lower court ruling upholding the resolution.

One of the judges, Marsha S. Berzon, posed questions similar to those raised by Muise during the hearing and in court papers.

"This is clearly calling Catholic teaching ignorant," she said. "It seems gratuitous for one thing, and it seems to have no stopping point."

Berzon called the resolution "quite extraordinary."

"It has two features: One is a direct attack on the doctrine and another is a direct attack on the hierarchy of the church," she said.

Deputy City Attorney Vince Chhabria defended the measure, saying the court should view it in a San Francisco context.

"The purpose is not to condemn the Catholic religion but to condemn the discrimination against gays and lesbians," he said, adding that the tone of the resolution should not be an issue in deciding its constitutionality under the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

The resolution was directed at U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada in his capacity as head of the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. It demanded he "withdraw his discriminatory and defamatory directive that Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Francisco stop placing children in need of adoption with homosexual households."

On March 9, 2006, then-Cardinal-designate Levada, for-

mer archbishop of San Francisco, affirmed a 2003 document from the doctrinal congregation that said it would be "gravely immoral" to let same-sex couples adopt children.

The resolution goes on to label the Vatican as a "foreign country" meddling in what it calls the city's customs and traditions on same-sex couples' right to adopt and care for children. It demanded that Archbishop George H. Niederauer of San Francisco and Catholic Charities of the archdiocese "defy all discriminatory directives of Cardinal Levada."

It closes by stating that the doctrinal congregation was "formerly known as the Holy Office of the Inquisition."

A second member of the three-judge panel also aimed questions at the resolution, noting that it appears to go beyond making a point about adoption by same-sex couples. The judge also said he was bothered by the closing reference to the Inquisition, calling it "quite prejudicial."

Chhabria conceded that the reference was not necessary but defended it as "an effort to say this (treatment of homosexuals) is the same type of thing happening again under a different name."

Muise maintained the language is critical because it is indicative of anti-Catholic bigotry. It is permissible for a private citizen to express such views, but when a government unit condemns religious belief, it violates the official neutrality toward religion built into the U.S. Constitution under the Establishment Clause, he argued.

"There really is a double standard," Muise said in an interview with *Catholic San Francisco*, the archdiocesan newspaper.

"Quite frankly, if they don't reverse (it), then there's absolutely no doubt there isn't an even-handed application, and the Establishment Clause is only being used as a blunt instrument to restrict religion rather than protecting religion," he said.

He said if the court upholds the resolution the question of modern-day attacks on Catholicism is likely to go to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Among certain groups not only is it considered politically correct and respectable to attack the Catholic Church, but fashionable," he said. "This is the prime exhibit."

The Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, the nation's largest Catholic civil-rights organization, is pursuing the appeal with co-plaintiffs Richard Sonnenshein and Valerie Meehan, who are both San Francisco residents.

## Supreme Knight reiterates call to end abortion, support marriage

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) — Supreme Knight Carl Anderson challenged American Catholics to overturn the "regime of Roe v. Wade" in November by withholding their votes from any candidate who supports abortion.

He made the comments during an address to the 126th annual convention of the Knights of Columbus in Quebec City.

In a wide-ranging 68-minute report that reviewed the organization's accomplishments during the last year, Anderson saved his strongest comments for nearly the end of his address. He criticized politicians of all parties who court Catholic voters by saying that abortion is one of many issues that deserve attention in any election.

"It's time to put away the arguments of political spin masters that only serve to justify abortion killing," Anderson said.

In apparent reference to Illinois Sen. Barack Obama, the presumptive Democratic nominee for president, Anderson said change in the country can come only when the practice of aborting unborn children ends.

"We have all heard a great deal this year about the need for change," he said. "But at the same time we are told one thing cannot change, namely the abortion regime of Roe v. Wade. It is time that we demand real change and real change means the end of Roe v. Wade."

"It's time to stop accommodating pro-abortion politicians, and it's time we start demanding that they accommodate us," Anderson added as the 500 delegates from around the world stood up and loudly applauded.

Anderson said he was not singling out candidates from any political party for criticism.

Later, Anderson told Catholic News Service that he decided to focus on the same terminology that Obama is using in his presidential campaign "to get people's attention."

"This is kind of the touchstone for this whole election year; I'd like Catholics to think what real change, fundamental change in a Christian sense would mean," he said.

At the same time, he repeated that his message was not aimed at



CNS PHOTO/JOHN WHITMAN, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Cardinal Marc Ouellet of Quebec gives the homily at the opening Mass of the 126th annual Knights of Columbus convention in Quebec City on Aug. 5.**

any specific candidate.

During his speech, Anderson said voters in California, Colorado and South Dakota have the chance to limit abortion by voting for ballot initiatives Nov. 4.

Anderson also promised that the Knights would remain focused on protecting marriage as a life issue. He cited a second set of constitutional amendments on the November ballot in Arizona, California and Florida that would define marriage as the union of a man and a woman or ban polygamy, group marriage and same-sex marriage.

Focusing on the California ballot issue, Anderson took aim at the state Supreme Court, which ruled 4-3 May 15 that such same-sex couples have the right to have the state designate their civil unions as marriages, in essence legalizing same-sex marriage.

Saying that the court's justices took it "upon themselves to ignore the will of the people and impose a radical new interpretation of the law," the supreme knight called for Californians to let their voices be heard by voting for the constitutional amendment.

In support of marriage, Anderson unveiled a new initiative, called Fathers for Good, designed to strengthen families by supporting fathers in family settings.

Through the Web site [www.FathersforGood.org](http://www.FathersforGood.org), unveiled Aug. 5, the program offers fathers advice on parenting, the importance of fathers to a family, being a good role model and spirituality.

"With Fathers for Good we will add a new structure and new resources to our efforts to strengthen families and provide the tools and encouragement we all need to realize our potential as husbands and fathers," he said.

Anderson's address also discussed the Knights' record-breaking fundraising efforts in 2007. Worldwide Knights councils raised nearly \$145 million for charity, Anderson said.

Acknowledging the efforts of the host councils in Quebec, Anderson congratulated the Knights in the French-speaking province of Canada for raising \$10.1 million, the largest amount by any regional or state Knights organization. Ontario was second, with \$8 million. British Columbia was pegged as the jurisdiction that gave more per capita than any other province or state: \$219.30 per member.

U.S. and Canadian dollars are roughly equivalent.

Anderson also said that Knights around the world volunteered more than 68 million hours last year in parishes and community organizations and with individuals.

Membership in the organization also grew to nearly 1.8 million members during the last year, Anderson reported. The year saw nearly 22,000 men join the Knights in the membership year ending June 30. In Luzon, Philippines, more than 5,000 members were reported to have been added to the Knights' ranks.

As the first business session opened, Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., supreme chaplain for the Knights of Columbus, read a letter from Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state. The cardinal said the Knights share the baptismal call to service in the church and that Pope Benedict XVI believes their work upholds some of the central teachings of Christian life.

**Contributing to this story** was Carolyn Girard.



# Hall's

**Fort Wayne's Most Complete Wedding Service.**

You can choose one or all of our services. We'll make the best of your special event. Hall's has been in the business of making people happy for over 60 years. You can trust us to do it just right.

**Banquet Rooms**  
**Hotel Rooms**  
**Rehearsal Dinners**  
**Catering Service**  
**Wedding Cakes**

For more information contact Hall's Guesthouse at:  
**(260) 489-2524 • [www.DonHalls.com](http://www.DonHalls.com)**

## U.S. bishop says Zimbabweans need reconciliation

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS) — As soon as a political solution is found in Zimbabwe, work on reconciliation should begin immediately, said a U.S. bishop who had just concluded a visit to the troubled country. The Zimbabwean Catholic justice and peace commission is working with other nongovernmental organizations on strategies to rebuild the deeply divided country, said Bishop John H. Ricard of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Fla., in a telephone interview from Johannesburg, South Africa, Aug. 9. Bishop Ricard and a U.S. bishops' adviser on Africa visited Zimbabwe Aug. 6-9. Reconciliation in Zimbabwe, which is experiencing severe political and economic crises, is a "serious concern" of the country's bishops, said Bishop Ricard, who is chairman of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee on the Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. Church leaders are "revisiting the way the church responded in the past" to issues of justice and "much reflection is being done," he said.

## British government permits church to exhume Cardinal Newman's body

LONDON (CNS) — The British government has agreed to allow the exhumation of the body of a 19th-century cardinal whose cause for sainthood widely is expected to progress soon to beatification. The Ministry of Justice granted a license to allow undertakers to dig up the body of Cardinal John Henry Newman from a grave in a small cemetery in the suburbs of Birmingham, England, and transfer it to a marble sarcophagus in a church in the city, where it can be venerated by pilgrims. The license was expected to arrive Aug. 11, the 118th anniversary of the cardinal's death in 1890. Approval had been delayed by several months because of a 19th-century law that forbids the transfer of bodies from graves to church tombs. But Sir Suma Chakrabarti, permanent secretary to the Ministry of Justice, finally decided to make a special exception to allow the exhumation to go ahead. Born in London in 1801, Cardinal Newman was an Anglican priest who led the Oxford movement in the 1830s to draw Anglicans to their Catholic roots. He converted to Catholicism at the age of 44 after a succession of clashes with Anglican bishops made him a virtual outcast from the Church of England.

## Latin patriarch seeks 'new mentality' to bring Middle East peace

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) — Nearly six weeks into his new position, Latin Patriarch Fouad Twal of Jerusalem called for a "new mentality" of collaboration among Christians, Muslims and Jews to achieve the elusive goal of peace

## PRIESTS CARRY RELICS AT NEW WISCONSIN SHRINE



CNS PHOTO/DAN ROSSINI, THE CATHOLIC TIMES

Priests carry the relics of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha during the church dedication at the new Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wis., July 31. Relics of Blessed Kateri and Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro were enclosed in the main altar of the church. The \$25 million complex, located on a scenic bluff south of La Crosse, was the idea of the former bishop of La Crosse, Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, who said he saw a need for a place set aside for pilgrimage and prayer.

in the Holy Land. Neither religious communities nor politicians, working on their own, will be able to resolve the long-standing differences between the largely Muslim Palestinian population and the Israelis, Patriarch Twal told Catholic News Service. "We need to start again from zero with a new mentality, with a new direction, with a new culture," he said in an Aug. 5 interview that followed his presentation on the dire state of Christians in the Holy Land to the 500 delegates from around the world who gathered for the Knights of Columbus 126th annual convention, held in Quebec City. "I think if the Jews and the Muslims and the Christians and our parliament, (if) we start speaking about a culture of peace, a culture of reconciliation, one day we can have peace. It's a question of the human element more than the instrument. Change the mentality," said the patriarch, who was installed June 22 as the spiritual leader of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land.

## Churches in Spain experiment with staying open 24/7

VALENCIA, Spain (CNS) — In 2002, Carlo Ravasio trekked more than 2,000 miles from Moscow to Valencia, stopping by churches along the way to pray for the unity of Christians. But when the Italian pilgrim arrived at the churches, he encountered a recurring problem:

The doors were locked. In response, Father Miguel Angel Vives, pastor of Nativity of Our Lady of Burjassot Parish in Valencia, decided that for one year his church would never close its doors. In 2004, more than 66,000 visitors came at all hours of the day. Churches in Spain and other parts of Europe are normally closed between Masses. One reason for this is the need to prevent theft, but Father Vives said there were fewer thefts at his church in 2004 than in previous years. This year, with Ravasio's help, Father Vives is pushing a plan backed by the Archdiocese of Valencia to enlist 12 Catholic churches to open 24 hours a day for one month each. So far, seven churches have signed up to unlock their doors; in late July, Father Vives was still looking for five more.

## As Chicago experiences violent summer, Catholic communities respond

CHICAGO (CNS) — It started in April, when headlines screamed "36 shootings, nine homicides" over the course of one weekend in Chicago. Since then, the violence has continued, with news of shootings nearly every day. The violence has touched the Catholic community, with Catholic school students and adult Catholics among the victims, and violence occurring near and sometimes even on church property. In

response to the violence, parishes have sponsored anti-violence marches; offered opportunities for young people to get off the streets and into activities, such as playing basketball at a church's gym; and helped people find employment by holding job training and mentoring programs. The church is called to respond to violence by praying, but it has to do more than that, said Nicholas Lund-Molfese, director of the Chicago archdiocesan Office for Peace and Justice, just as it must do something to feed people who are hungry, in addition to praying for them.

## Catholic students develop solutions to combat gas crisis

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Justin Stute drives a vehicle that gets more than 2,800 miles to the gallon. Stute and classmates from Mater Dei Catholic High School in Evansville, Ind., built the single-seat vehicle with an aluminum frame this spring for the Shell Oil Co.'s Eco-Marathon, an annual fuel efficiency competition in Fontana, Calif. The Mater Dei supermileage vehicle won the competition's \$10,000 grand prize, beating competitors from leading engineering universities such as Indiana's Purdue University and Pennsylvania State University. The winning vehicle combined electric energy with regular gasoline and alternated between the two based on speed. "Gas mileage

is miles per gallon. If you're not running on gas you're saving it and increasing your mileage," said Stute, who graduated from Mater Dei this year and plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville this fall. Mater Dei's "coast and burn" technique is similar to what is used in today's hybrid cars, which rely on two or more energy sources for power, primarily a combination of gas and electric energy.

## Catholic philanthropies give post-Katrina aid to women religious

WASHINGTON — Catholic philanthropies have delivered a big shot in the arm to eight New Orleans congregations of women religious still suffering from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. In the fall of 2006, FADICA — Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities — alerted its member foundations to urgent needs those congregations still faced a year after Katrina. Since then member foundations have come up with more than \$4.4 million in grants to help pay the costs of cleaning and rebuilding the sisters' schools, convents and other facilities destroyed or severely damaged by Katrina. Combined requests from the religious orders total \$6.3 million. Some requests cover only a fraction of the recovery costs. "They had much more in damage than they could pay for," said Francis J. Butler, president of FADICA, which is based in Washington. More information about the project is available by writing to: FADICA/LCWR, New Orleans Recovery Project, 1350 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 825, Washington, DC 20008. Contributions may also be sent to that address.

## Indian bishops offer prayers, concern after stampede at Hindu temple

NEW DELHI (CNS) — India's Catholic bishops expressed condolences and concern after the deaths of 146 Hindus, including 42 children and 50 women, in a stampede at a northern Indian Hindu pilgrimage center. "It is a matter of great concern for all of us that similar incidents occur at places of pilgrimage and worship," Divine World Father Babu Joseph, spokesman for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, said in an Aug. 4 press statement. His remarks were reported by the Asian church news agency UCA News. Father Joseph said it was time that "we created better facilities and enforced discipline for the safety and security of pilgrims." Father Joseph said the Indian Catholic bishops have expressed "their sincere condolences to the bereaved families" and offered their prayers for the speedy recovery of the wounded. In addition to those killed, more than 230 people were injured in the Aug. 3 mishap at Naina Devi Temple in Bilaspur.

## Bishop Luers High School to celebrate 50th and rededication

FORT WAYNE — The 50th anniversary Mass and rededication ceremony of Bishop Luers High School will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 9:30 a.m. The Mass will be celebrated in the school gymnasium by Bishop John M. D'Arcy and will be followed by a rededication ceremony, which will take place in front of the newly-renovated entrance to the school. Reservations may be made by calling Bishop Luers High School at (260) 456-1261.

## Coach Terry Coonan to be honored with dinner

FORT WAYNE — The alumni of Huntertown High School, Central Catholic High School and the University of Saint Francis will honor Terry Coonan with a testimonial dinner on Saturday, Sept. 6, at the North Campus Gymnasium at the University of Saint Francis.

Check-in and appetizers will begin at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

The cost of the event is \$25 per person and payable by Monday, Sept. 2, to: University of Saint Francis, with "Coonan Dinner" in the memo, Attn.: Juanita McMeeking, 2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne, IN 46808; or send reservations to Mike Freck at (260) 433-9882 or (260) 637-9236, e-mail at mikefreck45@comcast.net.

## Serrans plan Day of Recollection

SOUTH BEND — Members of the Serra Club of South Bend will gather for a Day of Recollection on Friday, Sept. 12, at St. Stanislaus Kostka, New Carlisle, where Father Paul McCarthy, pastor, and chaplain of Serra, will serve as host and moderator.

The occasion will begin with a Mass at 8 a.m., then followed with breakfast. Afterward, members will participate in a series of spiritual renewals and recitation of the rosary.

Two more spiritual talks will follow the luncheon and the Day of Recollection will be concluded with benediction. — EJD

## Family volunteers, receives computer supplies for Honduran orphanage

GOSHEN — Local Elkhart and Kosciusko County businesses and local individuals provided over \$8,000 in used and new computer equipment as well as shipping support to aid Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH — Spanish for Our Little Brothers and Sisters) in Honduras, an orphanage supporting over 500 orphaned and abandoned children, just over 5 percent of those needing care.

The Catholic-run orphanage is located on a spacious ranch one hour northeast of Tegucigalpa, the nation's capital. NPH strives to break the cycle of poverty by providing a loving family environment and teaching each child important life skills as well as providing an opportunity for higher education. On its ranch, NPH

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## GROUND BREAKS FOR NEW DORM AT USF



JOHN ESCOSA

Bill Niezer, Sister Elise Kriss, Rolf Daniel, Jeanne Mirro, Stacy Adkinson and Sharon Mejeur break ground for Clare Hall, the new residence hall for the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. The three-story, 42,000-square foot hall will house approximately 150 students.

Honduras houses its own private schools, vocational workshops and medical clinics to better care for the children.

"These donations ... will really make the difference between being able to provide educational experiences for the children and improved administrative functions and not," states Tom Chenier, a local Catholic Medical Missions volunteer with the program.

Tom and his wife Casilda Chenier traveled to Honduras on Aug. 3 with their two children Gabriel, 11, and Rosalin, 6, for a one-year volunteer term. Casilda, a physician's assistant, will be working with other volunteers and paid staff in the medical clinic, serving the needs of the over 500 children as well as walk ins from the surrounding community. Gabriel and Rosalin will be attending the private school on the ranch.

"We are so grateful for the community support that goes into providing for these children," said Vicky Medley, international volunteer coordinator for Friends of the Orphans. "Without it, we would not be able to have the quality of services we have, which is so vital for their development. It helps us raise these kids into mature, loving and productive members of society."

Friends of the Orphans is dedicated to improving the lives of orphaned, abandoned and disadvantaged children through the support of the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) network of orphanages in Latin America and the Caribbean. More than 15,000 children have been raised in NPH homes. NPH's mission is to provide shelter, clothing, food, health care and education in a Christian family environment based on

unconditional acceptance and love, sharing, working and responsibility.

Friends of the Orphans is composed of regional offices in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, Virginia and Washington. For more information, visit [www.friendsoftheorphans.org](http://www.friendsoftheorphans.org) or contact the Midwest regional office at (847) 690-1700.

## Saint Mary's named a "Best in the Midwest"

NOTRE DAME — The Princeton Review has rated Saint Mary's College as one of the best colleges in the Midwest for the sixth year in a row. The New York City-based education services company selected the college as one of only 159 institutions to receive its "Best in the Midwest" designation on its Web site feature 2009 Best Colleges: Region by Region. The Princeton Review also designated 212 colleges in the Northeast, 139 in the Southeast and 120 in the West as best in those parts of the country. The 630 colleges named "regional best(s)" represent only about 25 percent of the nation's 2,500 four-year colleges.

"We are very proud to be listed in the Princeton Review again this year," said Carol Ann Mooney, president of Saint Mary's College. "Our faculty is committed to undergraduate teaching, to contributing to our intellectual community and to our distinctive mission. Small class sizes and individual attention are hallmarks of a Saint Mary's education."

Saint Mary's College has held the "Best in the Midwest" designation every year since the Princeton Review began the "Best Regional College"

categorizations six years ago.

"We commend all of the schools we name this year as our 'regional best' colleges primarily for their excellent academic programs," said Robert Franek, Princeton Review's vice president of publishing. "We selected them based on institutional data we collected from several hundred schools in each region, our visits to schools over the years, and the opinions of independent and high school-based college advisors whose recommendations we invite. We also take into account what each school's customers — their students — report to us about their campus experiences at their schools on our 80-question student survey."

The Princeton Review is a New York-based company known for its test preparation courses, books, and college admission and other education services. It is not affiliated with Princeton University, and it is not a magazine.

## Football luncheons begin Sept. 5

SOUTH BEND — Notre Dame football fans in the diocese will have an opportunity to attend six pre-game kickoff luncheons beginning Sept. 5 and on each Friday prior to a home game. The luncheons have been a longtime tradition at Notre Dame and many fans eagerly await them.

Bob Nagle, premier radio and television sportscaster, will serve as master of ceremonies. Football coach Charlie Weiss and selected athletes will be among the speakers. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased through the University of Notre Dame Athletic Business Office, 112 Joyce Center, Notre Dame, 46556. — EJD

## Scholarship winners announced

SOUTH BEND — In keeping with more than half a century of tradition of providing scholarship to Catholic school students in the area, the Santa Maria Council of the Knights of Columbus announced two winners, one each to Saint Joseph's High School and one to Mishawaka Marian High School.

Winner of the Saint Joseph's scholarship is Teresa Pocius, daughter of K.C. and Toni Pocius. Winner of the Marian scholarship is Daniel Snyder, son of Eric and Eva Snyder. Both families are members of St. Patrick Parish in South Bend, and both fathers are members of the Santa Maria Council.

Fred Everett, chairman of the council's scholarship committee said, "Santa Maria Council's focus on Catholic schools is well known and first began when only Central Catholic and South Bend Catholic were grade schools. Emphasis on Catholic education has been a strong point in the council's activity program and this year we were fortunate enough to make two awards." — EJD

## Knights install officers

SOUTH BEND — In a historic event for the Knights of Columbus councils in the city of South Bend, officers of three councils were formally installed together in a colorful ceremony. The occasion took place at Santa Maria Council 553, the oldest council in the area, established Jan. 6, 1901.

District deputy Vincent Feck said it was the first time that all three councils were brought together for such a ceremony since Ave Maria Council and Archbishop John Carroll Council were brought together for a ceremony in 1964.

Feck implored the officers, who were accompanied by their wives, to be continually active in their parishes, lend assistance to their pastors when requested and above all to continue their solid activity in Right to Life programs, locally, statewide and nationally.

Officers of the three councils are: Santa Maria Council 553: Robert Zielinski, grand knight; Tom Marvel, deputy grand knight; John Ryal, chancellor; Dr. John Toepp, financial secretary; Richard Alexander, recorder; John Shanley, warden; Brian Masterson, treasurer; Jerry Patrick, Robert Mackin and Jerome Smith, trustees; Fred Everett, advocate; and Ronald Collins and Marion Pasierbowicz, guards.

Ave Maria Council 5521: Ryan Grill, grand knight; Frank Malkewicz, deputy grand knight; Kevin Thibodeau, chancellor; Michael Huszar, financial secretary; Celestino Lopez, recorder; Ron Baker, warden; John Reust, treasurer; David DeVikiegher, Daniel Cline and James Woodworth, trustees; Lee Salvinskas, advocate; Steve Balian and Tom Kajzer, guards.

Archbishop John Carroll Council 5570: Scott Singer, grand knight; John Pajakowski, deputy grand knight; Joseph Shopmeyer, financial secretary; Tom Lukaszewski, warden; Bill Szajko, treasurer; Paul Curry, James Hofman, Ray Sommer, trustees; and Julius Van Huylle, guard. — EJD

# Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ celebrate jubilees

**DONALDSON** — In 1868, Catherine Kasper, foundress of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (PHJC), at the request of Bishop John Luers, sent eight Sisters to the Fort Wayne diocese from their foundation in Dernbach, Germany. They staffed a school and cared for the sick in Hessen Cassel, Indiana. The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sisters have ministered to people in need in the United States for 140 years.

On July 20, 2008, 13 Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ jubilarians were honored during a Mass and a festive dinner at the PHJC Ministry Center for their years of service. These sisters celebrated their jubilee with community members, associates and Fiat Spiritus Community members

## 75 years

Sister Cyril Coesens, a 75-year jubilarian, taught school for 43 years at various facilities including St. Paul School, Fort Wayne. After serving the young, her ministry changed to serving the elderly as a geriatric physical therapist and a traveling companion ministering at the Catherine Kasper Home and the PHJC Ministry Center in Donaldson. Sister Cyril currently lives at the Catherine Kasper Home.

Sister Jeanette Cyr also celebrated her 75-year jubilee. She taught school for a short time before becoming an office manager and bookkeeper at various Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ hospitals and at Angel Guardian Orphanage in Chicago. She then ministered to the elderly as a home nurse for Catholic Charities and St. Matthias Parish both in Chicago. Sister Jeanette retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 2001.

After teaching for 55 years at elementary and secondary levels in Illinois and Indiana, 75-year jubilarian Sister Longinia Pobiedzinski continued ministry as sacristan at Ancilla Domini Chapel in Donaldson. She retired



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE POOR HANDMAIDS OF JESUS CHRIST

**Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ jubilarians celebrating 75 years include Sister Cyril Coesens and Sister Longinia Pobiedzinski with Sister Nora Hahn, Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ provincial in the center. Not pictured is Sister Jeanette Cyr.**



**Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ jubilarians celebrating 60 years include, from left, Sisters Teresa Schleper, Laura Banet and Marjaleen Kelley with Sister Nora Hahn, provincial, second from right.**

to the Catherine Kasper Home in 2001.

## 70 years

A 70-year jubilarian Sister Jeanne Koehler taught at various schools in Illinois and Indiana including St. Monica, Mishawaka; St. Joseph, Mishawaka; Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, and Ancilla College, Donaldson. She became a pastoral minister in 1977 and ministered at St. Charles Parish and St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne, and St. Peter,



**Sister Marlene Ann Lama, provincial councilor, poses with 25-year jubilarian, Sister Celine George**

Winamac. She currently lives at Convent Ancilla Domini and is a spiritual director.

Sister Vivian Brand became a teacher in 1940. She taught in schools in Illinois until 1946 when she came to Donaldson as a teacher, assistant dean and dean of Ancilla High School. She continued as teacher and dean of Ancilla College until 1992 when she became a volunteer at the College. Sister Vivian retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 2005.



**Celebrating 70 years as a Poor Handmaid are Sister Vivian Brand and Sister Jeanne Koehler with Sister Nora Hahn, Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ provincial in the center.**



**Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ jubilarians celebrating 50 years include, from left, Sisters Michelle Dermody, Mary Baird, Carleen Wrasman and Mary Josef Shingler with Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Provincial Sister Nora Hahn, third from left.**

## 60 years

Sixty-year jubilarian Sister Laura Banet ministered for 38 years as a teacher at many schools in Illinois, Minnesota and Indiana including St. Joseph and St. Bavo, Mishawaka. In 1988 she started at St. Joseph Medical Center in Fort Wayne as a chaplain and has also worked at the information desk and in patient registration. She currently volunteers at the hospital as well as the Literacy Alliance and the Senior Guild and resides at Marian Convent in Fort Wayne.

Since 1948 Sister Marjaleen Kelley has ministered as a teacher and/or organist at various schools in Indiana and Illinois including St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne, where she was also the principal. She is currently the sacristan and organist at St. Francis Xavier Church in Lake Station and volunteers at St. Mary Medical Center, Hobart.

Sister Teresa Schleper, also a 60-year jubilarian, has ministered in dietary or as a homemaker at many places in Illinois, Minnesota and Indiana including St. Vincent Villa, St. Joseph Hospital and Dwenger Convent, all in Fort Wayne, St. Patrick's Convent, Arcola; and Convent

Ancilla Domini, Donaldson. Sister Teresa retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 2002.

## 50 years

As a 50-year jubilarian, Sister Carleen Wrasman has ministered in education the entire time except for the six years she served the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ community as provincial councilor. Her ministries in Illinois and Indiana include St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne; Elkhart Basic Adult Education Center, Elkhart, and for the past eight years, Ancilla Domini College in Donaldson. Sister Carleen resides at Ancilla Domini Convent, Donaldson.

Sister Mary Baird taught at schools including St. Joseph School in Mishawaka during the first 20 years as a Poor Handmaid. Later, she was instrumental in initializing new PHJC ministries such as the communications office, MoonTree Community and Earthworks. Her love of the earth then led her to be a soil conservation technician and naturalist for several parks/entities in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Currently she lives at Convent Ancilla Domini.

Sister Mary Josef Shingler ministered in education for 26 years at various schools in Indiana and Illinois including St. Joseph School, Mishawaka. She has served the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ community as treasurer, provincial councilor and currently as development director. She has also shared her talents with the Adrian Dominican Sisters in Michigan. Sister Mary Josef resides at Convent Ancilla Domini, Donaldson.

Sister Michelle Dermody ministered in education, religious education, parish ministry, retreat and spiritual direction, in her 50 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she served at St. Monica, Mishawaka. She lives at St. Henry Convent in Chicago.

## 25 years

Sister Celine George is celebrating her 25-year jubilee. Sister Celine is from India where she ministered as a nurse. She currently is working at the Catherine Kasper Home as a certified nursing assistant while studying for her RN exam. She lives at Convent Ancilla Domini.

Today Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ continue their ministries to the poor and underserved in the United States, Germany, the Netherlands, England, India, Mexico, Brazil, Kenya and Nigeria.



## PROVENA Sacred Heart Home

*Our experienced and professional staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of nursing care.*

- Daily Mass
- Medicare Certified
- Secured Neighborhoods for Alzheimer Care
- Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapies
- One and Two Bedroom Assisted Living Apartments
- Independent Living Patio Homes

For Information, Call: (260) 897-2841

515 N. Main Street, Avilla, Indiana 46710

*Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.*

Visit us at [www.provena.org/sacredheart](http://www.provena.org/sacredheart)

## ADVERTISE IN TODAY'S CATHOLIC

NORTH

Jeanette Simon  
(574) 234-0687

SOUTH

Tess Steffen  
(260) 456-2824



# Vatican II classes revisited: A journey to the heart of the church's renewal

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — "Give us more." Those are the convincing words of those who attended the first of the Vatican II documents sessions that enticed the diocesan Office of Catechesis to offer a second session this fall.

Meg Hanlon, who taught the first acclaimed session, will return for the next six-week series, which will be offered on Wednesdays, beginning Oct. 15 and ending Wednesday, Nov. 19. Classes will be held 7-9 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne.

Hanlon is the department head of theology at Bishop Luers High School and a graduate of the University of Dayton masters of theology program offered through the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Sister Jane Carew, director of the diocesan Office of Catechesis, said, "This is a dream come true. The Education for Ministry program began in 1992; and since that time, 760 people have gone through it both in Fort Wayne and South Bend. At the end of the two years, when these adults have received their certificates, the inevitable question is, 'What else do you have to offer us?'"

The Vatican II documents sessions are for those who have already received their certificates from the Education for Ministry program. This foundation is essential for anybody desiring to pursue study of the documents of Vatican II.

"These documents are made for us to read," Hanlon said. "They are not meant to be read by just church scholars.

"We become recipients of the Second Vatican Council," she said. "We're still unpacking the documents, and they will impact the church for years to come."

Hanlon said, because of the lack of time to fully study "Gaudium Et Spes" (The Church In the Modern World), the first class of the session will resume completing this document and participants should arrive at that first class having read "Apostolicam Actuositatem" (Decree on the Apostolate of Laypeople).

Other topics studied in the series will include the following:

- "Ad Gentes Divinitus" (Decree on the Church's Missionary Activities) Dec. 7, 1965
- "Unitatis Redintegratio" (Decree on Ecumenism) Nov. 21, 1964
- "Dignitatis Humanae" (Declaration on Religious Liberty) Dec. 7, 1965
- "Orientalium Ecclesiarum"



TIM JOHNSON

**Meg Hanlon is shown in her classroom at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, where she is the department head of theology. This fall, Hanlon will return for a second series of classes on the Second Vatican Council documents offered for adults who have completed their certificates in Education for Ministry.**

(Decree on the Catholic-Eastern Churches) Nov. 21, 1964

Hanlon told *Today's Catholic*, "Pope John Paul II said, 'A bishop who took part in the Second Vatican Council feels the need to acquit himself of the debt,' and that debt is the need for a further response. The Holy Spirit spoke to the church through the council, and implementing the Second Vatican Council is a response of faith to the word of God."

She added, "We can't implement the council if we don't read the documents."

"When you read the documents, one gets a full understanding of the pontificate of Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI and episcopate of Bishop John M. D'Arcy," Hanlon added.

"For example," Hanlon said, "if one reads 'Christus Dominus,' (The Decree of the Pastoral Office of the Bishops in the Church), it is easy to see how our bishop has clearly reflected and implemented it."

Hanlon, who studied the documents in her master's program, chose as her class assignment to study the pastoral office of the bishops of the church.

"I have never heard (Bishop D'Arcy) speak without proclaiming the Gospel," she said.

"Bishop D'Arcy places a high value on the human person. He encourages the right to life through the Office of Family Life — and the Women's Care Centers. Our diocese is a model for Catholic education and catechetical instruction." She recognized through her studies how faithful Bishop D'Arcy has been to this document in his episcopate.

Students evaluated the first session of "Documents of the Second Vatican Council" with the

following comments:

- "These are great presentations, and my faith has grown greatly by attending them. A new concept of Christianity has been given to me."

- "The more I learn about our faith, the more I want to know."

- "Thank you for teaching and sharing your faith with us. I am always so inspired and challenged by you. I learn so much from your classes and really use it as I direct RCIA."

- "I would not have looked at Vatican II on my own. Now I have no fear of the document. It is easy to read."

- "I never considered reading the Vatican II documents, probably because I thought they were written primarily for those in the religious vocation. Thank you for opening up these awesome documents to us."

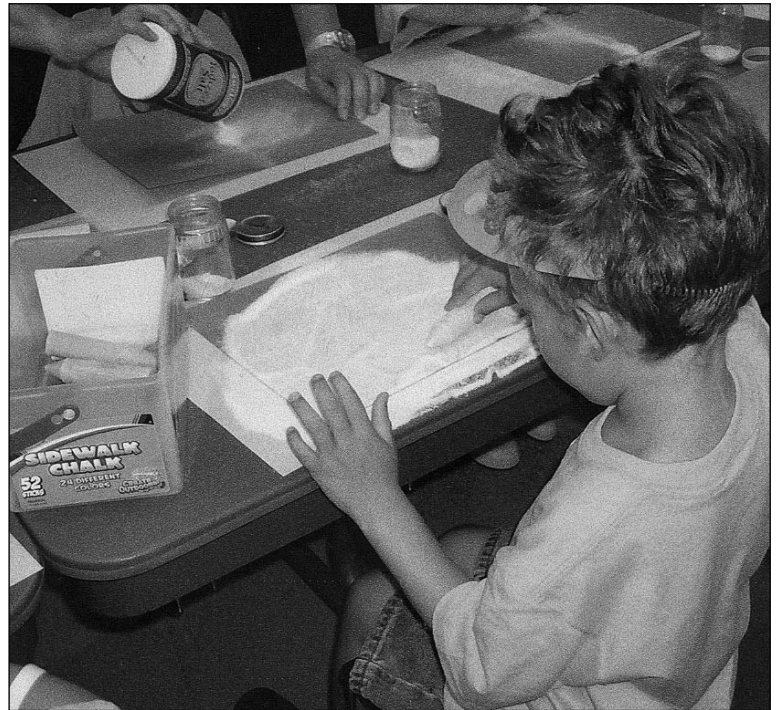
- "What an incredible privilege to have ... a diocese so interested in and supportive of opportunities such as this class."

- "I enjoyed the class and documents. (I am) doubtful that I would have explored the (documents) without the formality and discipline of a regular class setting."

- "There are some other documents I would enjoy getting familiar with from Vatican II and the encyclicals of (Popes) Benedict and John Paul II ..."

**For those interested** in registering for the second session of the Vatican II documents and have completed their certificate in Education for Ministry, contact Janice Martin in the Office of Catechesis at (260) 422-4611, Ext. 3318 or through e-mail at [jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org](mailto:jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org).

## SALT OF THE EARTH



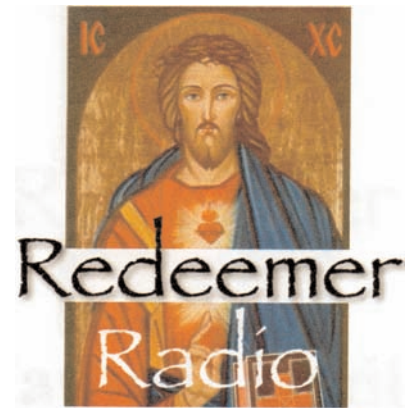
PROVIDED BY MICHELLE ARTUSI

Children at Little Flower Parish in South Bend gathered in a tropical setting to experience their first ever Vacation Bible School. Through music, skits, movies and art activities, children from pre-school through grade 5 learned about Jesus as their friend, teacher, healer and savior. Above, T.J. Sullivan designs a salt terrarium after hearing Scripture about being the salt and light of the earth.

## James Burger installed as faithful navigator

PLYMOUTH — James R. Burger of Plymouth, a past Grand Knight of Plymouth's Father Tremmel 1975 Council of the Knights of Columbus, was formally installed as faithful navigator of the Father Julius A. Nieuwland 4th Degree

Assembly 242, Knights of Columbus, at ceremonies held in South Bend's Santa Maria 553 Knights of Columbus Council. The Burgers are members of St. Michael Parish, Plymouth. — EJD



Catholic Radio AM 1450

## Executive Director

Fort Wayne's own Catholic Radio Station, Redeemer Radio, seeks a talented Executive Director to lead and manage our ministry. This position is responsible for the day-to-day operations, programming, staff development, financial management, marketing, and fund development for our apostolate.



Qualified candidates will not only share Redeemer Radio's mission but also be resourceful and have excellent interpersonal skills. Leadership experience in the non-profit sector and familiarity with fund development is beneficial.

**Prior to September 1, 2008,**

**send resume, cover letter, and salary requirements to:**

Katie Burns, Search Committee

4705 Illinois Road, Suite 104, Fort Wayne, IN 46804

or email to: [jobs@redeemerradio.com](mailto:jobs@redeemerradio.com)

What  
does it mean  
to be ...

# YOUNG CATHOLIC



## A Catholic presence on college campuses

BY MONICA EICHMAN

*As students prepare to enter into or return to their studies at university and college campuses this fall, here is the information they need to become involved with campus ministry and attend Mass.*

### Ancilla College

Coordinator of Mission Integration: Sister Carleen Wrasman (574) 936-8898 ext. 361

#### Mass times on campus:

Ancilla Domini Chapel: Sunday and Saturday — 9 a.m.; Monday-Friday — 7 a.m.

Catherine Kasper Home Chapel: Every day — 11 a.m.

### Holy Cross College

Director of Campus Ministry: Amelia Ruggaber (574) 239-8315

#### Mass times at St. Joseph Chapel:

Weekdays — 12:25 p.m. and 5 p.m.; Sunday — 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

### Saint Mary's College

Director of Campus Ministry: Judy Fean (574) 284-5382

#### Mass times on campus:

Church of Our Lady of Loretto: Sunday — 9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.; Monday-Friday — 7

a.m. and 11 a.m.; Saturday — 11 a.m.

Le Mans Chapel: Sunday — 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday — 9 p.m.

Regina Chapel: Sunday — 9:00 p.m.

### University of Notre Dame

Many Masses, including one in the extraordinary form, are available at the university. For a full listing of Masses at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, residence halls and other chapels, visit the University of Notre Dame Office of Campus Ministry online at <http://campus-ministry.nd.edu/liturgy-worship/mass>.

### University of Saint Francis

Director of Campus Ministry: Janet Patterson (260) 434-3260

#### Mass times at Saint Francis Chapel:

Sunday — 7 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday, Friday — 12:05 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday — 5:15 p.m.

### IPFW

Director of Campus Ministry: Mike Gibson (260) 481-6994

Beginning Sept. 2, Mass will be offered every Tuesday at 12 p.m., noon. On Sept. 2 and 9, the Masses will be in Walb 114 and 116. Contact Mike Gibson for the location on the following weeks.

### IUSB

Director of Campus Ministry: Maria Pirrie (574) 259-5754

During the semester, Mass is offered on campus every Wednesday at noon, with lunch following. Contact Maria Pirrie for location and more information.

### Huntington College

Contact the Catholic campus minister, Mike Gibson, at (260) 483-3661 for information on campus ministry and Mass times in the area.

### Indiana Institute of Technology, Manchester College and Trine University

Contact the Catholic campus minister, Bridget Becker, at (260) 241-6629 for information on campus ministry and Mass times in the area.

### Bethel College and Goshen College

Contact Lupita Zepeda, campus minister, for information.

## One young Catholic

### Darcy Davidson deals with the faith

BY DON CLEMMER

Darcy Davidson's faith journey is not unusual, as many young adults seriously question their Catholic faith and can go for years keeping it at a distance. These stories abound in Catholic television, radio and print. But Davidson's story is different from those that often get attention from Catholic media. The pieces haven't fallen back into place, meaning her story lacks the usual "and then I came back and everything was wonderful" component.

But it isn't that Darcy Davidson, a 22-year-old Auburn native and recent Manchester College graduate has left the church. She still self-identifies as Catholic and doesn't foresee that changing.

"I mean you're in it because you're born into it," she says with a wry smile. "You're in. And there really is no leaving."

Davidson looks back on her upbringing in the Catholic Church and feels a sense of warmth for the people who guided her faith formation. She appreciates the background in morality she received. She remembers fondly her confirmation retreat, which inspired her to participate in Mass as a



DON CLEMMER

**Darcy Davidson, 22, has found that, even when one raises questions or has issues with one's faith, Catholic identity never really goes away.**

eucharistic minister.

"I liked participating in Mass," she says and admits to always being comforted by religious icons and objects.

But by the end of high school, Davidson found herself burned out and disillusioned, thanks in part to the sex abuse scandal, which was breaking at the time.

"I wanted absolutely nothing to do with the church again, and I didn't feel a need for it," she recalls.

Her years at Manchester College provided the backdrop for

the next stage of her journey. A Brethren school, Manchester provided a framework much different from what Davidson had known.

"That was positive for me because I had to find my own way back," she says, noting that the values of the Brethren Church also had a positive impact. "I like their sense of global commitment and their sense of community. That's what I wanted."

It also allowed her to explore new areas of interest, such as history and feminism, which allowed her to articulate some of her con-

cerns with the faith. For instance, Davidson sees how Mary is a positive and even radical figure, but wonders how it's possible to live up to being both a mother and a virgin.

She also encountered friends whose own Catholic backgrounds were littered with other issues she found problematic, from the inability to free oneself from a clearly abusive marriage to struggling with one's sexual identity.

"We feel guilt about everything we do," she jokes about herself and her Catholic friends.

But as college wore on, Davidson also found herself more deeply appreciating her Catholic faith in different areas. Attending chapel, for instance, she remembered how she valued ritual and how Catholic worship is loaded with symbolism and envelopes the senses.

"I missed that," she admits.

She also came to see how the Catholic Church possesses the global responsibility she admired in the Brethren.

"I think the Catholic Church has been more associated with social justice movements," she notes. "I like that, even though it affirms capitalism and the value of capitalism, it also says that the goal of it shouldn't be just to profit. It should be to provide for people."

Along with this, she adds, "I respect the church's position that it's consistently pro-life." She also appreciates that the church does not

view science as a threat to religion.

"I'm going to have to deal with this sometime in the future," Davidson says of the place of the church in her life. She is encouraged by what she sees as a willingness of the church to examine why clerical sex abuse has occurred as well as a new approach to dealing with it other than "let's quickly cover it up and pay this settlement."

She also finds herself trying to sort out issues she sees in the church, like inaccessibility, human pettiness and manipulation of others, from the sacredness and holy goodness of God's church. These are issues that make her wonder how people can so enthusiastically get into the church in events like World Youth Day.

"I was jealous for a really long time," she admits. "Why is it so easy for them? Why?"

But she also respects that the Catholic Church makes faith something that requires serious effort and sometimes painful growth.

As for the questions left unanswered and the issues she still cannot accept, Davidson says she is open to discussion and knows there are plenty of voices in the church that can bring fresh discussion, noting, "I can always find something that I'm willing to, if not believe, then at least consider."

# 'The Mass of last chance' is an outreach

BY JENNIFER SIMERMAN

FORT WAYNE — The latest Mass celebrated on Sundays in Fort Wayne is at St. Joseph's Church on Brooklyn Avenue at 7:30 p.m. The late Mass offering began about five years ago when Father Timothy Wrozek decided the parish needed an outreach program to welcome new members to the church as well as a call to those who wanted to come back home to learn to love the liturgy again. In the first six months alone, the Mass offering brought 12 families back to the church.

The typical Sunday evening Massgoer will be greeted by a parishioner and asked to please sit up front. The congregation gathers closely; in fact, the back of church won't even be lit. Even small children gather with their families up in the front instead of in the cry room.

Father Wrozek processes in, making it a point to shake hands with the congregation as he walks by. And when he arrives at the altar, he looks out among the congregation and says, "We are called to be here today, and we answer that call. We sit close together so as to say: we are a community who cares about each other as communities are meant to do."

His comment is reminiscent of the passage that says, "when two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them." — Mt 18:20.

Father Wrozek continues by welcoming the congregation and asking visitors to raise their hands and indicating where they were

from. Interestingly, the church is full of visitors from all over town and many from out of town. The group is a diverse one, and throughout the homily, Father keeps everyone's full attention.

The music, under the direction of Ken Jehle, covers contemporary songs such as Mercy Me's "I Can Only Imagine."

At St. Joseph's, anyone who arrives to church with an instrument by 6:30 p.m. on the evening of Mass is welcomed to join the musicians. There are Masses, Father Tim later explains, where so many people show up that they have to share microphones, and some of the musicians are non-Catholics.

After the closing prayer, parishioners disperse, but a few remain in the front holding conversations and saying hello.

After Mass, at a local coffee shop, anyone can join in for coffee, tea or even at times a game of Boggle. This has become a weekly social tradition.

At the coffee shop, Mass participants Nathan Moore and Adam Pyle — both of whom made mention that the 7:30 Mass contributed to their coming back to the church — Father Wrozek, Denise Smith and Millie Hutchings conversed on topics from traveling and foreign languages to stories from the past, and, of course, the popularity of the late evening Mass.

In the first years, the late evening service consisted of small congregations, whereby Father Wrozek invited the community to stand together at the altar to celebrate Mass. This created a bond and closeness. As time passed and the congregation



JENNIFER SIMERMAN

St. Joseph Church in Fort Wayne offers a 7:30 p.m. Mass on Sunday, a Mass which pastor Father Tim Wrozek calls, "the Mass of last chance." With contemporary styling music and social time afterwards, the Mass is popular with young people and has brought many back to the church.

grew, especially with visitors, everyone was welcomed and made to feel a part of this close-knit community.

Father Wrozek explains that this Mass is growing in popularity partly due to the time of day — he calls it "the Mass of last chance" — but also, he made

clear that this is an outreach and not meant to be a regular Mass for parishioners. It is a welcome home to anyone who answers the call. Because of this, he has kept the nature of the service somewhat relaxed.

It is evident and very understandable that all in attendance

enjoy this late service and its popularity seems to be on the continued rise. St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Fort Wayne welcomes you. Weekend Masses are Saturday at 5 p.m.; Sunday at 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. (Spanish) and 7:30 p.m.

## Service inspires, drives Amy Wilson

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — When Amy Wilson looks back on her college years, service will likely be an integral part of the experience.

The 2008 Bishop Dwenger graduate is a 2008-2009 recipient of the Rebuild My Church program, a service-oriented scholarship from Marian College in Indianapolis.

According to Marian College's Web site, the "Rebuild My Church" program plays a significant role in helping guide the students to be faith-filled leaders. Students learn to integrate their faith and professional lives through a powerful approach. This systematic approach includes specialized courses, guest speakers, pilgrimages, community service opportunities, internships, retreats and more. Upon graduation, students will have received a solid foundation and strong moral and social convictions to serve the world's needs.

Wilson will likely feel at ease in the program, as Bishop Dwenger placed an emphasis on social justice. Wilson has left her mark on the community through



AMY WILSON

participation in various service projects at Bishop Dwenger. Among them are serving as a volunteer at the Women's Care Center, the Euell Wilson Center

and, most notably, introducing an outreach initiative as student council president. Through her efforts, the student council organized a talent show that raised more than \$1,200 for needy families with mounting medical bills.

"We took that money and split it up for needy families," she explained. "I think that will be a tradition that will stick at Dwenger."

Wilson, 18, said she came across the scholarship by chance. The Fort Wayne native already had her eyes set on Marian College when a representative approached her about the scholarship.

"I thought it would be a good idea to continue my Catholic education," she said. "Then this scholarship pretty much tied me down."

The award is geared towards

student-servants looking to continue a legacy of service into their college years at Marian. The opportunity to get involved with the church and the greater secular community seemed appealing, so Wilson was eager to apply.

Faced with an imminent two-week deadline, she prepared an application and endured a "grueling interview process." About a month later, Wilson received the good news of her acceptance, being chosen among 20 or 30 students to receive up to \$11,000 in aid.

The renewable scholarship is a multipart commitment, Wilson said. Recipients attend regular meetings to discuss program-related issues. Moreover, they pledge to devote a minimum of eight hours in community service.

Along with the service hours, annual retreats encourage program participants to collaborate about their efforts. Last, Wilson said a "hands-on" capstone service project junior or senior year complements the program.

Service often starts in the home. The youngest of three children, Wilson witnessed her mother's unyielding service to her family.

"She's been such an inspiration since I was little," Wilson said about her mother. "She has always

taken care of herself and is always looking after other people."

Wilson, entering her 13th year of Catholic education, will pursue a degree in business management. And Wilson said those 12 years

of Catholic education have laid a firm moral foundation.

"I wouldn't be quite the same without (my Catholic education)," she said. "It has helped me set my basis and standards and know my limits."

Like her mother, Wilson said she hopes to be an instrument of service both in and outside the home. She intends to open a childcare center following graduation and soon after start a family.

"I want to give back to kids and work in an environment where kids are treated as a blessing ... I want to teach them and take care of them."

In the meantime, the incoming freshman said she is looking forward to the greater sense of responsibility and independence college offers. A job at David's Bridal and spending time with her mom at the pool fill her summer days.

**For more information** about Marian College and the Rebuild My Church program, see [www.marian.edu/rmc](http://www.marian.edu/rmc).

"I want to give back to kids and work in an environment where kids are treated as a blessing ... I want to teach them and take care of them."

AMY WILSON

# Youths need to find spiritual connection to service, say speakers

BY STEPHEN O'KANE

ATLANTA (CNS) — Although Catholic youths are used to doing service work, they need to find a way to connect their volunteering with their faith, according to speakers at a conference in Atlanta.

Service activities have become commonplace in Catholic high schools and for confirmation candidates, but the volunteer work almost has become a “requirement to fulfill,” said Jill Rauh, youth and young adult coordinator for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development.

Rauh, one of the speakers July 25 on the final day of the Social Action Summer Institute at Oglethorpe University, said there needs to be more of a connection among social issues, action and the teachings of the church.

Rauh led the session called “The Prophetic Role of Young Catholics” with Grace Cassetta, diocesan director of youth ministry and adolescent catechesis in the Diocese of Las Cruces, N.M.

“Youth really have a special role in our church,” Rauh told a classroom of people from Texas,

Louisiana and Georgia, as she spoke about the roles of young people described in Scripture and young saints honored by the Catholic Church. “We need to be aware of this as we go into parish ministry.”

In the seminar, the attendees were asked for some words or phrases describing today’s generation of youths. The long list they came up with included “action-oriented,” “tech-savvy” and “passionate.”

The list was then put into perspective as Rauh and Cassetta led the participants through a series of statistics compiled from several different sources. The women touched on important facets of the youth community, including

their political ideals, social action experience and personalities.

“The goal in terms of social mission is to help teens recognize they are part of a larger community,” said Rauh.

The speakers said they were specifically speaking of the segment of the population known as Generation Y, or the “millennials” — those born between the years 1979 and 1997.

According to a survey by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington, only 18 percent of this age group attends

Today’s generation of youths are “action-oriented,” “tech-savvy” and “passionate.”



CNS PHOTO/MICHAEL ALEXANDER, GEORGIA BULLETIN

Jill Rauh, outreach coordinator for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, co-facilitates a July 25 workshop titled “The Prophetic Role of Young Catholics” during a summer institute in Atlanta.

Mass weekly; 36 percent attends Mass monthly. However, of those who do attend Mass monthly or more frequently, 85 percent believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Cassetta believes that “faith sharing” is an extremely important aspect of helping deepen the awareness of young Catholics.

“There is a difference between handing them a doctrine and saying this is what we believe and actually living it and explaining why we believe it,” she said.

During the session participants discussed different strategies that could be used to help youths make more spiritual connections. Participants suggested that church leaders make an effort to talk to teens one-on-one and give them leadership roles.

Catarina Torres from the Diocese of Dallas said service projects are good for young people, but if they don’t have any relevance to the teachings of the church they can become monotonous and lose meaning.

Other participants suggested that parish leaders use social networking Web sites, such as Facebook, to arrange activities for youths and give them a chance to spread the message to their friends.

Rauh believes that for teens service-oriented projects are a “starting point,” which can lead to “permanent change” if leaders help bring more meaning to the activities. “There is a deeper level to service that we want these teens to experience,” she said.

# Athlete’s success puts spotlight on church’s resettlement efforts

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The athletic success of a young man resettled in the United States as a Sudanese refugee in 2001 has shined a spotlight on the Catholic agency that helped him find a new home after years of life in a Kenyan refugee camp.

Lopez Lomong was among the 3,800 “lost boys of Sudan” who were resettled in the United States in 2001 with the help of the U.S. bishops’ Migration and Refugee Services. He became a U.S. citizen in 2007, and today is an Olympian competing in the games in Beijing.

Lomong, a Catholic, qualified for the 1,500-meter run by finishing third July 6 at Olympic trials in Eugene, Ore.

On Aug. 6 Lomong’s teammates on the U.S. Olympic team chose him to carry the U.S. flag during the Aug. 8 opening ceremonies.

Not only were his friends and his foster parents, Barb and Rob Rogers of Tully, N.Y., celebrating his success, but so were officials at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. MRS helped resettle Lomong in the Diocese of Syracuse, N.Y., where he is a member of St. Leo’s Church in Tully.

“Lopez Lomong’s selection to lead the U.S. Olympic team will remind the world that the United States remains a beacon of hope for refugees around the globe, and will remind all Americans of



CNS PHOTO/DAVID GRAY, REUTERS

Lopez Lomong waves as he carries the U.S. flag at the opening ceremony of the 2008 Olympic Games at National Stadium in Beijing Aug. 8. Lomong, a Catholic and former Sudanese refugee, is to compete in the 1,500-meter run at the games.

our history as a welcoming nation,” said Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Migration.

In a statement Aug. 7, he called it “a proud moment, not only for Lopez and his fellow Olympians, but also for our nation.”

Johnny Young, executive director of MRS, also applauded Lomong’s selection as flag bearer.

“It is incredible to think that a young boy who fled violence in his home country is now the flag bearer for his new country at the Olympics,” said Young.

“It is a testament to the U.S. refugee program and shows us that former refugees have much to contribute to our nation. It also demonstrates that a generous U.S. refugee policy can save lives and that the Catholic Church can play a role in that,” he said.

Each year the United States

welcomes up to 60,000 refugees from around the world, with MRS and Catholic dioceses across the country assisting about one-quarter of them.

Julianne Duncan, now associate director of children’s services for MRS, worked in 2000 at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, the camp where Lomong was living before he came to the U.S.

She was deployed there by the International Catholic Migration Commission under contract with the United Nations.

She was very involved with the case of the “lost boys,” so called because they were driven from their tribal villages and separated from their parents during the height of their country’s civil war, from 1993 to 2003. Refugee camps became their home.

Duncan’s job was to interview the boys who were still under 18 and process their cases to determine which of them would be resettled in the U.S. She was there alone for most of the year in 2000 and was involved in processing 800 cases.

“The majority of the children who qualified under the ‘lost boys’ initiative left home in 1987 and traveled to Ethiopia under extreme conditions,” Duncan told Catholic News Service Aug. 7. The boys then made their way from Ethiopia to Kenya.

“Those now 25 years old were 4 years old in 1987 and most unaccompanied children at that

age did not survive. ... Caretakers report horror stories of their arrival in Ethiopia at that time before the International Committee of the Red Cross and UNHCR brought food and other necessities, while the smallest children continued to die in very large numbers,” she said.

The UNHCR is the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

According to MRS, Lopez was 16 when he came to the U.S. in July 2001 as an unaccompanied refugee minor and remained in the MRS program until 2006, while completing his schooling.

“The Catholic bishops were very instrumental in the resettlement of the ‘lost boys’ overall, by identifying this group of the ‘lost boys’ as a group of concern to the U.S. government, and (they) arranged with the government that they would have a group resettlement opportunity in the United States,” said Duncan.

The bishops on the migration committee and MRS staff traveled to the refugee camps in Kakuma a number of times in 1998 and 2001.

“These children would still be in this refugee camp if it had not been for the Catholic bishops,” said Duncan.

Contributing to this story was Salesian Father Anthony Lobo.

# Are you trying to live a greener life?



## THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Scripture tells us that God gave human beings dominion over all the earth. To me, that means we are responsible for taking care of earth, not just dominating her. From all we read and hear lately about global warming, it looks like we have done a pretty lousy job carrying out this command. This gloomy news can either make us throw up our arms in despair or give us the incentive and will to start doing something about it.

All around us we are being encouraged to “live green.” How can students, young adults, and all of us for that matter take better care of the earth and live green? It might be good to reflect on what we can do as we get ready for a new school year.

Well, I have been thinking about this topic a lot lately, especially since the leadership of my congregation, the Sisters of the Holy Cross, has challenged the members and our employees to take climate change seriously and to try to do our part to help slow it down.

What are some practical things we can

do to contribute to the solution of this terrible problem facing our world? Here are some suggestions I have. I am sure many of you can think of others. Some may seem simplistic, but when many people make the effort, a lot can be done to help the cause.

Take school and office supplies, for instance. We can look for paper products made from recycled paper. We could also print our documents on the front and back of each sheet of paper. And why not buy pens that use refills rather than the ones we throw away? The same goes for mechanical pencils that can be refilled with lead. It may seem like a small act, but that is one less pen and pencil going into a landfill for all eternity.

And what about the many bottles of water some of us drink each day? Why not buy a water bottle that can be used over again? By doing so we would not only eliminate some of the trash, but we’d also save some money. But you may say that you recycle those bottles. Even so, plastic is made with oil and recycling takes a lot of energy, the same energy that is hurting the earth’s ozone.

Another simple but effective way to live green is to bring reusable bags (sold in many grocery stores) with you when you shop. Did you ever wonder what happens to those oodles of plastic bags that you get when you go to the grocery store? Many cannot be recycled. Our sisters from Bangladesh tell us that plastic bags are for-

bidden in their country because it is so small and there are very few places to discard trash. I wonder what it would be like in the United States if it were against the law to use them?

What about technology? Can you upgrade your computer instead of having to always get the newest and the best? The same goes for cell phones. Why do we always need the latest model if the phones we use now can do all the essential things we really need? Do you ever wonder what happens to all those discarded phones and computers? That goes for other appliances too. If the old one works, why do we need the newest and the best? (Note that there are special community recycling centers for technology castoffs.)

Then there is the issue of transportation. This is a hot topic right now because of the high price of gasoline. It would still be a problem even if oil were cheap. Fuel emissions are really causing a lot of problems. Is it possible to ride a bike to some places rather than drive? Can we carpool or walk more? Can we plan our trips more carefully?

Electricity is another culprit. Do we have to leave lights on in a room when no one is in it? The same goes for the television. Do we leave it on even when no one is watching it or the computer when it is not being used for hours?

Do we have to leave the water on when we are brushing our teeth or stay in the shower for long periods of time? Think of



## YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

places like California and the Southwest where it is so dry.

Most of these suggestions might not seem like much, but they can be effective if everyone does his or her part. God gave all of us the responsibility to be stewards of the earth. He wasn’t just talking to Adam and Eve.

It would be great if each of us could try to do even one or two of these things. Our future descendants will be grateful.

**Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC**, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. [mlavonis@cscsisters.org](mailto:mlavonis@cscsisters.org).

## Build on rock: A firm foundation for tumultuous times

I have been stepping through the debris, at once disturbed and intrigued; I have been touring foreclosed homes.

As the number of foreclosures climbs, for-sale signs keep cropping up in my neighborhood.

I’ve entered these abandoned homes, encountering an emotional residue as sticky and dense as the physical mess left behind. Personal belongings strewn across stained carpet. A prescription bottle lying on a Mercer Mayer book. Cross-stitched dreams kicked to the curb.

For a reduced price, many buyers are rolling up their sleeves and attempting to repair the damage, taking on punctured walls, stripped closets and snapped pipes. Young adults, schooled by HGTV and emboldened by wild imaginations, are paving the way.

Surface problems are easy to fix, a realtor told me. Scratches and scars can be remedied, repainted and re-laid. “Cosmetics,” he called it.

But, he warned, there is one problem you absolutely do not want to inherit, one fatal flaw that should send you running: a weak foundation.

I discovered that defect in one suburban home, a place that sparkled above ground with marble floors, granite counters and Roman columns. The master bathroom even featured heated tiles.

But when I stepped into the basement, the asking price that had seemed too good to be true suddenly explained itself; a deep fissure in the foundation had sent a crack from one side of the floor to the opposite wall.

Deal breaker.

Like the realtor, Scripture urges us to seek a strong foundation. “Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock,” Jesus says in St. Matthew’s Gospel. “The rain fell, the floods came, and the

winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.”

Conversely, the house built on sand — like the person who dismisses the word of God — collapses in the storm, “com-

pletely ruined.”

We must build on rock in order to surmount the inevitable storms of life. This is an important reminder for young people like me who are eager to begin decorating. Before we chase our goals, we must forge a foundation of faith, building on the grace of the sacraments, the wisdom of the saints, the insight of Scripture, the support of believers and the power of prayer.

Then, when the storms come, we may quiver but we will not collapse.

If there’s one thing the news



## TWENTY SOMETHING BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

has made clear lately, it’s this: storms do come. Floods take out entire neighborhoods. Tornadoes hit quiet towns. Hurricanes upend sunny shores.

Then there are financial disasters — layoffs, foreclosures and repossessions — which can overthrow relationships and uproot mental health.

This month’s Scripture readings illustrate the power of faith to overcome such storms. Jesus heals the Canaanite daughter and multiplies the loaves of bread.

We hear that nothing can separate us from Christ’s love — not “anguish or distress or persecution or famine ...” St. Paul writes, “All these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.”

And we remember St. Peter’s timid walk on water: “When he saw how strong the wind was, he became frightened” and began to sink. But Jesus reached out and caught him.

We, too, are easily frightened by fierce winds. But do not be afraid: when our homes are built on foundations of faith, we can withstand any storm.

**Christina Capecchi** is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at [christina@readchristina.com](mailto:christina@readchristina.com).

## Becker brings light of universal church to area campuses

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — Bridget Becker has seen more than her share of college campuses lately. And this isn’t about to change. The 22 year old graduated from the University of Saint Francis in May with a degree in liberal studies with concentrations in communications and religious studies. This summer, she began pursuing her masters at the University of Notre Dame. This fall, she will be a regular face on three college campuses, thanks to her position as a new campus minister for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Becker replaces Franciscan Sister Jacinta Krecek, who now teaches at the University of Saint Francis, and joins Mike Gibson as a Fort Wayne-area campus minister. Where Gibson’s work takes him to Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne and Huntington University, Becker will be serving students at Manchester College in North Manchester, Indiana Institute of Technology in Fort Wayne, and Trine University — formerly Tri-State — in Angola.

That none of these campuses are Catholic is a blessing, as Becker intends to apply the concept of “catholic” according to its definition, meaning “universal.” This means her ministry will focus on personal relationships.

“I feel, as a campus minister, I am called to be Christ to another person,” says Becker. “And that means being open-minded, willing, honest and understanding.”

Becker believes that no faith group is an island, so being the Catholic campus minister won’t mean that she is catering only to a

small faction of each campus community. Instead, she will embrace a spirit of ecumenism and reach out to other groups.

“I’ve already met with the other ministers on campus and the other leaders of student activities, and we’re on the same page,” she says. She tells these campus leaders that she is looking forward to collaborating with them, especially in areas like Bible studies and campus events. Becker sees the value of collaboration as creating an understanding between different faith groups and strengthening their witness as they work toward a common goal of spreading God’s love.

“Ours is not a passive faith,” Becker says of working as a positive presence. After all, nothing is more pro-active than the Holy Spirit.

And the Holy Spirit, Becker suspects, will mean that she has more than her share of interesting conversations in the course of her ministry.

“Each university is like a separate country” she notes, with each possessing its own culture, people and even language. And she has let other campus ministers know that they can send anyone her way.

“I’m planning to do a lot more listening than talking,” says Becker, saying what she will bring to the conversation is only her firm foundation in Christ. “Which means God is running the show, not Bridget. Therefore, I trust in the Holy Spirit to lead and guide me to where I’m supposed to be and who I’m supposed to talk to and what the topic of conversation is supposed to be.”

She concludes, “I have to be open to being ministered to as well.”

**We must build on rock  
in order to surmount the  
inevitable storms of life.**

## EDITORIAL

## A young church

Blessed Pope John XXIII encouraged the church to look for the signs of the times. One current sign is that the church today is in a particularly promising situation, thanks largely to young people.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy has related the story of how he, while visiting Rome, told Pope John Paul II that a new springtime in the church was coming because of the young people. This comment drew a positive response not only from Pope John Paul, but also from then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI.

That sentiment is reflected in this issue, which makes young Catholics its focus. Their gifts to the church are evident in many areas. There are the young people from this diocese who made the journey all the way to Sydney, Australia, to participate in World Youth Day 2008, itself an overwhelmingly encouraging sign of the interest and enthusiasm young people have for life in the church. Turnout exceeded expectations for an event held half a world away from the homes of most of its 400,000 participants.

There is Amy Wilson of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, featured in this week's issue for being the recipient of the Marian service scholarship. There's Bridget Becker, the new diocesan campus minister, the latest of several recent college graduates to come to work for the diocese in areas such as catechesis, youth ministry, worship and others.

Regionally, the diocese is experiencing smashing success with its XLT program, sponsored by the Office of Youth Ministry.

Of course, young Catholics face many challenges, something this issue also tries to address. A challenge can be external, like today's troubling economy that makes something so basic as finding and keeping a job difficult. It can also be internal, such as doubting one's Catholic faith. It is this period of doubting that tends to make the young adult years "lost years" or "time in the wilderness," but the church believes that it is doubt that strengthens one's faith.

Taking all these factors into account, it is clearly an exciting time to be young and Catholic, and this issue takes at least a passing look at what's going on with today's young Catholic.

## Fragile China

As Beijing, China, hosts the Olympic Games, all eyes will be on the international athletes who compete for all the world to see.

What we probably won't see is the state of human rights and religious freedom in China — issues that Pope Benedict XVI speaks about on a regular basis. Just last week, as the pope visited the birthplace of an Italian missionary St. Joseph Freinademetz, who worked in China, Catholic News Service reported that the pope said, as China's economic, cultural and political influence grows, "it is important that this great nation opens itself to the Gospel."

Hong Kong's Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-kun told Catholic News Service he hoped the Olympic Games in Beijing will help encourage progress on human rights.

But in weeks before the games, the Asian church news agency UCA News reported that church sources said, "The government has forbidden unregistered bishops and priests to administer sacraments or do pastoral work since late July, and some bishops have been put under house arrest"

"Naturally, one should take advantage of this occasion to encourage the Beijing government to make progress on human rights, too — starting with the granting of greater freedom to those involved in communication — as it promised when it asked to host the Olympics," Cardinal Zen was quoted by Catholic News Service.

After China's crackdown in Tibet, some world leaders boycotted the opening ceremonies. President George W. Bush attended the opening ceremonies and actually made history by being the first sitting U.S. president to attend the Olympic Games overseas. But he caught the Chinese a bit off guard Aug. 7 when he criticized China on human rights while he attended the opening of a new U.S. embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. Bush called for a free press, freedom of assembly and the right to organize unions.

"We continue to be candid about our belief that all people should have the freedom to say what they think and worship as they choose," he said at the embassy dedication.

"We strongly believe societies which allow the free expression of ideas tend to be the most prosperous and the most peaceful," Bush said.

The Chinese responded that they oppose any words or action which interfere in the internal affairs of another country in the name of issues such as human rights and religion. In the meantime, President Bush received kudos from human rights advocates who wonder how the Chinese will respond to the human rights issues as all parts of the world focus their eyes on them.

As the medals are being awarded in Beijing, one does not have to look far beyond the Olympic village to realize China won't be winning any gold medals for its human rights record.

**Today's Catholic editorial board** consists of Ann Carey, Don Clemmer, Fred and Lisa Everett, 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

## Education integral to mission of the church

BY FATHER STEVE KEMPINGER, CSC

August is once again upon us and the new school year approaches. Where did the summer go? I am once again surprised at how quickly time passes. The new year brings excitement and maybe a little fear to both children and adults. But in the end, as God reflected on creation in the Book of Genesis, all is good.

The diocese has a special reason to celebrate the goodness of the new school year. With the opening of a new education center in Granger, St. Pius X, we as a community of faith affirm our commitment in Catholic education. In the United States, there are 7,400 Catholic schools with an enrollment of 2.3 million students. Our diocesan schools are part of a wonderful tapestry that reflect and nourish our traditions of supporting and passing on our faith.

I had the privilege of attending the address of Pope Benedict XVI to Catholic educators last spring. The pope stated: "Education is integral to the mission of the church to proclaim the good news."

This simple sentence is the meaning of why our schools are important to our children and the world. We are in the business of

proclaiming the "Good News" to all, whether it is the teacher in the classroom or the administrator in their office to the priest who welcomes students at the beginning of the day. All are an important part of developing the relationship between the child and God. It is through that relationship and witness that the Good News becomes part of the foundation of the truth of God's love.

Our theme for this year is "Celebrate Service." Catholic education has a great commitment to community service. As part of our efforts to educate the whole child, our schools instill in students a lifelong commitment to serving others. By teaching students about civic engagement and providing them with opportunities to serve, our schools give students the tools they need to fulfill their future roles as good citizens, productive employees and caring leaders.

During the pope's visit, Catholic youth across the nation performed more than 1.7 million hours of service in honor of Pope Benedict's 81st birthday. This amazing gift is just beginning as we begin our new school year. Students in our schools will be volunteering in many places from retirement homes to hospitals to preparing and distributing food

and clothing to the homeless and food banks. It is all part of bringing the Good News to others.

"Celebrate Service" is not a theme restricted to students. It is a theme that applies to all who participate in the mission of the church.

The pope in his visit praised the teachers who serve in our schools. He stated that intellectual charity, "calls the educator to recognize that the profound responsibility to lead the young to truth is nothing less than an act of love."

You can witness this "act of love" whenever you enter one of our schools. Even now, teachers are preparing their classrooms and lessons for that day when the students enter. They are creating an environment that reflects the care and love so that the message of Christ may be reflected in all that will take place this year.

Pope Benedict ended his speech with the command of "bear witness to hope." As we begin this new school year, let us celebrate the service we are called to live and let us truly bear hope to all. Christ is truly our hope.

**Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger** is the superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

## Men of faith and service

Members of the Indiana Knights of Columbus are urged by our state leadership to take up the slogan, "A Call to Serve," and reach out to parishes to draw in Catholic gentlemen who are not already members.

State Deputy Stephan Ziembra developed this slogan for the next year of his term to inspire as well as inform Catholic men of the importance of being a Knight of Columbus. Being a Knight of Columbus offers fraternity with other Catholic men to share faith, strengthen families and set a positive example in the community.

Recently addressing the State Deputies Mass in New Haven, Conn., Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori said, "Knowledge of the faith is standard operating equipment of all members of the Knights of Columbus," emphasizing the importance that the image of a member of the Knights of Columbus may have on all who view his actions.

Ziembra, in his inaugural address at the state convention, indicated that Christopher Columbus translates to "Christ bearer." Therefore, we are Knights of Christ. When we step out as Knights, we step in the footsteps of Christ.



THE INDIANA KNIGHTS  
BY BOB HARTENSTEIN

Pope Benedict XVI recently visited North America and issued a call to "Follow Me." As members of the Knights of Columbus, we must live as Christian witnesses for our faith, again setting the example for others. We must work hard to continue to build up our parishes in all that we do with a prayerful focus, not just doing activities for the sake of busyness. Always remember to ask another Catholic gentleman to join our ranks and explain how our organization focuses on service to the community and spiritual growth.

Hoosier Knights in the year ending Dec. 31, 2007, contributed nearly \$2 million to charities. The moneys came from local councils, 4th Degree Assemblies and youth circles. There were 786,210 volunteer hours for charitable causes and 63,352 visits to the sick and bereaved. Indiana recorded 7,237 blood donors. The Supreme Council reported that there were more than \$1.28 billion contribut-

ed to charity and in excess of 612 million service hours over the past decade. The numbers demonstrate the power of membership in the largest men's Catholic organization in the world.

As impressive as it sounds, and it is impressive, the numbers represent a commitment of Knights of Columbus serving others in every possible manner that we can. We can transform the world right here in Indiana by defending the unborn, assisting the sick, strengthening our parishes and forming our youth with a service mindset.

So what are you waiting for? You are being called to serve, and the way to serve is by joining the Knights of Columbus. Contact your local council, parish priest or visit [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) to access additional information.

**Bob Hartenstein** is the director of communications for the Indiana Knights of Columbus.

# Contemplating autumn in God's time

The last days of summer are upon us. As a child, I confess I didn't much like this August time of year. The summer that I had looked forward to during the previous school year was fast disappearing, and soon a new school year (announced by an endless number of inescapably noticeable "back to school" sales) would intrude upon what seemed to me then the truest form of human freedom: a child's undisciplined hours of summer leisure. The small hands of the young boy clung fast to summer vacation unprepared to concede that my early summer perspective of unlimited free time was unreal or deceptive. Even as I have grown older, I still sometimes find myself resisting the calendar turn from summer to fall. The flip of the month triggers a bittersweet admixture of memories of summer family get-togethers (always much anticipated in their weeks of planning and then seemingly gone in an instant) as well as summer projects not yet accomplished.

Now, of course, only I still see the boy in the mirror, but God who sees us both calms our jointly-managed, anxious heart and permits us to know him as the God of

all seasons. There is refreshment to be found in contemplating — even in the sticky humidity of August — the cool, freshness of the new life of Christ's resurrection on Easter. Thinking back to Easter in late summer brings to mind the happy joy of spring and the beauty of new beginnings. What's more, recalling the months since Easter corrects the record by giving reminder of how luxuriantly long and generous the summer's passage of time has actually been. Any grievance for time lost is thereby proclaimed unworthy of attention. In between Easter and now, the church has honored Corpus Christi and helped us welcome the gifts of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Suddenly, instead of fretting over what is gone, there is an appreciation for the Spirit working in the here and now. Reconceived in the patience of the Spirit, the precious summer weeks that remain are allowed to ripen the seed of faith.

The church calendar of late summer also brings its own special beauty in the feast of the Assumption. In mid-August, the image of human perfection in the person of Our Lady being taken

## FAITH AND PRECEDENT

DOUGLAS W. KMIEC

into God's presence without the pain or anxiety of death underscores how the peace of summer need never end. Mary's miraculous journey awaits us if we follow her example of submission to the divine will. During the 20 years I was privileged to teach at Notre Dame, it always seemed to me that the statue of Our Lady atop the Golden Dome stood in ever more tranquil splendor upon this feast day. Each August 15, Jesus' mother seemed to gently tilt her head and smile upon the nearby Indiana and Michigan country sides as they were silently and effortlessly being prepared by God's hand for the fall harvest. The students had not yet returned

FAITH, PAGE 16

# God loves all, sin cries for his mercy



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 15:21-28

The third section of the Book of Isaiah provides this weekend's liturgy with its first reading.

Understanding this part of Isaiah requires some knowledge of the cultural context of the time. It was not a happy time. Life for the Jews had changed very much from what it was when David or Solomon was king. Long gone were the prosperity, peace and tranquility known under these kings.

Invading neighboring states had swept into, and across, the two Hebrew kingdoms that had come to compose the political structures of the Holy Land after Solomon's death. These invasions extinguished Hebrew independence.

Untold numbers of Jews died in the process. Others had been taken to Babylon, the capital of the great Babylonian empire.

At last, Babylonia itself was overtaken. The descendants of the first Jews taken to Babylon returned home, but desolation and hopelessness awaited them.

Living was much more pluralistic than it had been centuries earlier. The Jews at the time this section of Isaiah was written indeed lived amid religious and ethnic diversity. So "foreigners" were in

many places, and they were "foreign" in several respects.

Apparently from this reading, some of these "foreigners" embraced the ancient Hebrew religion. They were accepted, but they were expected, actually by the prophets and therefore by God, to observe all that the Hebrew religion required.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans provides the second reading. Throughout Christian history, the great Apostle Paul has been remembered especially for his outreach to gentiles, to persons not of Jewish birth or religion. His efforts in this regard, and surely similar efforts by his disciples and by others, resulted in the fact that by the time of the last third of the first century, arguably the major portion of the Christian population was not Jewish in origin. (Nonetheless, it cannot be forgotten that Christianity sprang from Judaism, was built upon Judaic themes, and contained within its ranks many, many Jews, including Paul, the Blessed Virgin and the other apostles.)

Paul, nevertheless, in this letter recommits himself to evangelizing the Jews. Why? Because God promised salvation to the Jews, and Paul, as an apostle, is the agent of God.

St. Matthew's Gospel furnishes the last reading. In this story, Jesus is in an area populated by as many Gentiles as Jews, if not more by Gentiles than Jews. Not surprisingly, the Lord encounters a "Canaanite" woman. The evangelist's use of this term to describe the woman underscores that she is an outsider. "Canaanite" figures prominently in the Old Testament to indicate persons not of the revealed religion and even persons of great sin.

Jesus says that the Messiah's mission is to bring salvation to God's people. The woman persists.

She believes in Jesus. She wants and needs God's mercy. Jesus responds to this need.

The reading closes by establishing the common denominator among all humans. It is that all humans sin, and so all need God's mercy.

### Reflection

We cannot overplay the references in these readings to ethnicity. Another element of separation within society at the time was the fact that the Canaanite woman was female. In the culture of the time, a woman's approach to a male stranger was revolutionary.

Did sin set her apart? Perhaps. Regardless, she was set apart, a woman, and a foreigner at that.

She was doubly excluded. Yet she went to Jesus. She knew her true needs. She knew that she needed God's mercy, and she devoutly believed that Jesus bore this mercy. He could dispense it. He was the "Son of David," the voice of God and the agent of God's redemption.

Times have changed, at least to a degree. Other factors may place us on society's other side. It matters not. God loves us all.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Is 56:1,6-7 Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8 Rom 11:13-15,29-32 Mt 15:21-28

**Monday:** Ez 24:15-24 (Ps)Dt 32:18-21 Mt 19:16-22

**Tuesday:** Ez 28:1-10 (Ps) Dt 32:26-28,30,35c-36b Mt 19:23-30

**Wednesday:** Ez 34:1-11 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 20:1-16

**Thursday:** Ez 36:23-28 Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 22:1-14

**Friday:** Ez 37:1-14 Ps 107:2-9 Mt 22:34-40

**Saturday:** Ex 43:1-7ab Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Mt 23:1-12

## CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

August was named for Augustus, the first Roman Emperor, but this was also the name of the last Western Roman Emperor. This quiz looks at firsts and lasts.

- 1. What action did the first Roman emperor take that resulted in Jesus being born in Bethlehem?**
  - a. He tried to kill the first born children
  - b. He ordered a census for tax purposes
  - c. He exiled the people of Galilean origin for fear of Judas the Galilean rebel
- 2. Who was the last Western Roman Emperor in the now-Catholic empire?**
  - a. Romulus Augustulus
  - b. Augustus Caesar
  - c. Michael Augustus Pelealogos
- 3. The first emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine Empire) was, if not quite clearly fully Catholic, certainly a supporter of the church:**
  - a. Tiberius
  - b. Commodus
  - c. Constantine
- 4. And over 1,000 years later the last Eastern Roman emperors would be called**
  - a. Tiberius
  - b. Commodus
  - c. Constantine
- 5. In all widely accepted Bibles, this is the first book:**
  - a. Exodus
  - b. Genesis
  - c. Index
- 6. This is the last book listed for the Old Testament:**
  - a. Malachi
  - b. Malfi
  - c. Mishnah
- 7. The New Testament lists this book first:**
  - a. Gospel of Mark
  - b. Gospel of Matthew
  - c. Gospel of John
- 8. Most scholars, though, believe that this Gospel was likely the first actually written:**
  - a. Gospel of Mark
  - b. Gospel of Matthew
  - c. Gospel of John
- 9. And this is usually the last book listed:**
  - a. Acts
  - b. Epistle of John
  - c. Revelation
- 10. Jesus' first miracle was**
  - a. the feeding of the 4,000
  - b. the curing of the man born blind
  - c. changing water into wine
- 11. His Last Supper took place in a room traditionally referred to as**
  - a. the Cenacle
  - b. the Citadel
  - c. the Cafeteria
- 12. This sacrament is always supposed to be received first:**
  - a. Eucharist
  - b. baptism
  - c. benediction
- 13. There is no rule about which is to be received last, but it is very often viaticum which is a name for the final administering of which sacrament?**
  - a. penance (confession)
  - b. Eucharist (Communion)
  - c. anointing (extreme unction)
- 14. As a collective term, "the last sacraments" usually refer to**
  - a. penance, Eucharist, anointing
  - b. baptism, confirmation, Eucharist
  - c. confirmation, holy orders (or matrimony) and baptism of any children in danger of death
- 15. And a question which, a few decades ago, would have seemed impossible — who was the last Italian elected pope?**
  - a. Paul VI
  - b. John XXIII
  - c. John Paul I

### ANSWERS:

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

# Who was with Mary at the birth of Jesus?

**Who helped Mary with Jesus' birth? Was it the angels? We can't expect St. Joseph to know what to do. R.M., South Bend**

We often picture the birth of Jesus in isolation with only Mary and Joseph present, along with some animals. But, in the ancient world, people often lived together near families or clans. Houses and inns were often built with two stories. The people lived on the top level and the animals were on the lower level.

You can see some of these caravansaries or khans in Central Asia today. In one of them, the lower level is very high so that large camels can be stored there. Some authors think that, since the inn was so crowded because of the census, Mary and Joseph went to the stall or lower level

with the animals for more privacy. Other authors believe the birth of Jesus took place in a cave. But many people in ancient times lived in caves, so there would have been other people around. In fact, a few years ago, there were hundreds of Bedouins still living in caves in the country of Jordan.

Father John McKenzie says that the Bible regards the birth of a child as a joyous occasion, although we have no mention of any festivity as we have for circumcision and weaning. The news of the birth was announced to the father, who presumably was not present. The newborn infant was bathed, rubbed with salt and wrapped in bands.

Jewish writings outside of the Bible, like the Talmud, also describe the normal ancient ritual of giving birth to a baby. Since

there were usually many people in close proximity to the expectant mother, many of the young women would help hold up the expectant mother in a private room or area and walk her around. They also could use a birthing stool on which the mother in labor sat. Some authors say only the more wealthy had access to a birthing stool, so if St. Joseph were only a peasant, Mary might not have had one. Of

## THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

course, St. Joseph was a carpenter and could have made a stool, and people then were having lots of children, so the stool could be shared by members of the extended family.

After the baby was born, the midwives cleaned it and then informed the father, in this case St. Joseph, that the baby was born.

**On what shoulder did Jesus carry the cross? Pictures show both the left and the right. R.M., South Bend**

Father John McKenzie says that the cross on which Jesus was crucified was either the T-shaped cross or the dagger-shaped cross. The dagger-shaped cross is suggested by the fact that the title was affixed above Jesus' head. Since the execution of Jesus was

performed by Roman soldiers, most likely the Roman manner of execution was followed. The cross carried by Jesus to the place of execution was customarily not the entire cross but only the crossbeam. Normally, the upright beam was left permanently at the place of execution and the crossbeam was attached at each particular execution.

Many modern pictures show Jesus carrying the crossbeam on both shoulders at once.

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

# 'Humanae Vitae' at 40

It's hard to imagine a less auspicious time for the reception of a papal encyclical on the morally appropriate means of family planning than the summer of 1968. Now, 40 years after it was issued, Pope Paul VI's letter, "Humanae Vitae," may finally be getting the hearing it deserves.

Why? Because the developed world is in demographic crisis from decades of plummeting birth rates. Because younger women have figured out a truth that eluded their mothers in the '60s: the sexual revolution — made possible in part by easily available contraception — is great for predatory men, and not-so-great for women. And because John Paul II's "theology of the body" has set the church's classic teaching in an engaging, humanistic framework. The Catholic Lite Brigade will doubtless make this anniversary year the occasion to celebrate two generations of theological dissent; wiser souls will ponder the human wreckage caused by the sexual revolution, especially to women, and think again.

There still remains a lot of confusion about the church's teaching on marital chastity, in part because most of the church's ordained leadership has done a poor job of explaining it. Leadership on this front has come primarily from lay scholars and activists — the formidable Janet Smith, "prima inter pares"; Richard Doerflinger of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; now a successor generation including Christopher West, Helen Alvare, Colleen Carroll Campbell, Pia de Solenni and Mary Eberstadt (whose brilliant article on "Humanae Vitae" in the August-September *First Things* is required reading). Thanks to the brave souls in the natural family planning and new Catholic feminist movements, what Paul VI was trying to say has

a chance of being heard — in part, because it's said in a vocabulary familiar to 21st century young adults.

It bears repeating yet again, because the mainstream media consistently get it wrong: the Catholic Church does not teach an ideology of fertility-at-all-costs. To the contrary: the Catholic Church teaches that every couple has a moral responsibility to welcome new life as a gift from God, to consider the number of children they can rear and educate, and to order marital life in concert with those two responsibilities. Where the church is boldly countercultural is in teaching that the morally appropriate means to regulate fertility is through biology rather than technology. Natural family planning according to the rhythms of biology, the church proposes, honors the integrity of women and the



GEORGE WEIGEL

## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

The contempt in which "Humanae Vitae" and natural family planning are held in some quarters may have less to do with a serious moral appraisal of different methods of family planning than it does with different appraisals of the sexual revolution itself. "Natural," after all, is one of the sacred words of the secular world. So why the tsunami of vitriol thrown at Paul VI and his proposal that natural family planning is the more humane and humanistic approach?

I think it has something to do with the fact that "Humanae Vitae" laid down a cultural marker: the Catholic Church was not going to cave to the spirit of the age as so many other religious bodies had done. The Catholic Church was not going to declare

that sex is just another contact sport: not because the church is prudish or repressed or misogynist, but because the church takes men and women seriously, and because the church imagines the love of Christ for the church as spousal love. It's a pleasure to discover how many young women get this, today.

Maybe men — and the theological establishment — will catch up in due course.

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

**The Catholic Church teaches that every couple has a moral responsibility to welcome new life as a gift from God, to consider the number of children they can rear and educate, and to order marital life in concert with those two responsibilities.**

special nature of the marital bond; natural family planning honors, if you will, the iconography of marital sexual love and its dual nature as both love-sharing and life-giving. Technological means of family planning impede that.

No one imagines that this is easy. But then no one should imagine that marriage is easy, either. The testimony of Catholics who faithfully live the truth about marital love and responsibility is that the rhythms of sexual love and sexual abstinence involved in natural family planning enhance relationships, deepen conversations, and enrich marriages humanly and spiritually.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for August 17, 2008

Matthew 15:21-28

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: the healing for the Canaanite woman. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	TYRE	SIDON
CANAANITE	WOMAN	LORD
DAVID	MY DAUGHTER	A DEMON
ANSWER	DISCIPLES	SEND HER AWAY
LOST	ISRAEL	THE FOOD
CHILDREN	THROW IT	THE DOGS
TABLE	FAITH	LET IT BE

### MY DAUGHTER

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

© 2008 Tri-C-A Publications www.tri-c-a-publications.com

## FAITH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

to campus, enabling August to remain a casual walk in undisturbed admiration for the morning dew on lush green lawns edged by golden rod and purple sage.

Oh yes, September arrives, but now bathed in the true light of faith and God's seasons, the mind is reassured. The sprinkled dew of Our Lady's August yields to September's moist condensation upon the front porch swing. The harvest season is open. And I am ready. Soon enough will come the feast day of St. Michael near

September's end. Michael, it will be recalled, is the good Lord's "great harvester" who, when all our final seasons are at end, will lead the worthy to paradise.

No longer holding fast to the limited horizons of the child mistakenly thinking it necessary to resist summer's end, I have come to understand how my life and yours progress in God's time, not our own. If we are acceptant of that, we lose nothing of these final summer days. Instead, we gain the restful reassurance of even greater times to come.

**Doug Kmiec** is a professor of law at Pepperdine University in California.



# Sports

**BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI GOLF OUTING** Bishop Luers alumni will host their annual golf outing on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Brookwood Golf Course in Fort Wayne. The golf outing will be a Florida Scramble with a 2 p.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$70 per person and includes greens fees, cart, range balls, beverages and grill open all day. Hole sponsorship is \$125. To reserve a four-person team, call (260) 456-1261 or visit [www.bishopluers.org](http://www.bishopluers.org).

## Bishop Luers' dance team looks toward an ambitious future

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Luers dance team is gearing up for the 2008-2009 season under the direction of second year coach Cindy Figel.

Figel limited the squad to 20 members and plans to start competing throughout the state of Indiana later in the year. She will attend a meeting in Indianapolis this coming October in hopes of joining the Indiana High School Dance Team Association (IHSDTA), which is required to be at the competition level.

"I think it will be good for the girls and they will really enjoy it," said Figel.

In addition to including competitions in the schedule, Figel would like to involve the squad in more community service efforts this season. She hopes to sponsor a "Luers Dance Team Gives Big" modeled after the Oprah Winfrey project. Figel would also like to organize the girls to give lessons to young girls in the community who may not be able to afford classes otherwise.

"I think it is important for the girls to give back to the community," stressed Figel.

This fall, besides performing at the home football games, the girls will be raising funds to earn money for costumes and a possible convention in Chicago.

The summer months have been fun for the team. During the month of June, the squad held a



This year's senior members of the Bishop Luers High School Lady Knight Dance Team pose for a photo during the youth camp held in June. They are, from left, Lauren Oberley, Amy Swygart and Jordan Crouch. Senior Cally Shaw was not available for the photo.

three-day camp for girls in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Over 50 young dancers attended the summer camp, which the team ran and choreographed.

During July, Figel held a practice in her back yard so the girls could prepare to perform for the first time ever in the Three Rivers Festival Parade. "We were excit-

ed to be asked to celebrate the three state championships at Bishop Luers," explained Figel.

Figel, who has been dancing since age 3, is a Bishop Luers graduate. She has taught and competed in the Fort Wayne area her whole life and has found a good match coaching the Bishop Luers dance team.

charities. Scholarships are given to a St. Therese School girl who will attend Bishop Luers High School and a Bishop Luers senior cheerleader who will attend college. Scholarship winners this year were Josi Rowdabaugh from Bishop Luers and Tammy Petit and Madie Eash from St. Therese.

The golf outing has been a huge success since its inception. In addition to awarding the scholarships, they have raised over \$110,000 in the past 13 years. Donations last year were made to

Erin's House for Grieving Children, Phoenix Institute, SCAN, YMCA Camp Potawatomi, The Hoosier Burn Unit and The Samaritan Counseling Center.

To register for the outing, to be a sponsor or contribute a door prize, call Rick Davidson at (260) 747-2902, Pat Daley at (260) 478-2604 or Mike Palmer at (260) 747-6918. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.lmp-foundation.com](http://www.lmp-foundation.com).

## Noblesville teen with ties to diocese dives in Beijing

BY KEVIN CULLEN

NOBLESVILLE — Some say that Olympian David Boudia may be the most promising male platform diver that America has produced since gold medalist Greg Louganis.

The 19-year-old, 5-foot-8-inch Boudia is a member of Our Lady of Grace Church in Noblesville. Parishioners held a pancake breakfast in his honor before he left for the Kaiser Permanente Diving National Championships in Pasadena, Calif. There, on July 26, he and teammate Thomas Finchum captured their sixth national title.

"It's amazing to have so much support and so many people behind you. I feel absolutely blessed to be a part of this parish," he told the *Noblesville Daily Times* at the breakfast, which raised approximately \$2,000 to help pay for his family's trip to China.

"The people in the parish have been amazing," Boudia's sister, Shauni, said in a phone interview with *The Catholic Moment*, newspaper of the Diocese of Lafayette. "Father John (Zahn, associate pastor at Our Lady of Grace) has been following David for a while, and he came to the trials. He has been very, very supportive."

Father Zahn, who has known Boudia for six years, described him as a mild, focused, dedicated teenager.

"He dives all over the world, but he has always been very unassuming," Father Zahn said.

For instance, at the pancake breakfast, Boudia made a point of thanking people individually and even joined some other high-school students in washing the dishes. Father Zahn reminded him that he was the guest of honor, but Boudia just kept washing.

"He's a very classy young man," Father Zahn said.

"He is sort of like the boy next door," said Debbie Gysin, a parishioner at Our Lady of Grace who has known David for three years.

"He could be any one of our neighbors except that he had a dream and he really worked hard to set goals and achieve them," Gysin said. "A lot of kids are just like him, and have those same dreams, whether it's soccer, or baseball, or something else. He is representing all of us who have dreams. It is very exciting for him to be part of it, and for all of us who have any connection to him. It makes us all seem closer to our dreams, too."

Gysin has seen Boudia dive at the natatorium in Indianapolis where he trains. At first, she said, she was amazed that anyone could



DAVID BOUDIA

perform so many precise moves in such a short distance and brief amount of time, but when she saw him compete in the Olympic Trials in June, "You knew there was more on the line,

that he had to do well. Everything he had been working for came down to that moment."

Lindsey Gysin described David as "really laid-back, one of those people you can get along with instantly, a lot of fun."

The Boudia family is dedicated to David's diving, she said. David attended Noblesville High School until the middle of his junior year, then was homeschooled. His intensive training schedule is "a job ... he goes to bed really early," she said.

Boudia, a gymnast, switched to diving in 2000. His coach is John Wingfield, a former coach at Ball State University, Muncie. Wingfield now directs USA Diving, the national training center in Indianapolis. Wingfield also coaches Mary Beth Dunnichay, 15, of St. Joseph Church in Elwood, who also has earned a spot on the Olympic team. She and Boudia train in the Indiana University Natatorium in Indianapolis.

Boudia, the son of Jim and Sheilagh Boudia, was born in Texas. His other sister, Shaila, 22, has graduated from college. He will enroll at Purdue University this fall.

Boudia's grandparents, Mary and Bob Bartlett, live in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and attend St. Mary of the Angels Parish at Big Long Lake.

"I'm very proud of David for his accomplishments," Mary Bartlett told *Today's Catholic*. She commented on his humility. "He's a good role model," she added.

His grandparents David and Judy Boudia also live in northeastern Indiana.

He earned his spot on the Olympic team on June 22 by winning the 10-meter individual platform finals with a record-setting performance in the Olympic Trials held in Indianapolis.

Teamed with Finchum, of Indianapolis, he represented the United States in the 10-meter platform synchronized diving where the duo took fifth place on Aug. 11, less than five points from a bronze medal with a score of 440.63.

Tim Johnson from *Today's Catholic* contributed to this article.

## LeighAnn Palmer golf outing benefits scholarships, local charities

FORT WAYNE — The 14th annual LeighAnn Palmer Foundation Golf Outing will be held Sunday, Sept. 7, at the Grey Goose Golf Course.

The Florida scramble will be a double shotgun event at 7 a.m. or 1 p.m. Cost is \$70 per person.

The proceeds from this event will go to scholarships and local



• **Downtown** • **Time Corners**  
• **East State** • **Lima Road**  
• **Glenbrook** • **Maysville Road**

# Lessons in life provided by professor Randy Pausch

BY YORK YOUNG

A little more than 500,000 people in the United States die from cancer each year. Many of those were one day thriving individuals making important contributions to society and the next day were diagnosed with an illness that takes its toll on family life, financial situations and emotional attachments. Although the survival rates continued to climb with new medicines and treatments, one-half million deaths a year in this country sounds astounding.

There is probably not a reader of this paper that won't be affected by the disease at some point — if not directly, then by a good friend or family member battling it. One of my sons was discovered to have a brain tumor when he was 4 years old. A 9-year survivor so far, the turmoil such a diagnosis brings was barely fathomable prior to the illness. But in all things, God brings good. And that, ultimately, is the theme of "The Last Lecture" (Hyperion, \$21.95), even if the author doesn't mention God much.

No. 1 on several best-selling book lists much of this year, "The Last Lecture" is the inspirational book of 2008. The author, Randy

Pausch, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2006. One of the harshest of all types of cancer — it has a 95 percent death rate — Pausch, an active, vital mid-40s guy with three young children, continued to live his life the best way he knew how — with enthusiasm and joy. He died July 25.

The genesis of "The Last Lecture" is an interesting story in and of itself. Pausch, a college professor and self-professed computer geek, decided to take advantage of a long-standing tradition among university teachers of giving a last lecture. He used his moment in the college sun to focus on the beauty of life and the gifts given him. And

the gospel of life that Catholics are called to embrace is evident throughout.

As a computer professional, it's not surprising that Pausch's lecture was made available on the now ubiquitous YouTube Web site, which generated a lot of chatter and led to the book. "The Last Lecture" book then became an expanded edition of this remarkable man's philosophy and approach to life. Outside of one small blip (you can skip the two-page-long chapter 57, a non-Catholic view of procreation), his advice is stirring and logical — that is, when we step away from our materialistic, go-go culture.

A couple of his best tips include: "Time must be explicitly managed, like money." And "Ask yourself: Are you spending your time on the right things?" And my favorite: "Rethink the telephone." He advises, "It's better to stand when you're on the phone. You're more apt to speed things along."

The crunch he felt to get in as much time with his family and children before he died led to changes in his life that will benefit his children down the road. If we could incorporate just a little bit of what he spoke of as so important, our lives would probably be happier and fuller.



**Interim HEALTH CARE** HOME HEALTH CARE and STAFFING

*Serving Northern Indiana for more than 30 years*

Providing service from 1 - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

- RN's •LPN's •Home Health Aides •Nurse Aides •Homemakers/Companions
- Physical Therapy •High-Tech Nursing •Pediatric Specialists

FREE HOME CARE ASSESSMENT  
Indiana Licensed - Bonded/Insured  
Medicare/Medicaid Certified  
www.interimhealthcare.com

Mishawaka 605 W. Edison Road 574-233-5186	Fort Wayne 310 E. Dupont Road Suite # 1 260-482-9405
---	---

**MORKEN, inc.**  
Commercial & Industrial  
**ROOFING**

3303 Freeman Street • Fort Wayne  
**432-2885**

**RE/MAX RESULTS**

**Andrea "Andy" Hall**  
REALTOR®

*Providing knowledgeable and attentive service for Fort Wayne & surrounding area.*

Cell: (260) 417-5093  
Office: (260) 490-1590

**15% OFF ANY SERVICE!**

**GMP CLEANING & RESTORATION**

Professional Cleaning Service since 1980  
www.gmpcleaning.com

**Christopher M. Ciocca, President**  
Parishioner - St. Mary's - Avilla  
Call for a Free Estimate  
**260-483-2112**

•Plumbing •Heating •Air Conditioning

**W.C. BORCHELT Sons, Inc.**

•Electrical •Sheet Metal •Humidification

**485-3412**  
6332 Maplecrest Road - Fort Wayne

**TRANE**™ It's Hard to Stop a Trane!

Park Lake Medical Building

**LEONARD J. Andorfer & Co., LLP**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

2410 Lake Avenue  
P.O. Box 5486  
Fort Wayne 46895-5486  
(260) 423-9405  
Fax: (260) 422-9206

- Tax Planning and preparation corporations, individuals and partnerships
- Estates and Trusts
- Auditing Services • Financial Planning

**HOUSE DOCTOR'S HANDYMAN SERVICE**

*This doctor makes house calls!*

The big name in small jobs.

- FULLY INSURED
- FREE ESTIMATES
- FREE SERVICE CALLS
- EXPERIENCED CRAFTSMAN

**(260) 424-1293**

Painting • Plastering • Drywall • Carpentry • Electrical • Kitchens  
• Ceiling Repair • Bathrooms • Interior Trim • Caulking  
*Serving the Fort Wayne area since 1996!*  
Parishioner - St. Charles, Fort Wayne

**R. GREGORY LOWE, Ph.D., P.C.**

*Providing Personalized Hearing Care in Tri-State area since 1979.*

**(260) 471-5693**  
3124 East State Boulevard • Fort Wayne 46805  
Suite 1A

**SHAWNEE Construction & Engineering**

**COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL**

7701 Opportunity Drive, Fort Wayne 46825  
**489-1234**

**THE DEHAYES GROUP**

Full Service Insurance Agency

5150 West Jefferson Blvd.,  
Fort Wayne 46804  
Kevin Pikel • Nick Groves  
Dave Steffen  
www.dehayes.com

- ★ Life
- ★ Auto
- ★ Home
- ★ Business

**260 424-5600**

**CHUCK'S FOOT SUPPORT SHOES • PEDORTHICS • REPAIR**

4546 Maplecrest Road • Fort Wayne 46835  
*Ending Foot Pain for those "On the Go"*

We offer: Orthopedic Inlays for those with tired feet and diabetes, also extra depth shoes in Wide/Extra Wide for anyone on their feet all day! TRY COPPER SOLE SOCKS - A must for anyone with Athlete's Foot or shoe or foot odor (kills bacteria and fungi)

**260-492-1752**  
Tues-Fri 8AM-6PM  
Sat 8AM 2PM Closed Sun Mon

**ONE STOP SHOPPING**  
Extra Depth Shoes • Orthopedic Build-Ups  
Minnnetonka Moccasins

www.chucksfootsupport.com

**NORTH SIDE PLUMBING & HEATING CO., INC.**

Since 1929  
Repair - Remodel  
Specialists

483-0572    2234 North Clinton, Fort Wayne    PLC#1001073

**STEAMATIC**  
the total cleaning service

- Carpet Cleaning
- Air Duct Cleaning
- Furniture Cleaning
- Drapery Cleaning
- Satisfaction Guaranteed

South Bend Area    Fort Wayne Area  
1-800-252-8947 • (574) 255-8947    1-800-232-4956 • (260) 422-7447

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

## FUNDRAISERS

### Bishop Luers alumni and friends plan golf outing

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers will have a golf outing Saturday, Sept. 20, at Brookwood Golf Course with a 2 p.m. shotgun start. For information contact Bishop Luers at (260) 456-1261 x 3139 or e-mail sshank@bishoplurers.org

### Spaghetti dinner supports charities

Elkhart — The Knights of Columbus Council 1043 will have a spaghetti dinner Wednesday, Sept. 3, from 5-7 p.m. Located downtown on Lexington Ave., tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children and all proceeds go to local charities.

### Fall festival planned

Fort Wayne — St. Therese will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 6. Children's games will be from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with an auction at 1 p.m. and raffles and entertainment. Live band Pop 'N Fresh will provide evening entertainment starting at 8 p.m. Must be 21. Indiana State License# 115101.

### Knights plan corn and sausage roast

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus will have a corn and sausage roast, Saturday, Aug. 23, from noon to 5 p.m. at 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$5 at the door (covers brat sandwich and all the corn you can eat). There will be a raffle for ND tickets, ND blanket, a cake walk and a white elephant sale.

### Corn and sausage roast

South Bend — St. Casimir Parish, 1308 W. Dunham St., will have a corn and sausage roast Sunday, Aug. 24, from noon to 5 p.m. Music from 1-5 p.m. provided by The Jim Deka Trio. Tickets are \$1 and enters you in the cash raffle (top prize \$1,000) and free sweet corn. New this year will be children's games and a large item raffle. Tickets can be obtained at the parish office or at the gate.

### Parish golf outing

South Bend — St. Augustine Parish will have an 18-hole scramble golf tournament Saturday, Aug. 23, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Sprig O Mint Golf Course. Cost per player \$60 and includes cart, greens fees and lunch buffet by Chef Rex Marvel. Call (574) 234-7992 to make reservations.

### 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 on Aug. 24. Send check to St. Hedwig Holy Name Society, 1104 B, Elliot St., South Bend, IN 46628.

## MISC. HAPPENINGS

### Hospice offers volunteer opportunities

South Bend — The Center for Hospice and Palliative Care needs volunteers in all eight counties of the service area. Mature individuals are invited to register for upcoming training sessions by calling the volunteer resource coordinator nearest to them: In the Elkhart area call Kathy at (574) 264-3321. In the Plymouth area call Angie at (574) 935-4511. In the South Bend area call Jackie at (574) 243-3100. Training will focus on the hospice philosophy, communication skills, spirituality, family dynamics, patient care, bereavement and much more. Following training, volunteers may assist patients and families with respite, transportation, laundry, errands, companionship or bereavement. Volunteers will serve patients in their homes, in nursing homes or may also serve in office or clerical roles. In addition, individuals with licensure/certification in massage therapy, hair styling or notary public are also needed. Scheduling for volunteers is flexible. The next volunteer training dates are: South Bend — Sept. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 from 6-9 p.m.; Elkhart — Sept. 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, and 25 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.; Plymouth — Sept. 10, 12 and 17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Happy birthday Mary

Fort Wayne — A birthday party for Mary will be held on Sunday, Aug. 24, from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the gym of Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 St. Joe Rd. The Legion of Mary invites participants to pray on a 50 foot rosary, enjoy a potluck lunch, a short talk on "Home Visitation — Legion style," a religious play with audience participation, games for the kids, birthday cake and ice cream for all. RSVP to Connie Acierito at (260) 486-1001.

### Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Deacon Kevin Bauman will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, Aug. 19, at 7:15 p.m. Deacon Kevin will be ordained this fall and is currently serving at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart. Join in praying for priests and vocations.

### Back to school picnic planned

Wabash — St. Bernard Parish will have a back to school picnic Sunday, Aug. 17, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Bring your favorite dish. Meat, drinks and table service will be provided.

### John Michael Talbot in concert

South Bend — Christian musician John Michael Talbot will be in concert on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at St. Anthony de Padua Church. Admission to the concert is \$17.50. Contact Frank Held at (574) 386-6412 for tickets, information or to volunteer.

## REST IN PEACE

### Clear Lake

Genevieve Holsinger  
Ashe Hladney, 100, St.  
Paul Chapel

### Elkhart

Cpl. Daniel R. Drust, 36,  
St. Thomas the Apostle

### Fort Wayne

Juanita L. Schmitz, 78,  
St. Vincent de Paul

Guadalupe D. Zavala,  
St. Therese

Corrinne Mudd

Brooks, 93, Saint Anne  
Home

### Mishawaka

Albert A. Beutter, 94, St.  
Joseph

### Notre Dame

Sister M. Guadalupe  
Cardenas, CSC, 93, Our  
Lady of Loretto

Joseph F. Yonto, 83,  
Sacred Heart Basilica

### Plymouth

Patsy L. Kaufman, 72,  
St. Michael

### Rome City

David Weingartner, 51,  
St. Gaspar del Bufalo

### South Bend

Lillian Kruk, 83, St.  
Stanislaus

Herminia Martinez, 77,  
St. Adalbert

Gene Szerencse, 82,  
Christ the King

Norbert Hechliniski, 78,  
St. Jude

Loretta T. Fenimore, 80,  
St. Casimir

Erma T. Kuzmits, 90,  
Our Lady of Hungary

Verna B. Wood, 86,  
Christ the King

Ellen C. Dosmann, 81,  
St. Jude

Catherine E. Martin, 95,  
St. Stanislaus

### Wabash

Dolores Jean  
Zumbaugh, 78, St.  
Bernard

### Waterloo

Helen Schortgen, 90,  
St. Michael the  
Archangel

## Pittsburgh Priest to Host

# Hawaii

## 15 Day – 4 Island Tour Departs February 26, 2009

Join other Roman Catholics on the most affordable two-week, four-island Hawaiian vacation you will ever find at the guaranteed lowest price. Your YMT Catholic chaplain is Father Joseph Codori, Parochial Vicar at St. Athanasius Roman Catholic Church in Pittsburgh, PA. "Father Joe" has traveled extensively over the years; this will be his second trip as a YMT chaplain. Mass will be celebrated some days while on tour, for those in the group who wish to participate. Your group will fly to Honolulu for five nights in Waikiki, three nights in Kona, one night in Hilo, two nights on Maui, and three nights on Kauai. Sightseeing on every island includes: a Honolulu city tour with Punchbowl Crater and Pearl Harbor cruise to the Arizona Memorial, the Wailua riverboat cruise to the Fern Grotto, Iao Valley excursion & the old whaling capital of Lahaina, a Hilo orchid garden and Rainbow Falls, Black Sand Beaches, Volcanoes National Park and more! Your price, from only \$1388 (per person, double occupancy) includes all taxes, baggage handling, Hawaiian owned hotels, and escorted sightseeing on every island. Add \$380 for inter-island airfare. Add \$1040 for roundtrip airfare from Ft. Wayne. 'Your Man' Tours specializes in Hawaii and has had its own office in Honolulu since 1967. Prices are guaranteed to be the lowest because travelers buy wholesale, directly from the actual Hawaiian tour operator. \$100 deposits are now due. Friends and family are welcome!

For a brochure, information, reservations, and letter from  
Father Joe Codori call 7 days a week:

**YMT Vacations 1-800-736-7300**

*Affordable Vacations Since 1967!*

## ST. THERESE 61ST ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL SATURDAY, SEPT 6

### CHILDREN'S GAMES & FOOD ALLEY 10AM-4:30PM

Moon walk, duck pond, ring toss and more!

Funnel cakes, taco salad, pizza,

"The Stand" ice cream, sno cones and more!

### "HOLY NAME GRILLERS" 10AM-7PM

Brats, chicken and hot dogs!!!

### 50/50 CASH RAFFLE

Tickets \$5 each or 6 for \$25.

Drawing to be held after mass.

### MASS 5PM

### PRIZE RAFFLE

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Prizes:

Wii game system, Neuhauser Gifts bird bath, 1-night stay for 4 at Caribbean Cove in Indy, angel statue, and dinner with Father Dave.

### LIVE AUCTION STARTS AT 1PM

### FREE EVENING ENTERTAINMENT POP 'N FRESH BAND

Must be 21 or older with i.d. after 7:30pm

**ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
2304 LOWER HUNTINGTON ROAD**

License # 115101



## McElhaney-Hart

FUNERAL HOME

715 North Jefferson  
Huntington

(260) 356-3320

www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com



PROVIDED BY IDA LIST

Pope Benedict XVI was captured in this photo taken by Anna Haldewang, one of the pilgrims who attended World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia. Haldewang was able to snap the photo as she sat on the shoulders of an Italian pilgrim in the crowd.

## WYD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

arrival on Sunday, July 13, the pilgrims found themselves welcomed by host families from St. Bernadette Parish in Castle Hill, New South Wales, some 45 minutes north of Sydney.

Boarding with host families was "another blessing that was bestowed on us," says List, who adds that the parishioners worked tirelessly to provide food and welcoming and farewell gatherings for the Midwestern travelers.

Pope Benedict XVI arrived by boat at Barangaroo where the pilgrims from Sacred Heart Parish were counted among the masses of international faces drawn to hear his welcoming address. Though they were unable to see the pope in person because of the crowds, big screen monitors provided the travelers with a flavor of the shepherd's arrival.

Betsy Hoffman, one of the adult chaperones from St. Francis Xavier Parish in Pierceton, says, "It was very exciting, hoping to get even a glimpse of him."

Laura Eberhardt, also a St. Francis parishioner and junior at Warsaw Community High School, reports that just being in proximity was awe-inspiring.

"Actually being there with him gave me a whole different perspective of the pope, and that was really cool because he was suddenly a real person ... instead of a strict older man that sat in Rome and issued statements about different things regarding the church," Eberhardt says.

When asked why they wanted to see the pope, the enlivened pilgrims summed up their reasons by agreeing that it was an opportunity to meet other Catholic teens from around the world that held the same beliefs and were active in the faith.

The group participated in many of the activities associated with the five-day event as well as morning and evening prayer, concerts, adoration and Stations of the Cross. They even prayed the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy on the transit system among non-WYD people.

But they seemed most enthused about the Saturday vigil and Sunday closing Mass held at

Royal Randwick Racecourse where the crowd was estimated at 400,000. The pope told the young people to "open their hearts to Jesus and cooperating with the gifts of the Holy Spirit would transform their lives and help them bring a life-giving witness to the rest of the world."

Eberhardt and friend Anna Haldewang, sophomore at Culver Academies and parishioner of St. Martin de Porres in Syracuse, got within 10 yards of the pope as he drove past the cheering crowd for the closing Mass. Haldewang sat atop an Italian participant's shoulders and was excited to actually snap photos of the pontiff.

Following the array of WYD festivities the weary but still enthused pilgrims took time to explore the region. They enjoyed visits to the Tarongo Zoo, the Sydney Aquarium, the Blue Mountains and Manly Beach.

Though the events and sight-seeing expeditions were awe-inspiring, the natives of the land down under brought the real life to the trip.

All agree with Desiree List, a junior attending Wawasee High School and parishioner of Sacred Heart Parish, when she says, "The people in Australia were very hospitable. Every Aussie I met was very easy going and just plain lovely. Their culture reflected their personality — very relaxed and wonderful."

How did this experience change these pilgrims?

Chelsea Domiano, Warsaw High School junior and parishioner of Sacred Heart says, "Seeing the pope ... made me think of my own life ... and that we always have a choice, a choice to be a believer in Christ. I feel so proud of my faith."

Desiree List is working to be more open to the Spirit and feels the pope is "counting on me to help change the world and bring nations together by just doing what is right," an honorable goal for this faith-filled young woman.

Safely back at home these weary travelers are processing this monumental experience of international pilgrims gathering to join their shepherd in celebrating their faith and upon reflection agree, as Laura Eberhardt says, "All the events were great, but it was the people that made them a once in a lifetime experience."

## Garden dedicated to lives lost too soon

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — The fleeting sight of a butterfly reminds Zach Baker, 16, and his family of a sister and daughter's presence that was too quickly gone.

Cassie Baker, who died in September 2005, was two-days-old when her tiny body succumbed to difficulties regulating her own body temperature and oxygen levels, said Laura Baker, Zach and Cassie's mom.

For what would have been her third year of life, the family built and dedicated a butterfly garden in her honor at the Angel of Hope Memorial Garden at Pinhook Park in South Bend, a garden designed for families who have suffered the loss of a child.

The butterfly garden sits just outside an enclosed patio of brick pavers engraved with the names of children and families who have been lost or who grieve those who've died. Zach, who's family attends Christ the King Church in South Bend, conceived of and worked on the project for his Eagle Scout award.

"I wanted to do something important for me in a place that's very important to me," said Zach, who, with the help of family, completed the project the first weekend in August. "I wanted to build a garden."

The Angel of Hope Memorial Garden has been a place of healing for both Zach and his family over the death of Cassie.

Meeting others who feel the same emotions and express their sadness together is the point of the memorial garden, Zach explained.

"It's just so you know that you're not alone," he said. "That's very helpful."

Other families and the Bakers who have met at the garden can be vulnerable with each other and talk about their loved ones with a level of understanding that people who haven't lost a child or sister may not be able to relate to, Laura Baker explained.

That's partly the reason the butterfly garden was so important for Zach to build.



JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

Zach Baker, 16, and his mom Laura Baker, of Granger, sit next to the butterfly garden Zach built at the Angel of Hope Memorial Garden at Pinhook Park in South Bend in honor of his sister Cassie who died in September 2005. Zach built the garden for his Eagle Scout project.

"I think I needed to express how deeply I was affected by her passing," Zach said. "I wanted to dedicate something to her and in the place that we come to remember her, I thought, would be the best place to do that."

The process to build the garden began a year ago, Zach explained, with him approaching the Angel of Hope board for permission to install the garden.

"I had a lot of help from people," said Zach, who will be a junior at Saint Joseph's High School this fall.

He placed notices in the Angel of Hope newsletter asking for donations. Donations poured in from people who belong to the organization and his mom, dad, uncle and close friends helped build it.

The garden, containing day lilies, Russian sage, black-eyed Susans, phlox, peonies, Shasta daisies and more, are all flowers that attract butterflies. Zach researched the types of flowers used in butterfly gardens, but also relied on the help of Sue Polega at God's Green Earth garden center in Niles. The butterfly garden is ringed by a retaining wall that Zach and his helpers built before

installing the garden. The butterfly garden will be maintained now by volunteers who garden at the memorial, Zach said.

For his family, building the garden was a way the entire family could come together to remember Cassie and deal with the loss. Zach has three other siblings as well — Sarah Cate, 12, Ian, 7, and Nate, 1.

Laura Baker added that many people believe that the death of someone ends their relationship with them, but she said she believes death simply changes the relationship, adding memories to it. For example, she said, for Cassie's third year the family built a garden, which will be added to their store of memories of her.

Despite what the butterfly garden adds to their family, Zach said he hopes other families will leave the Angel of Hope Memorial Garden with a sense of hope.

"It's not over," he said. "These people will still be with us and continue on with us for the rest of our lives. Because I know what it feels like to have lost someone, I know that we need hope that they will still be with us. And I hope (others) can feel that."

## Pope says World Youth Day contrasts with young people's escapism

BRESSANONE, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI highlighted the "authentic joy" experienced by World Youth Day participants and said it stood in stark contrast to the drug-fueled escapism affecting many young people today.

The pope, speaking Aug. 10 at the end of a two-week vacation in the northern Italian city of Bressanone, offered what he called a "spontaneous reflection" on his World Youth Day trip to Australia in late July.

What particularly impressed him in Australia, he said, were the "joyous faces of so many boys and girls from all over the world."

"In the great cities of the young Australian nation, those young people were a sign of authentic joy, sometimes noisy but always

peaceful and positive," he said.

Although an estimated 400,000 young people participated in the Australian events, the pope noted that they caused no disorder or damage.

"To be happy, they didn't need to resort to vulgarity or violence, or to alcohol and drugs," he said. Instead, they drew happiness from meeting each other and discovering a new world, he said.

The pope said it was only natural to compare World Youth Day participants to others their age who seek "false escape" through degrading experiences that often end in tragedy.

Such escapism, he said, is a typical byproduct of today's prosperous society that, in order to fill up inner emptiness and boredom,

promotes new experiences that are increasingly emotional and extreme.

The pope spoke from a small platform in the town square of Bressanone, where some 7,000 people had gathered to bid farewell to the 81-year-old pontiff. It was the last full day of his northern Italian vacation, and he was scheduled to spend the rest of the summer in his villa outside Rome.

Before leaving, the pope offered a reflection on vacations, saying that unless they include a spiritual element they are destined to disappoint. People who look at vacation solely as an endeavor to find "the mirage of pleasure" often end up more worn out than when they began, he said.