



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Bishop D'Arcy ordains Holy Cross deacons



DIANE FREEBY

Bishop John M. D'Arcy ordained three Holy Cross deacons Sunday at Notre Dame's Moreau Seminary Chapel. From left, are Deacons Vincent Amory Kuna, CSC, Charles McCoy, CSC, and Aaron Michka, CSC.

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — "We are all invited to offer our lives to God."

Bishop John M. D'Arcy offered these words during his homily at the ordination Mass for three young men entering the diaconate, on their way to the priesthood. Bishop D'Arcy went on to detail the special invitation given to Vincent Kuna, Charles McCoy and Aaron Michka as they entered into the diaconate Sunday at Notre Dame's Moreau Seminary Chapel.

"The deacon ... the priest ... the bishop has chosen to live close to Jesus Christ and share his word with others," said Bishop D'Arcy, emphasizing the day's theme of sharing the Gospel. "What a joy that three young men are joining his company, and his gift will continue to be spread in the church."

The three men who became deacons will head their separate ways to share their gifts with parishes in Mexico, Colorado and South Bend before returning to Notre Dame for their ordination to the priesthood April 18, 2009.

"The chance to serve as a deacon is an honor that's really infinite," said Deacon McCoy, who is affectionately known as "Deacon Charlie" at South Bend's Christ the King Parish.

Deacon McCoy expects to be happily busy with his new duties. In addition to serving at Christ the King, he is also working at Notre Dame on the math faculty.

"The word deacon means servant," continued Deacon McCoy. "Serving not just at the altar, but reaching out to the poor and afflicted. Just as Christ is the servant of us all, I look forward to serving his people."

Deacon McCoy, who is originally from Deerfield, Ill., received his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Baylor University in May 1995 and a doctorate in

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Think Green
Recycle this paper

Eleven men accepted into deacon candidacy

Main focus of the deacon is on service

BY ANN CAREY

SOUTH BEND — It has been 25 years since any permanent deacons were ordained for this diocese, but last Sunday, 11 men took the first formal step to become permanent deacons. At the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral, Bishop John M.D'Arcy accepted the men into the Candidacy of Diocesan Deacon. The men will continue their studies, and those who persevere will be ordained to the permanent diaconate in 2011 and assigned to a parish by the bishop.

The 11 men and their home parishes are: Robert Byrne, St. Anthony, South Bend; David Elchert, St. John, Goshen; James Fitzpatrick, St. Vincent, Fort Wayne; James

Fuchs, St. Pius X, Granger; William Gallagher, Sacred Heart, Notre Dame; John Hilger, St. Patrick, Arcola; James Kitchens, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne; Jerome Kohrman, St. Therese, Fort Wayne; Stanley LeMieux, St. Patrick, Blessed Sacrament, Albion; Melvin Tardy, Jr., St. Augustine, South Bend; and James Tighe, St. Jude, Fort Wayne.

In Bishop D'Arcy's homily at the 5:30 p.m. Mass that included the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders in the Permanent Diaconate," he stressed that the main focus of the deacon is on service:

"When one is ordained a deacon, one is made over to be a servant, like Jesus Christ, the servant who came not to be served, but to serve," Bishop D'Arcy said.

A deacon is authorized to preach and teach in the name of the church. The deacon also is

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DEBRIS SEEN IN STREET AFTER HURRICANE HITS



CNS PHOTO/MARK WALLHEISER, REUTERS

Debris is seen in a street after Hurricane Gustav hits Houma, La., Sept. 1. Gustav slammed into the heart of Louisiana's fishing and oil industry with 110-mph winds Sept. 1.

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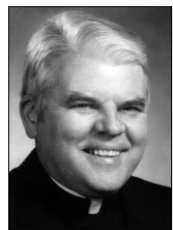
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Ordination of deacons is one of the most sacred and beautiful things a bishop does



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A golden day

We began the celebration of the 50th year of Bishop Luers High School this past week. It was a joyful event with members of the original graduating class of 1962. We celebrated along with many other alumni from this wonderful institution. Bishop Luers raised close to \$3 million in pledges for the restoration of the school, the new infrastructure, which included a new boiler; and a much needed air conditioning system, as well as an improvement in its external appearance. It is only the beginning, as alumni, and the board and parents, have other ideas in mind.

Along with three state championships, Bishop Luers has been declared an exemplary school, which means all four of our Catholic high schools now have this lofty state recognition.

In the last two years, I have ordained three young men to the priesthood, and two are graduates of Bishop Luers.

This year, three entered the seminary, one from Bishop Dwenger, and two from Bishop Luers.

Also, we will ordain two priests in October, and both are graduates of Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend. We see how important our high schools are for the future of the diocese.

A joyful morning at Bishop Luers, and made especially so by the fact that there were 15 priests concelebrating. These were local pastors, and also two Franciscans: Father Carl Hawver, OFM, and Father John Stein, OFM. Father John Stein, OFM, was also a Bishop Luers graduate. The Franciscan priests and Franciscan sisters of Perpetual Adoration staffed Bishop Luers for many years.

The sacred order of deacon

It was a joy to ordain three Holy Cross religious to the Holy Order of Diaconate this past Sunday. This took place at the Chapel of Moreau Seminary. The previous day, all three had taken their final vows as members of the Congregation of Holy Cross. I think they are the first in this province to be ordained deacons, since the beatification of their founder, Basil Anthony Moreau. I arrived early to have a light breakfast with them and Father Patrick Neary, CSC, seminary rector, and other members of the formation faculty.

The ordination of a deacon, and especially of a priest, is one of the most sacred and beautiful things that a bishop does; and my heart was filled with the grace of the

moment. It was a joy to be with these priests and the Holy Cross community, and of course, their families from Chicago, Texas and other places.

More about deacons

After a brief rest at my not-so-fancy apartment at the former St. Patrick's convent, and the chance to check the Red Sox box score, I went to St. Matthew's, the co-cathedral parish for another historic event. Eleven men, who have been studying for almost two years for the permanent diaconate, received what is called candidacy. This means that the church officially accepts them as candidates for the diaconate. St. Matthew's was full, and at the conclusion there was loud applause for these 11 men.

Their families were present, and it was a very joyful moment. They have some years to go in both academic and pastoral training. Every one of them has a priest spiritual director appointed by the bishop. They meet twice a month at Donaldson, Ind., for their preparation. Their courses are intense, and I will be celebrating Mass with them this month.

I waited intentionally before beginning a program of formation for the diaconate, as

congregation to have such an outstanding number.

A first anniversary

One year ago, on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, I flew to be with my family and my sister Mary, who was dying. I drove through the night from Boston to her hospital in New Hampshire, and the next day with all my family, celebrated Mass in her room. I spent the Monday holiday near her, and you could tell the end was near. She died on Friday, Sept. 7. I think of her often, and miss her very much. But I know she is with God, and I look back on the beautiful rite of Christian Burial with gratitude and joy. She was devoted to her only brother — much more than I deserved.

Another memory

September 8 is the birthday of Our Lady. But my family also observed it as the birthday of my mother. She used to say in Irish, "Lo Musha More" (The Big Lady's Day). My mother really taught me about devotion to Our Lady. She carried it with her from her tiny stone home in Ireland, from her parish church, and it lighted her whole life.

I entrust these two extraordinary ladies, my mother and sister, and my dear dad, to Our Lady, especially on this feast day. I entrust them all, also, to your good prayers.

A different anniversary

It is 60 years since Labor Day, 1948, and why is that of interest? I took the street car a short distance to old Braves Field. With another young friend, we turned the stiles, there was nothing automatic in those days, and if you turned the stiles at the entrance as people entered the field, after an hour or so, the man in charge would let you in free. I arrived at 10:30 in the morning, and by

noontime, was settled in what was called a "jury box" in the right-field bleachers. There I watched a double-header. Alas, they do not have those anymore. The mighty Brooklyn Dodgers arrived, and they trailed my beloved Braves by half a game. But the Braves won both games and went on to win the National League pennant. Warren Spahn twice picked the great Jackie Robinson off first base. One year later, a month beyond my 17th birthday, I entered St. John's Seminary.

How can I remember all those details 60 years ago, and forget so much else?

A simpler time and a good time and a good memory. See you all next week.

As Pope Paul VI pointed out when he restored

this beautiful and ancient office,

the deacon is meant to be a stimulus,

so that all of us take on the spirit of Jesus Christ,

the servant.

it was always my intention to strengthen the priesthood and the program for recruiting and formation of priests. But the diaconate is a very ancient office, which was renewed at the Second Vatican Council. And those who are ordained, after careful scrutiny and formation, will be a blessing for the parishes that they serve.

As Pope Paul VI pointed out when he restored this beautiful and ancient office, the deacon is meant to be a stimulus, so that all of us take on the spirit of Jesus Christ, the servant. The deacon or priest should never draw attention to himself, but his attitude must be like John the Baptist who said: "I am not the One."

By the way, in the morning, while attending the events at Moreau Seminary, I learned that the Indiana Province of Holy Cross Congregation has 80 young men in formation, from the earliest ones who just graduated from high school, including a young man I met from our parish of St. Catherine of Alexandria in Nix Settlement. This does not mean that 80 will be ordained, because there will be much discernment, but it certainly speaks well of the

A challenge for Pope Benedict: Leading more people to read the Bible

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI chose the Bible as the topic for this fall's Synod of Bishops, he turned the church's attention to an area he has long considered crucial and in need of revitalization.

The pope's concern touches several levels. For one thing, despite an upsurge in biblical interest after the Second Vatican Council, only a minority of Catholics read the Bible regularly. The pope views the lack of scriptural formation as part of a wider crisis of catechetics in the church.

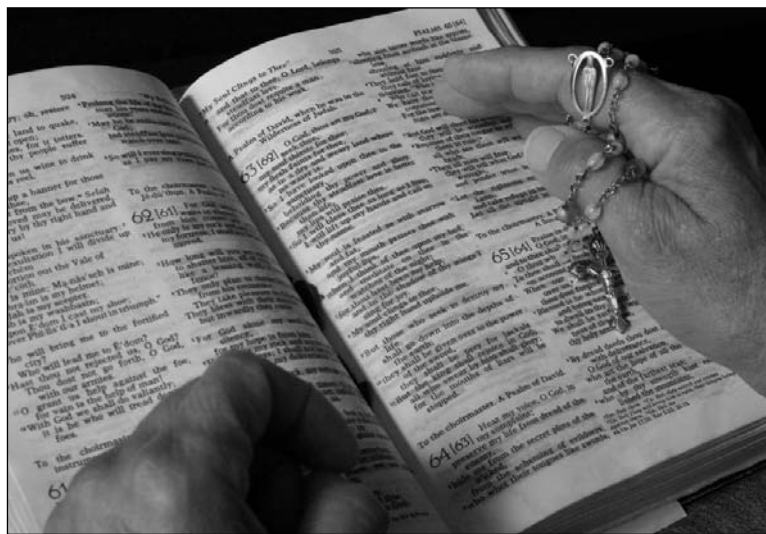
At a more academic level, the pope sees a danger in modern biblical interpretation that he believes diminishes the meaning of Scripture and erodes the bond between Bible and church.

In particular, he has warned that various modern-day methods of interpreting the Bible are too limiting; for instance, some scholars read Scripture as if they are seeking to break a code and pluck out answers one by one.

Instead, Pope Benedict believes the Bible must be seen as a whole and as the word of God, in which everything relates to everything else and offers the possibility of a spiritual journey, rather than being seen as a textbook on divine matters.

So in convoking some 250 bishops for the Oct. 5-26 synod, the pope did not intend to host a forum for scriptural analysis. His primary interest is pastoral, and a main challenge is to lead more Catholics to the Bible.

As he told synod planners earlier this year, reading, interpreting



CNS PHOTO/MICHAEL ALEXANDER

Margaret Mashini reads the Bible in St. Michael the Archangel Church in Woodstock, Ga., Aug. 22. Pope Benedict XVI will host a Synod of Bishops at the Vatican in October to help draw more Catholics to read the Bible.

and living the words of Scripture are fundamental to the faith life of Christians. Without that, the church's great works in the modern age — including evangelization and ecumenism — are bound to stall, he said.

Nor does the pope believe that scriptural expertise comes before the simple experience of reading the Bible. As a cardinal, he once said that he shares the view of liberation theology that the Bible belongs to the people, not the scholars.

And while specialists are needed, he said, "the real and essential meaning of the Bible is something the simple believer can grasp just as well."

That's something the pope has been promoting as universal pastor since his election in 2005. The very first words of his pontificate were a quote from Scripture — a

greeting from the First Letter of Peter — and his talks and sermons over the last three and a half years have included some 3,000 references to scriptural passages.

The pope once said the Bible would be one of two books he would take with him if marooned on an island (the other was St. Augustine's "Confessions.") His own familiarity with Scripture is evident in the way he cites passages even in off-the-cuff remarks.

His written works seem to breathe Scripture. His first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), was typical. It began with a citation from the First Letter of John and on practically every page drew from the Old and New Testaments, often making connections between the two. In his discussion of unjustified suffering, for example, he begins with a lesson from the Book of Job, then weaves

in several Gospel passages.

One of Pope Benedict's primary convictions is that the New Testament offers the key to understanding the Old Testament and that, as a whole, the Bible necessarily leads to Christ.

But he believes this traditional Christological approach has been threatened by some modern schools of interpretation that would limit the meaning of any biblical book to the author's historical context.

In a 2001 essay, he described in dramatic terms how such interpretation jeopardized the "internal harmony" of the Bible as understood by Christians through the centuries.

By presuming that Old Testament writers could not have intended to refer in advance to Christ and the New Testament faith, he warned, this new line of biblical study would "sound the death knell" for the Christian understanding of Old Testament-New Testament unity.

As early as the Second Vatican Council, the pope — then Father Joseph Ratzinger — was involved deeply in a debate over the relationship among Scripture, tradition and the church's magisterium, or teaching authority. Here, too, the future pope identified a dangerous trend in biblical interpretation that saw Scripture as the entire deposit of the faith.

As a council expert, Father Ratzinger wrote that this approach was not balanced and that "revelation ... is greater even than the words of Scripture."

Much later, he expanded on this point in the book, "God and the World," saying that when it came to the authorship of the Bible it

was clear that "God did not just dictate these words." Instead, the words of Scripture bear the impression of a history guided by God, a history that directly involves the church, he said.

Pope Benedict always has emphasized that this history continues, and that the Bible, far from a piece of literature or a historical record, is a living book that touches the present.

In a foreword to his 2007 book, "Jesus of Nazareth," the pope said the books of Scripture involve three interacting subjects: the individual author, the church and God.

"The people of God — the church — is the living subject of Scripture; it is in the church that the words of the Bible are always in the present," he wrote.

What he attempted to do in his book on Jesus, he explained, was to use historical insights to help reveal the figure of Jesus, but to go beyond purely historical interpretation.

Instead, he said, his method takes the conviction of faith — faith that Jesus truly was God — as a starting point for reading Scripture. This approach allows for a proper theological interpretation of the Bible, yet does not sacrifice the church's "serious engagement with history," he said.

The pope has noted the Bible's ability to inspire individuals and impact their day-to-day decisions. But he has also cautioned against reading the Bible for easy answers, which would "turn Scripture into an oracle."

What's important, he once said, is to "read the Bible regularly, to let it keep us company and guide us."

Court OKs Mexico City Assembly's power to pass abortion law

BY DAVID AGREN

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — The Mexican Supreme Court has ruled that the Mexico City Assembly has the authority to pass legislation legalizing abortion, but has not ruled on the constitutionality of the current law.

In a 10-1 vote, the court decided Aug. 26 that the capital city's government can establish its own health regulations — and thus pass a law concerning abortion. The decision went against arguments by the federal attorney general's office and the National Human Rights Commission.

Despite the setback for the groups challenging the constitutionality of the Mexico City law, which permits abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, Armando Martinez Gomez, president of the College of Catholic Lawyers of Mexico, told Catholic News Service, "The debate has barely begun" since the high court has yet to rule on whether or not the fetus has legal rights.

At least eight justices must vote against the law passed by the Mexico City Assembly in April 2007 for it to be annulled. In the

rest of the country, abortion is a state-level matter. Most of the country's 31 states allow abortion under limited circumstances such as rape, incest or risk to the mother's health.

"It's not very clear how they (the justices) are going to vote," said Ilan Semo Gorman, a political historian at the Jesuit-run Iberoamerican University in Mexico City. However, he added, "the majority of the court is conservative."

Two days before the court ruling, the Mexican bishops' conference aired a prime-time message showing Bishop Carlos Aguiar Retes of Texcoco, president of the conference.

"The right to life and absolute respect for it should be the base of our democracy," Bishop Aguiar said.

"As citizens, we're confident that the judges will fulfill their work responsibly," he added. "We hope that their decision is oriented toward justice, the law, the truth and the common good."

The leftist Democratic Revolution Party, which promoted the abortion law in Mexico City, promised to file a complaint against the bishops.

"The Interior Secretariat should not permit the transmission of messages ... that clearly violate the principle of separating church and state," said Maricela Contreras Julian, a Democratic Revolution Party congresswoman. She added that the church should not inject religious arguments into the discussion, "nor try to pressure the Supreme Court judges with televised messages."

ProVida, a right-to-life group, placed more than 12,000 crosses around the landmark Angel de la Independencia monument to signify the number of legal abortions in Mexico over the past 14 months.

Mexico City pollster Jorge Buendia said coverage of the Supreme Court debate and abortion protests would most likely be overshadowed by other big news, including plans for a massive anti-crime march Aug. 30.

"The (abortion opponents) have had very bad luck," said Buendia, director of the Mexico City polling firm Buendia y Laredo. "All of the media attention is concentrated on the subject of security."

He added that the majority of Mexicans oppose abortion, although the rate of acceptance is higher in the national capital.

ORDAIN

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mathematics from the University of Notre Dame in May 2000. He entered Moreau Seminary and received a master of divinity degree from Notre Dame in May.

Deacon Vince Kuna also hails from Illinois, attending Naperville High School before going on to earn a business degree at the Notre Dame. He worked as an accountant consultant for about three years before entering Moreau Seminary in the fall of 2002. After receiving his master's of divinity degree this past May, Kuna was assigned to Sacred Heart Parish in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"It is actually a tri-area parish where I will be serving as deacon," explained Kuna. "I am looking forward to also working with the people at Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Holy Rosary parishes."

Deacon Aaron Michka is from Cypress, Texas, and entered the Old College Program as an undergraduate student at Notre Dame. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 2004 as well as a master of divinity degree in May 2008. He will actually leave the country for a while to serve as deacon at Nuestra Madre Santisima de la Luz Parish in

Monterrey, Mexico.

"I'm looking forward to the two jobs I'll have there," said Deacon Michka. "As director of the candidate program, I'll be working with first-year seminarians from Mexico. La Luz is an urban parish, so I'll get to serve as deacon for the people there."

Nearly 40 priests concelebrated the ordination Mass. Holy Cross Father David Tyson, provincial, was the presenter and family members of the soon-to-be ordained deacons served as lectors and gift bearers. The chapel at Moreau Seminary was packed for the 10:30 a.m. Mass, including several families from area parishes.

"We wanted our children to see what a diaconate ordination was like," said Christ the King parishioner Elizabeth Appleton, as her two-year-old wriggled in husband Steve's arms. "We also wanted to support Charlie."

"We've been to ordination Masses before," added Steve. "We wanted to expose our boys to this." Dominic Appleton, a third grader at Christ the King, was impressed. "It was pretty cool," he said.

As he handed on the book of the Gospels to each new deacon, Bishop D'Arcy reminded the men of their duty to be an example and an inspiration to others.

"Believe what you read in the Gospel, teach what you believe and practice what you teach."

Obama invokes American spirit, echoes 'Faithful Citizenship' themes

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Appealing to America's spirit of decency and Americans' respect for each other, Sen. Barack Obama has set the tone for the final two months of his historic presidential bid by urging the country to embrace personal responsibility and the fundamental belief that everyone is "my brother's keeper ... my sister's keeper."

In accepting the Democratic nomination for president on the final night of his party's convention in Denver Aug. 28, the junior senator from Illinois introduced his blueprint which offered what he called a way into the future.

The 42-minute speech to 85,000 people at Invesco Field and an international television audience echoed several themes from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' 2007 "Faithful Citizenship" document, which calls for individual voters to form their conscience around a variety of social concerns based on Catholic social teaching.

Obama targeted issues such as affordable health care, affordable housing, comprehensive immigration reform, funding energy alternatives, access to quality education, including college, and making the poor, homeless and unem-



CNS PHOTO/MIKE SEGAR, REUTERS

U.S. Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, the Democratic presidential nominee, walks with his wife Michelle and daughters Sasha and Malia after his acceptance speech at the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver Aug. 28.

employed a priority in economic policy.

He was critical of the war in Iraq, promising to develop a timeline for returning troops. The U.S. bishops also have sought a responsible end to the war in Iraq.

The candidate made a pitch for building stable families, saying that "fathers must take more responsibility to provide love and guidance to their children."

Missing from Obama's discourse, however, was an extensive discussion of life issues, which the bishops have made a primary focus in their document that is being distributed during the 2008 election cycle. His comments on the issue were limited to two lines near the end of his speech.

Obama said that, while people may disagree on whether abortion should remain legal or not, "surely we can agree on reducing the number of unwanted pregnancies in this country."

He steered clear of discussing euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research and cloning, all of which the bishops consider fundamental life issues.

That was a concern of Stephen F. Schneek, director of the Life Cycle Institute at The Catholic University of America in Washington. The institute is a think tank on public policies and Catholic social thought.

"In keeping with the spirit of the 'Faithful Citizenship' document Catholics should be con-

cerned Obama is not really addressing the abortion issue directly," Schneek said. "The whole culture of life issues, this was an area studiously avoided last night. From the spectrum of 'Faithful Citizenship' we should be a little unhappy with that."

Sister Simone Campbell, a Sister of Social Service who is executive director of Network, the Washington-based Catholic social justice lobby, said she believed Obama is in a better position to reduce the number of abortions because he plans to fund health care programs that would enable women to carry their children to term. In many cases, she said, women turn to abortion because they lack access to prenatal care and the economic means to support a child.

Underlying Obama's presentation, delivered on the 45th anniversary of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech in Washington, was a theme that has guided his life's work: that political participation has a moral dimension requiring people to consider the needs of others and that solutions are best developed in cooperation with the people in need.

"For 18 long months you have stood up, one by one, and said enough to the politics of the past," Obama said. "You have shown

what history teaches us: that at defining moments like this one, the change we need doesn't come from Washington. Change comes to Washington."

Sister Campbell said she was pleased to hear Obama call for each person to work to change the direction in which the country is headed.

"It's really what the bishops say about the responsibility of citizenship," she said. "When he said this wasn't about him, this was about the citizens, that we are the ones who can make the changes happen ... that's so in keeping with what the bishops say is our moral responsibility to be involved."

John Roos, professor of political science at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, said Obama's belief that change starts at the bottom and works its way upward converges with the bishops' belief in subsidiarity — ensuring that the voices of the marginalized are heard — in their "Faithful Citizenship" document.

"It's the language of the common good," Roos said. "He (Obama) never used that term. But as a Catholic I heard him talking and time after time I thought those are the things that we believe. Community over the individual. The emphasis on conscience, doing the right thing. It's fundamental to 'Faithful Citizenship.'"

McCain selects Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as running mate

BY CAROL ZIMMERMAN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, selected by Sen. John McCain Aug. 28 as his vice-presidential running mate, won the praise of Catholic leaders earlier this year for embracing the arrival of her fifth child, born with Down syndrome in April.

The Republican governor, who says she was baptized Catholic but has always attended nondenominational Christian churches, knew from early testing that her son Trig "would face special challenges," according to a family statement, but she and her husband Todd felt "privileged that God would entrust us with this gift and allow us unspeakable joy as he entered our lives."

The family's decision stands in contrast to statistics showing that more than 90 percent of women who receive a prenatal diagnosis of

Down syndrome choose to abort the child.

Recent polls had indicated that if McCain picked a running mate who supported keeping abortion legal it would have cost him a significant number of votes.

Palin's pro-life credentials received another test when the family disclosed Sept. 1 that 17-year-old daughter Bristol, who is unmarried, was five months pregnant and planned to marry the father of her child.

Charmaine Yoest, president and CEO of Americans United for Life, said that although the situation "is not the ideal Sarah Palin wished for her daughter ... the way we react to life's challenges is the true testament to our character."

"The Palin family is displaying courage and constancy," Yoest added in a statement. "We join them in welcoming this new life."

Although Palin, Alaska's youngest and first woman gover-

nor, has been a strong supporter of pro-life issues, the 44-year-old governor's name had not been widely mentioned on the list of potential vice-presidential candidates that included former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Comm., and former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge.

Palin accepted her selection as McCain's running mate during a rally in Dayton, Ohio, calling the role the "privilege of a lifetime."

McCain described her as someone with "grit, integrity and fierce devotion to the common good ... exactly what we need in Washington today."

Palin, who took office in 2006, came to the governor's job after a stint in local politics as the mayor and council member of the small town of Wasilla and as chairman of the state Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, which regulates Alaska's oil and gas resources.



CNS PHOTO/MATT SUL LIVAN, REUTERS

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin acknowledges the crowd after being introduced as the vice-presidential running mate by Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, at a campaign event in Dayton, Ohio, Aug. 29.

Although she has pushed for ethics reform and has a reputation for standing up to special-interest groups, Palin also described herself plainly as a "hockey mom." She likes to fish and hunt and is a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association. In 1984 she was named Miss Wasilla and was a runner-up for Miss Alaska.

Born in Sandpoint, Idaho, Palin moved with her family to Alaska when she was an infant. She graduated from Wasilla High School in 1982 where she was a point guard and captain of the basketball team and earned the nickname "Sarah Barracuda" for her tough style.

She received a bachelor's degree in communications-journalism from the University of Idaho in 1987. Her husband is an oil production operator on Alaska's North Slope. Their oldest son, Track, enlisted in the Army last year.

Palin introduced her husband, Bristol and three younger children — Willow, 14; Piper, 7; and Trig — at the Dayton rally.

After Trig's birth, Anchorage Archbishop Roger L. Schwietz told the *Catholic Anchor*, the archdiocesan newspaper, that Palin's "actions are a public witness to the fact that every child is a gift. This is what the pro-abortion people don't want to admit to."

Mercy Sister Kathleen O'Hara, who assists people with disabilities at the Joy Community of Providence Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage, likewise praised Palin's decision, saying "people who had Down syndrome births were so thrilled."

"It says a great deal for their deep and abiding faith that they knew they were going to have a hard road ahead and they were willing to do this," she added.

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Bishop welcomes students, inaugurates 50th anniversary

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — A spirited congregation of students, alumni and dignitaries filled Bishop Luers High School gymnasium Aug. 27 to launch the new school year and to celebrate 50 years of education. The school has nearly completed a \$3 million, phase 1 renovation, which alumni, families and friends from the community have made possible through a capital campaign.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy celebrated Mass and then proceeded to the school chapel where he blessed a new Blessed Mother statue donated by the C. Philip Andorfer family in memory of their son Gary Andorfer, class of 1976. The procession continued outdoors where the bishop blessed the students and the site of a new facade that will contain a kneeling Knight. The 10X7 foot relief, which is not yet complete, was purchased by the class of 1962.

The ceremony included alumni (each class for the last 50 years was represented with a candle bearer); dignitaries including Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry, whose children attended Bishop Luers High School; staff from the diocesan Catholic Schools Office including Superintendent Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, Assistant Director of High Schools John Gaughan who taught and coached at Luers; Franciscan Father John Stein, himself a 1975 Luers grad and later a teacher and Franciscan Father Carl Hawver, who taught at the school for 10 years.

Two recently ordained priests, Father Tony Steinacker and Father Jason Freiburger, who concelebrated the Mass, are Luers graduates. And Bishop D'Arcy noted in his homily that of three new men accepted into the seminary this year, two are Luers' graduates.

Bishop D'Arcy, in his homily, urged students embarking upon a new school year to embrace the truth and the search for the truth and to consider three things: pray to know their vocation; keep sex within in proper place; and to embrace those often left behind or not so popular.

Bishop D'Arcy spoke about truth. "One of the temptations when you are a student," Bishop D'Arcy said, "is to cheat on an



MARK WEBER

Father Jason Freiburger, a Bishop Luers High School alum, gives Communion to senior Anthony Christie at a Mass Aug. 27 launching the new school year and the 50th anniversary. Bishop John M. D'Arcy, celebrant, was joined by several diocesan priests, Superintendent of Catholic Schools Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, and Franciscan Fathers John Stein and Carl Hawver.

exam, or on a paper, in some ways, and that can become a habit for life — you start cutting corners, saying things that are not truthful.

"That brings (us) away from God," he said. "Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' If I present something in class that really isn't me, that I didn't do myself, I'm false. It's not really me. It's something I'm presenting, which is untrue. It is better to do less well in studies and be truthful because that can inspire me to do better."

The Holy Spirit brings truth, and St. Augustine, whose feast day was the day following the celebration, was a speaker of the truth. Bishop D'Arcy noted the famous line from Augustine, "I believe so I may understand. And I understand so I may believe." And junior Ethan Gregerson was able to answer the bishop's questions as he quizzed Gregerson on the saint and church father.

Be devoted to truth, urged the bishop. "Open your mind as the year begins to truth and science and literature and history and all these things."

Bishop D'Arcy commented on the three state championship titles last year. But it was also a first

for the school to be rated an exemplary high school with academics — the highest award by the State of Indiana.

"Don't just think of state championships," Bishop D'Arcy said, "think of young men in the seminary. We honor the faculty ... the students — an exemplary school being in the very top level that you can achieve in academic recognition in the State of Indiana."

On vocations, the bishop said, "Everybody here has a call from God. It's very important that you learn what that call is." He said he hoped there were some students praying about a religious vocation, "because there should be one or two from every class."

"You have to have a habit of prayer," Bishop D'Arcy encouraged. He developed this habit when he was young and every night he would kneel down and ask God, "Lord, what do you want me to do with my life? Help me to find my vocation."

Second, "you have to accept, or pray for the grace to accept, the beautiful Catholic teaching on the question on sexuality, that sex is not a play thing, that it's a capacity to make a gift of myself to another person, one person

only for my life after I've made a promise," he said. "And it's a sacrament there. ... What a person says when he gives himself in this way is 'I'm yours forever, and nobody else's. I have kept nothing back from you. My spirit, myself, my body is given to you for love and for children.'"

"Now everybody is going to tell you that's not necessary," Bishop D'Arcy said. "The culture points every day — television, the Internet — in the direction that is harsh and harmful. I want you to tell Jesus Christ today which road you intend to take — one which is the Catholic teaching."

He added, "If one has failed in this already, that is why the church is so good in repentance

and forgiveness, which is celebrated here and in your parish."

And the third thing, "try to be caring towards one another," Bishop D'Arcy said. "this is another gift of the Holy Spirit. ... Care for the one in your class who may go unnoticed. Everyone can care about and follow the football captain or the person who's the hit in the school play. Care for everybody — especially the person who has difficulty with studies and struggles and is not one of the beautiful people. Care about that person. That means the Eucharist that you received is affecting you, and these are all the gifts of the Holy Spirit."


Celebrations continue

Bishop Luers will continue its celebration of its 50th anniversary Sept. 20 with an Alumni and Friends Golf Outing. On Friday, Oct. 10, homecoming is slated. Mass, with Franciscan Father Carl Hawver as celebrant, will be at 4:30 p.m. Tours of the school and a tailgate party are also planned.

Visit www.bishopluers.org for more information.




Bishop John M. D'Arcy poses with members of the Bishop Luers High School class of 1962, which donated the future 7X10 foot relief that will be placed on the front facade of the school. Bishop D'Arcy blessed the students and the relief at the opening school Mass and inauguration of the 50th anniversary of the school on Aug. 27. In the photo, from left, are Sandy Mathys, Judy Hersburger, Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Mary Jane Millikan and Steve McArdle.



PHOENIX Institute

Phoenix Institute, a small family oriented foster care agency, is looking for people to foster abused and neglected youth. Phoenix Institute is looking for stable and supportive families, single parents, married couples, families of color, empty nesters, people who rent or own. To become a foster parent, you don't need a lot of money, a fancy house, or extensive parenting experience. What you do need is a commitment to learning and working as part of a team, a sense of humor, flexibility, and patience. And you need to want to provide a stable and supportive home to a child. Phoenix Institute has a staff with a rich history of working in foster care. Free training - 24 hour staff support - reimbursement provided.

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Catholic colleges top regional listing in magazine's annual ranking

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the 2009 list of the nation's best colleges, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking, Catholic colleges and universities fared as they usually do — at the top of regional lists for the North and Midwest but with only a few Catholic colleges in the overall national rankings. And while many colleges promote their placement in the annual list, some college leaders are rejecting it. Three Catholic colleges that typically make the top 50 list of national colleges did so once again. The University of Notre Dame in Indiana placed 18th; Georgetown University in Washington was 23rd and Boston College ranked 34th. Last year Notre Dame was 19th, Georgetown was again 23rd and Boston ranked 35th. Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., took first place this year as the best national university, ousting Princeton University in New Jersey from that spot for the first time in nine years. Princeton placed second and Yale University in New Haven, Conn., came in third. Amherst College in Amherst, Mass., topped the list of national liberal arts schools.

Solar panels on Vatican hall first of several projects, says engineer

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican will begin installing some 2,400 solar panels in late September, the first of several projects aimed at exploiting renewable energy resources in the tiny city-state. The solar modules, which are being donated by a German company, will be fitted atop the roof of the Paul VI audience hall and will produce some 300,000 kilowatt-hours of power each year, said Mauro Villarini, the Vatican engineer coordinating the project. Construction of the solar-energy system will continue through October, while Pope Benedict XVI and some 250 bishops meet inside the audience hall for a synod on the Bible. In an interview Aug. 28 with the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, Villarini said another solar-panel system would be installed this fall above the Vatican's employee cafeteria, providing 60 percent to 70 percent of the power needed to heat and cool the building. Both solar-energy systems are expected to be operating by the end of the year, Villarini said.

Aid workers says Russian-Georgian tensions won't help refugees

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — Catholic aid workers in Georgia said diplomatic tensions between Russia and Georgia will not help refugees stranded by recent fighting between the two countries. "Over 128,000 have already been displaced inside Georgia by the

FREED HOSTAGE INGRID BETANCOURT MEETS POPE



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Freed French-Colombian hostage Ingrid Betancourt meets Pope Benedict XVI in a private audience at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Sept. 1. The Catholic politician, who was abducted in 2002 while she was running for president of Colombia, had wanted to thank the pope for his support during her captivity.

conflict, and concern is mounting about what will happen to those who can't go back, who'll need housing, vocational training and a new start in life," said Laura Sheahan, an information officer for the U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services who visited Georgia in late August. In an Aug. 28 telephone interview with Catholic News Service, Sheahan said CRS was cooperating with other humanitarian organizations in funding food, hygiene equipment and medicine for refugees from the fighting. She said many people had returned to western Georgia but would face hardships obtaining fuel and repairing their homes during the coming winter. Father Witold Szulczynski, head of Caritas Georgia, said humanitarian aid was reaching the people of Tbilisi and that life appeared to be "returning to near-normal" in the war-damaged city of Gori. Caritas Georgia is the local affiliate of the international umbrella group of aid agencies, Caritas Internationalis.

Pope condemns anti-Christian violence in India's Orissa state

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI condemned the assassination of a Hindu leader in India and the anti-Christian violence unleashed after his murder even though Maoist rebels reportedly claimed responsibility for the killing. "While I firmly condemn every attack on human life, whose sacredness must be respected by all, I express spiritual closeness and solidarity with our brothers

and sisters in the faith who are so harshly tried," the pope said. At the end of his Aug. 27 weekly general audience in the Vatican audience hall, the pope appealed to "religious leaders and civil authorities to work together to re-establish among members of the different communities the peaceful coexistence and harmony which always have been a distinctive sign of Indian society." The pope told visitors and pilgrims at his audience that he was saddened deeply by the violence in the eastern state of Orissa, "unleashed following the deplorable assassination of the Hindu leader Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati." After the leader's Aug. 23 murder, some of his followers attacked local Christians and their churches, institutions and homes, he said.

St. Paul preached to all due to fascination of Gospel, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — St. Paul's missionary travels, his writings and his perseverance despite suffering demonstrate the strength of his conviction that all people need the salvation of Christ, Pope Benedict XVI said. During his Aug. 27 weekly general audience, the pope dedicated his main talk to the biography and travels of St. Paul as part of the celebration of the 2,000th anniversary of the apostle's birth. Pope Benedict returned to the Vatican by helicopter from his summer residence at Castel Gandolfo to share his reflections with the estimated 8,000 people in the Vatican audience hall before returning to the

summer villa south of Rome. The pope told the crowd that the facts that St. Paul was born a Jew, was raised speaking Greek and held Roman citizenship placed him on "the border of three different cultures, and perhaps this is why he was open" to proclaiming the Gospel to pagans as well as fellow Jews. "We see in him a commitment that can be explained only by a soul truly fascinated by the light of the Gospel, in love with Christ and having a deep conviction that it is necessary to give the world the light of Christ, to proclaim the Gospel to all," Pope Benedict said.

After religious leaders ask for clemency, Missouri execution delayed

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — After the Catholic bishops of Missouri and other religious leaders urged clemency in the case of Dennis Skillicorn, the Missouri Supreme Court granted a 30-day stay of execution for the inmate who had been scheduled to die Aug. 27. In an appeal to Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt, the religious leaders said Skillicorn "has turned his life around, becoming a model of rehabilitation and service to others" and "a model prisoner who is a positive influence on other inmates and the prison environment. Dennis Skillicorn is not the same person who was arrested 14 years ago," they added. "He is no longer a threat to public safety. His execution would be senseless. Society and public safety would

be better served if he were allowed to continue his worthwhile ministries in prison." The 30-day stay was granted Aug. 20 to allow Skillicorn's attorneys to gather information from prisoners and prison staff for a clemency petition to the governor. The attorneys are asking for his sentence to be commuted to life in prison without parole.

Percentage changes small, but numbers up for poverty in United States

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Figures released Aug. 26 by the U.S. Census Bureau revealed that, while the number of Americans in poverty last year rose over 2006 levels, the percentage increase was not statistically significant. Try telling that to America's newly poor, said Candy Hill, senior vice president for social policy and government affairs at Catholic Charities USA. "We have 800,000 more people living in poverty, including 500,000 more children" and 200,000 more senior citizens, Hill told Catholic News Service shortly after the figures were released. The Census Bureau's Current Population Survey and its American Community Survey, both issued Aug. 26, had a margin of error of 0.2 percent, so percentage changes in either direction from 2006 to 2007 are regarded as being "statistically unchanged." David Johnson, chief of the Census Bureau's Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, told CNS in an Aug. 26 telephone interview that changes of 0.3 percent or more are recognized and reported in the surveys.

Catholics to explore evangelization in cutting-edge online conference

WASHINGTON (CNS) — More than ever, Catholics are using modern technology as an evangelization tool. More than 500 national, diocesan and parish ministry leaders will gather online Sept. 16-18 to explore the beliefs, values and spiritual longings of active and inactive Catholics in the U.S. today. "Proclaiming Christ 2008: Sharing the Gift of Our Catholic Faith" is the topic of the online national evangelization conference presented by the Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association. Sister Susan Wolf, a Sister of Notre Dame, is senior vice president and executive director of the Washington-based association. In an Aug. 20 interview she told Catholic News Service that the conference will take place entirely over the Internet by using Web 2.0 technology, considered the newest horizon for social networking. "We now have 500 registrants from 99 dioceses," said Sister Wolf, adding that with more than three weeks to go "the attendance will be much higher."

Forever Learning Institute opens semester Sept. 8

SOUTH BEND — For the 36th year, Forever Learning Institute, devoted to improving the quality of life for senior adults, will open its fall term Sept. 8 at Little Flower Parish in South Bend.

The institute was established in the diocese by Holy Cross Father Louis J. Putz, a retired priest who visioned such a voluntary school for seniors that included arts, academic classes, various crafts, language classes along with classes concerning the Roman Catholic faith.

From an original enrollment of 50 students, more than 450 have participated in recent years and some seniors attend to receive a general education degree.

Joan Loranger, executive director, said the mission of the institute has not changed since Father Putz helped establish it.

"Our mission is to improve the quality and dignity of senior adult life, to continue intellectual challenge, spiritual reflection and social interaction," she said. — EJD.

USF offers workshop, art trip to Chicago

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis is offering a continuing education course, Introduction to Stained Glass, on five Sunday afternoons beginning Sunday, Sept. 28 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in the Rolland Center off Leesburg Road.

The course includes design principles, types and qualities of glass, basic cutting and construction techniques, and a final project—a finished 18x24 inch glass panel. All tools and glass will be provided for in-class use.

The cost of the course is \$145, which includes supplies and instruction. The instructor, practicing artist Rhonda Freeman, has worked in glass for more than 30 years with expertise in hot glass, blown glass, leaded glass, foiled glass and mosaic. For more information, call (260) 399-7700 ext. 8001.

The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis will host a bus trip to the Art Institute of Chicago on Thursday, Oct. 2. The bus to Chicago will depart at 7:30 a.m. from the Rolland Art Center and return at approximately 10 p.m.

The cost is \$30 for students and \$40 for the general public. Sign up for the general public will begin on Friday, Sept. 19. Admission to the Art Institute is not included.

For more information on the trip or to sign up, contact Amy Schreiber at (260) 399-7700 ext. 8001.

Knights to participate in 40 days of prayer and fasting

FORT WAYNE — Members of the Indiana Knights of Columbus will join an ecumenical movement of prayer and fasting from Sept. 24 to Nov. 4. Several parishes throughout the state will be taking part in prayer, 24 hours a day, seven days a week outside abortion clinics to decry abortion on

AROUND THE DIOCESE

FORT WAYNE SERRANS SPONSOR ANNUAL PICNIC



PROVIDED BY THE SERRA CLUB OF FORT WAYNE

The Fort Wayne Serra Club sponsored its annual seminarians and priest picnic at Noll Hall on Lake Wawasee on Aug. 12. The day included golf, a luncheon and Mass with Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

demand and to pray for life. This is all part of a national effort that began in 2007. More information is available by contacting Karla DiFilippo at (260) 493-3748.

Queen of Angels teacher receives the Notre Dame Club Excellence In Teaching Award

FORT WAYNE — An excellent teacher can inspire students by piquing their curiosity, fueling their imagination and giving life to their dreams. They also daily make a difference in the lives of their students, as well as fellow teachers.

Queen of Angels teacher, **KAREN CHESTERMAN**, was recently honored by the Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne with its annual Excellence in Teaching Award for being such an inspiration to others. Chesterman, who has been teaching in Catholic schools for 24 years, and the last 22 years at Queen of Angels, was surprised with the award at an all-school Mass on Aug. 22.

With family and students looking on, Lisa Fabian presented the award on behalf of the club. Calling it truly an honor to do so, Fabian noted the many impressive ways that Chesterman models competency and character to those around her.

Whether teaching map skills while wearing her "globe" ear-

rings, using her gift of kindness, patience and optimism to nurture students, coordinating the after school literacy site sponsored by "Project Reads," or details of the many recycling projects she encourages the students to be involved in, Chesterman tries to connect with each and every child to achieve their greatest potential.

The Bible says that "many are called but few are chosen," Chesterman is an example of someone who was chosen by a higher calling into the teaching profession to touch the lives of others in a magnificent way.

Chesterman will be invited to attend the annual Excellence in Teaching Conference conducted by the Alumni Association's Continuing Education staff at the University of Notre Dame on Oct. 1-19 as a guest of the club.

Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home needs volunteers

FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home is looking for volunteers to assist in Hospice Home, the agency's 14-bed inpatient unit. This special work is for people that seek a meaningful volunteer pursuit and requires individuals that are emotionally mature, comfortable with issues of death and dying, and can work two to four hours per week on a steady basis. Volunteers prepare light meals for patients, assist families and staff, visit patients and clerk at the nurses' station. Volunteers are a vital part of the interdisciplinary team that brings broad end-of-life support to the patient and family. Volunteer work

in the halls of Hospice Home is needed and greatly appreciated by staff, patients and families. Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home has a well-established volunteer program that provides ongoing support and guidance for the volunteer. A thorough 19-hour training will be held this fall.

For additional information or to receive a brochure, call (260) 432-3222 and speak to Ann Blue, volunteer coordinator or visit the agency Web site at www.vnhh.org.

USF offers Saturday morning art classes for children

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis has announced fall art classes for children in grades 1 to 8 from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturdays from Sept. 13 to Dec. 6.

A variety of two and three-dimensional visual arts will be taught, including drawing, painting and sculpture. Art materials will be provided.

The cost is \$80 for one child and \$75 for each additional child. The cost includes all materials and instructional fees.

Registration should be received by Sept. 5, 2008. Early registration is advised as enrollment is limited.

For more information or a registration form, please contact Amy Schreiber at (260) 399-7700 ext. 8001 or visit the Web site at www.sf.edu/art. The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) is an accredited school by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

New St. Henry Community Center to host fundraiser

FORT WAYNE — St. Henry Parish has recently opened the St. Henry Community Center, which endeavors to bring social capital to all members of the southeast side of Fort Wayne.

The center will hold a barbecue and rummage sale on Friday, Sept. 12, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., with the rummage sale continuing on Saturday, Sept. 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The fundraiser barbecue will include ribs, chicken, brats, burgers or hot dogs and beverage. The rummage sale will be held in the center.

St. Henry is located at the corner of Paulding and Hessen Cassel roads.

Lindenwood holds retreat with Henri Nouwen's 'Life of the Beloved' for women

DONALDSON — Registrations are now being taken for the women's weekday retreat titled Henri Nouwen's "Life of the Beloved." Nouwen is very much to our day and age. He talks about the basic belief in God and how it affects us. Come find out how that basic belief affects you.

The facilitator, Father Keith Hosey has been involved in retreat and prayers seminars since 1966. He is the former director of John XXIII Center in Hartford City.

The program begins Sunday, Oct. 5, at 4:30 p.m., and concludes Wednesday, Oct. 8, with lunch at noon. The program fee is \$235 per person for single occupancy, or \$195 per person for double occupancy, and includes lodging and meals.

Registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 26. For more information or to register, contact Lindenwood at (574) 935-1763 weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or e-mail: lw@lindenwood.org or visit their Web site at www.lindenwood.org.

Study offered on theology of the body

MISHAWAKA — The Office of Catechesis will sponsor a study on Pope John Paul II's theology of the body. John and Monica Sikorski, from the diocesan Office of Family Life, will present the five evenings of discussion. Meetings are to be held on Mondays from 7-9 p.m. at Marian High School, Mishawaka, Sept. 15, 22 and 29 and Oct. 6 and 13.

Participants will discover and become equipped with the compelling truth behind the Catholic Church's teachings on marriage and family, chastity, contraception, homosexuality, celibacy and much more. Dr. Mary Healy's brief and informative book, "Men and Women are from Eden," will guide the study.

Registration is required. Interested participants can register one of three ways: online at www.diocesefwsb.org/OC under Adult Faith Formation. Contact Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411 or by e-mail at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org for information.

New principal named at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School

'I feel so blessed to be able to share the upcoming school year with you'

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — An avid Notre Dame fan and member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Louise Schultheis has been named principal at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School for the 2008-2009 school year.

With the goal of "eventually becoming a principal," Schultheis received her master's degree in educational leadership in 2008.

Looking back at the interview process and recent hiring, Schultheis feels that God's timing is not always our timing. She explains, "God works in mysterious ways. I believe he puts people where he wants them to be."

The mother of two was raised in Fort Wayne and went to St. Joseph School (now St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth) for her elementary education. She is a Bishop Luers High School graduate where her daughter, Katie, and son, Michael, now attend.



LOUISE SCHULTHEIS

While raising her family, Schultheis worked in banking and for her husband of 20 years, "The Cookie Man," who owns a franchise of Pepperidge Farms. Her favorite cookie is the "Chesapeake," a chocolate, pecan mix.

Reading and traveling are the pastimes she enjoys most, and she hopes to travel to Florida

over the Thanksgiving holiday with her family.

Schultheis had been teaching junior high religion the past four years at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth after receiving her bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in family and community studies from IPFW (Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne).

She has recently taken up the game of golf and has three "darling" pooches.

One thing not many people know about Schultheis is that she can juggle.

In her first letter home to the families of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School, Schultheis expressed how honored and excited she felt to be principal and part of the Hessen Cassel community whose school has a reputation for excellence.

The new leader concludes, "I feel so blessed to be able to share the upcoming school year with you."

SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH BEND PRESENTS MERIT AWARD



ELMER J. DANCH

Frances Holmes of Saint Pius X Parish, Granger, was honored with a special merit award by the Serra Club of South Bend for her devotional talk on the power of prayers to the Blessed Mother. She has toured famous shrines in Europe and lectured on them to various Catholic groups. Making the presentation is Richard D. Wasoski, newly-elected president of the Serra Club of South Bend. With them is Emma Szalay, a member of the club.

Humanae Vitae 40 Years Later



The diocesan Office of Family Life is sponsoring a series of talks, Masses & potluck picnics in Fort Wayne and South Bend to mark the 40th anniversary of this historic encyclical by Pope Paul VI. RSVP for the potluck picnics by contacting Helen at 574-234-0687 or haustgen@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Humanae vitae 40 Years Later: A Detailed Look at a Prophetic Document — Lisa Everett

South Bend: Wednesday, September 10, 7:30 PM

Peterson room, Corpus Christi parish

Fort Wayne: Wednesday, September 17, 7:30 PM

Garden level conference room, Archbishop Noll Center

Humanae vitae 40 Years Later: The Effects of Contraception on the Church and Society — Fred Everett, JD

South Bend: Wednesday, September 17, 7:30 PM

Peterson room, Corpus Christi parish

Fort Wayne: Wednesday, September 24, 7:30 PM

Garden level conference room, Archbishop Noll Center

A Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae

South Bend: Sunday, September 21, Corpus Christi Church

Fr. Cam Tirabassi will celebrate Mass at 4 PM, followed by a potluck picnic.

Fort Wayne: Sunday, September 28, Our Lady of Good Hope Church

Fr. Mark Gurtner will celebrate Mass at 4 PM, followed by a potluck picnic.



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DEACON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and witness marriages. Deacons conduct wake and funeral services, but they do not celebrate Mass or hear confessions.

Presently, there are about 13,000 men in the United States who minister as permanent deacons in their dioceses, according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The average age of these permanent deacons is about 60, with most having completed their child-rearing responsibilities.

Interest in the permanent diaconate flourished after Vatican II, but confusion among the faithful about the role of deacons and uneven training programs caused the program to become inactive in some dioceses. After a study of the permanent diaconate, the U.S. bishops issued the "National Directory for the Formation, Life and Ministry of Permanent Deacons in the United States" in 2004.

This comprehensive document revived interest in the diaconate, and in the spring of 2006, Bishop D'Arcy sent a letter to all pastors, asking for names of men who they considered to be good possibilities for the permanent diaconate. About 40 names were received, and about 30 men were interviewed, according to Mary Szymczak, director/coordinator of the permanent deacon program.

In January of 2007, 13 men entered into a six-month discernment period that consisted of meeting twice a month to go over different aspects of the diaconate and included lectures on spirituality, the life of a deacon, the deacon and family, etc. At the end of the six months, the men and their wives were interviewed.

"People need to be aware that this is a five-year process from inquiry to ordination, and all through those five years, it's dis-



ANN CAREY

Bishop John M. D'Arcy is pictured with the 11 men who were received into candidacy for the permanent diaconate Sunday at St. Matthew Cathedral. Also pictured in the top row, left, is Mary Szymczak, director/coordinator for the diaconate program in this diocese.

cernment of the man as well as his wife," Szymczak said. "If she doesn't approve, he will not be allowed to continue."

Anyone may decide, for whatever the reason during the discernment time, that the diaconate is not right for the person, and two men so far have done this. The church discerns, as well, with an admissions and scrutiny board that meets with candidates every year and advises the bishop on whether each man should continue in the program.

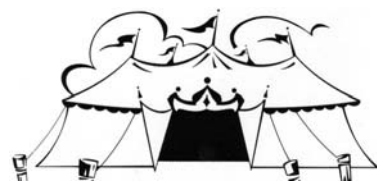
In September of 2007, the men and their wives started meeting once a month at Lindenwood for the weekend to begin classes for the permanent diaconate, classes very similar to what a man in the seminary would take in theology and philosophy.

William Gallagher, of Sacred Heart Parish, Notre Dame, said that he had been interested in the permanent diaconate for a long time, and when it became active in this diocese again, his wife Mary helped him fill out the paperwork to apply, and she attends all the classes with him and does all the readings and homework. He is retired from a career in computers, and he and Mary are the parents of

seven grown children, including a son who is a Holy Cross priest.

Candidate Melvin Tardy, Jr., of St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, also had been interested in the permanent diaconate for many years. Tardy works in academic advising at the University of Notre Dame and plans to continue in that career after ordination. He and his wife, Annie, are parents of a grown daughter.

"It's like a dream come true; it's been our life's dream," Annie Tardy said.



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THE FAITHFUL CITIZEN

RIGHT TO LIFE AND THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

Abortion

Our Founding Fathers who signed the Declaration of Independence said that normally what they were doing — overthrowing a legitimate authority — would be wrong. But since King George had denied them their inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness given to them from “their Creator,” they had not only the right but the duty to declare their independence from that king. In the preamble of the United States Constitution, the Founding Fathers mention “our Posterity” as beneficiaries of the Constitution. The unborn are therefore included in the protection of this document. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court declared in *Roe v. Wade* that “our Posterity” meant only unborn children who were wanted. Isn't it amazing that a nation that credits its ability to be independent on the inalienable rights given it by “their Creator” God would find itself denying those same rights to its own posterity, its own children? How can a nation that kills 4,000 of its own children each day expect to survive, much less to be blessed by God?

FATHER GEORGE GABET, FSSP
ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN COMMUNITY

Euthanasia and health care directives

Consider this true story.

A disabled woman was placed under the care of a court appointed public guardian when her husband became ill. The guardian then chose to discontinue aiding her in receiving food and water — against the wishes of her husband and her family.

There is a misperception that what is legal is also ethical and morally licit. (N.C.B.C.) As health care becomes more legislated, the more likely one could become the victim of euthanasia. Voters should know if a candidate supports new health care directives that respect every human person, free and truly informed consent, as well as the common good.

ROSIE LAHRMAN
MISSION EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE, SAINT ANNE HOME

The Death Penalty

As Catholics we are called to uphold a consistent ethic of life — to take a stand against violence in every form. This includes abortion and euthanasia, of course, but it also includes the execution of prisoners. Justice cannot be served by more violence. Catholic teaching tells us that the death penalty can be used only in cases of absolute necessity and Pope John Paul II wrote that such situations are “very rare, if not practically non-existent.” As a priest who has ministered to prisoners in their last hours and witnessed the deaths of two of them by lethal injection, I agree wholeheartedly that the death penalty is extremely expensive, often unjustly or mistakenly imposed, and does not act as a deterrent to would-be killers.

FATHER TOM MCNALLY, CSC

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

Why should political life matter to a Catholic?

One of the most basic demands of justice is that we pursue and preserve the common good. The Gospel makes it clear that we do not have the luxury of separating ourselves from the society and culture in which we happen to find ourselves, but are called somehow to be “salt” and “light” for the world. One of the principal obligations of the church is to be the voice for the “voiceless” — to speak out and witness on behalf of the most vulnerable members of society. Not only our words, but also the witness we offer by our lives can have a profound impact. And yet while we participate in political life, we must also recognize the limits of politics and political solutions in addressing the deepest problems and needs that face us individually and communally: Jesus's kingdom is not the product of earthly effort or temporal planning, but rather is more the fruit of our “buying into” the truth of what he reveals about God and about ourselves. The Gospel injunction (Mt 10.16) that we be as “shrewd as serpents” and as “guileless as doves” can provide a paradigm for our engagement with the political system in which we live: shrewd enough to recognize the truth of things (calling what is good “good” and what is evil “evil”) and guileless in our not being co-opted into the very games of leverage, power and domination that can darken social life.

FATHER MICHAEL HEINTZ
ST. MATTHEW CATHEDRAL
SOUTH BEND

Supporting the family through policy

The nuclear family — father, mother, children — is the most important unit for the healthy growth of our country. The economic and social policies of our country should foster family life and values. The downfall of this family will contribute heavily to the downfall of our nation.

FATHER JOHN PFISTER
ST. MARY PARISH
HUNTINGTON

Sanctity of Marriage

As the sanctity of marriage is eroded, so is the family and thus also is society. God has made marriage to be the partnership of the whole of life between a man and a woman that is directed to the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring. Marriage has as its essential properties unity (which includes fidelity) and indissolubility. Attempts to redefine marriage or to advance further the divorce culture undermines the sanctity of marriage which contributes further to the destabilization of society. As society becomes more and more destabilized, individuals become less and less able to flourish as God created them to do.

FATHER MARK GURTNER
OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE PARISH
FORT WAYNE

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Religious freedom

The Second Vatican Council is clear: “... The individual must not be forced to act against conscience nor be prevented from acting according to conscience, especially in religious matters.” (DH 3). In this election we want to look for a candidate who will maintain this understanding in the United States (allowing the church to continue to teach the truth of Jesus Christ and his church's beliefs without being penalized) and who will promote this concept of religious freedom to the rest of the world.

DEACON DREW CURRY
ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH
FORT WAYNE

Education

Schools play a vital role in the preparation of citizens for our nation. Young people today face some of the same challenges as well as additional challenges that earlier generations did not have to face. At our best, our schools demonstrate and inspire a search for wisdom and truth and help our students integrate their faith with the surrounding culture in which they live. All of this is sustained by the witness of our teachers. The prophetic words of Pope Paul VI ring as true today as they did 30 years ago: “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.”

CARL LOESCH
PRINCIPAL
MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Health care

What does someone who is uninsured look like? What circumstances brought them to the place where they have no health coverage? There are currently 45.8 million people in this country who are uninsured or underinsured, many of whom are women and children. Nearly 2 million people have filed bankruptcy because of excessive medical costs. In 1994 the National Conference of Bishops (now the USCCB) approved the third revised edition of Ethical and Religious Directives for Health Services. In this document, the bishops articulate five principles that should govern our social responsibility for health care. The second principle is the biblical mandate to care for the poor. This is not, however, simply a principle, but a call to concretely express this care for all in our society. The USCCB firmly states that health care is a “basic human right, an essential safeguard of human life and dignity.” Access to adequate healthcare is foundational to our belief in the dignity of all humankind. This dignity, rooted in the image of God, demands that we safeguard human life, especially for those most in need.

MARY GLOWASKI
DIOCESAN OFFICE OF CAMPUS AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Every election year, “Citizenship,” is to be a sampling of of concern to American headings used in the

OPTION FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

Poverty

As long as a growing number of people in this country and around the world live on a living wage or secure net income, no other issue can be resolved. Police and military action in the world, anger at the growing gap between rich and poor will fuel more terrorism. Thanks to modern communication and transportation, America has never been in a better position to spearhead the effort to promote peace and justice, which can only come from widely shared prosperity.

The ill and disabled

“The world of rights and responsibilities is the prerogative of the healthy, not the disabled,” says the Catechism. In the International Symposium on the Dignity of the Mentally Disabled in January 2007, the defending the rights of the disabled. “The starting point for every action is that the ability is rooted in the functions of Christian anthropology. Disabled persons are mental, sensory or intellectual damaged, they are fully human and possess the sacred and inalienable right to belong to every human community.”

DIOCESAN OFFICE OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Human cloning and of human embryos

A civilized society should not tolerate the deliberate destruction of human beings, no matter what the purpose. The development, in any form, is a line that should not be crossed for any reason. While acquiring stem cells does not involve harvesting embryonic stem cells, the process involves the destruction of human being. In addition, stem cells have not produced a child. They are prone to developing into various types of cells while dozens of therapies have been developed over the past decade from stem cells. We should support candidates who best promote the dignity of human beings from the beginning to the natural death.

the U.S. bishops publish a statement regarding Catholics and their roll in public life. One major goal of this statement, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Catholics," is to educate Catholics on what the church teaches about issues affecting public policy. In this feature, Catholics from around the Diocese of Fort Wayne-Southwest Indiana, "faithful citizens," share why these various issues, while not of equal priority to the church, are still important to the church and should at least be a matter for discussion. You can contact your bishop or other Catholic leaders in your area as they engage public life, be it through voting, a letter to Congress or a letter to the editor. These issues are divided into the seven general categories found in the U.S. bishops' document. **For more information, visit www.faithfulcitizenship.org**

POOR AND

THE DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF WORKERS

Labor

The U.S. wanted cheap labor, and human beings showed up. The economy may well be the leading issue in this year's election, and there are, obviously, moral dimensions to this. For decades, we have seen the growing gap between the rich and the poor. Our bishops see jobs in decent working conditions with just wages as a priority. Ending discrimination in the work place and equal pay for equal work are explicit priorities as well. The bishops also support the rights of workers to choose to organize, to join a union, and to bargain collectively. Upholding these values is in service to the common good.

number of people in the world cannot earn enough to afford medical help, education, and a decent life. In spite of the fact that we have here and around the world a growing gap between rich and poor, our bishops see jobs in decent working conditions with just wages as a priority. Ending discrimination in the work place and equal pay for equal work are explicit priorities as well. The bishops also support the rights of workers to choose to organize, to join a union, and to bargain collectively. Upholding these values is in service to the common good.

FATHER LARRY KRAMER
ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS PARISH
COLUMBIA CITY

Immigration

We have had no meaningful debate about this issue recently, and it must change. The U.S. bishops have been consistent in supporting comprehensive immigration reform. Solutions are not "pro" or "anti" immigrant. We must seek the middle ground. Compassion and humanity need to be on equal footing with border enforcement. I am convinced that Congress must not see the hate, hear the rhetoric, or understand the costs, or action already would have been taken. No more indecision. No more rhetoric. Roll up your sleeves, debate it out, make compromises, and get the job done.

cannot only be the result of a "John Paul II decision." The Catholic teaching regarding international migration and the rights of the human person are clearly stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2004). Clearly, the Pope is disabled, he said, and his reflection on fundamental convictions is flawed. Even when the intellect is impaired or the intellectual capacity is diminished, human beings and their inalienable rights that are part of their nature."

GINNY KOHRMAN
DEVELOPMENT AND EVANGELIZATION

FATHER CHRIS COX, CSC
ST. ADALBERT PARISH, ST. CASIMIR PARISH
SOUTH BEND

Health care right of conscience

A new front in the battle over the life issues concerns freedom of conscience. Can a pro-life pharmacist be forced to fill a prescription for the morning-after pill? Can a Catholic nurse be fired for not assisting with an abortion? The church believes strongly that health care providers must be able to serve the public without violating their convictions on the sanctity of human life. As challenges to conscience clauses multiply, pressure is building for federal legislation to assure freedom of consciences for all health care providers. Legislators at both the state and federal levels must be asked where they stand on such a fundamental right.

the destruction

ould recognize that the destruction of innocent human life at the earliest stage of their development should not be crossed for the sake of a living adult or umbilical cord. The harm to human beings, and the cells always contain a living embryonic stem cell. Embryonic stem cell single therapy and its use in the treatment of cancerous tumors, have been derived from adult and umbilical cord. We look for political leaders to show respect for the human life from conception until

LISA EVERETT
DIOCESAN OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE

GREG ERLANDSON
PRESIDENT
OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, INC.

SOLIDARITY

Overcoming racism

For anyone one who proclaims to be Christian and follow Jesus, we should look even deeper into what our faith says about racism. In Paul's Letter to the Galatians, we learn that "there is neither Jew, nor Greek, slave nor free ... for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Paul's letters often focus on the theme of the mystical body of Christ, meaning that all of us together make up the one body. This idea, that we are all connected to each other through the blood of Christ is central to our Christian moral life. We are in solidarity, we are in communion with each other. Because of this we should live in harmony with each other regardless of race, religion or any other discrimination. Every person should treat every other person as if they were Christ himself.

VICKI SCHWAB
MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Human trafficking

Human trafficking is moving people, often women, children and immigrants, from one place to another with the intention of exploiting them. These victims travel with the hope of a better life. However, they soon find themselves at the mercy of traffickers who, through force and fear (often of deportation), trap them in labor arrangements where they have little chance of escape. They are often treated as objects and used for prostitution, pornography, etc. as well. This crime against freedom and human dignity objectifies the human person as a commodity to be used by others. We must insist that candidates are working for fair labor laws, good education accessible to all, promoting family values and government supervision of trade working environments — all of which help to ensure the dignity of our vulnerable brothers and sisters whom we are called to protect.

FATHER JASON FREIBURGER
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH
FORT WAYNE

Just war, pursuing peace

The Catholic Church teaches that a war may be waged if, and only if, it deters serious and certain damage, other means have proven ineffective in deterring it, it stands a reasonable chance of success, and the resulting damage does not outweigh the damage thwarted. It also teaches that evaluating the moral legitimacy of a war "belongs to the prudential judgment of those who have responsibility for the common good." (CCC # 2309) Some Catholic opinion-makers have misrepresented this passage to mean that the church delegates the president to determine the moral validity of a war, as if Catholic citizens are obliged only to concur. But this erroneous reading became obvious when the Bush Administration's decision to invade Iraq was challenged by church leaders in Rome, including Pope John Paul II and then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. As it has turned out, their skepticism was well-founded.

MICHAEL BAXTER
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE CATHOLIC PEACE CONFERENCE

CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION

The environment

Care for the environment flows from grateful appreciation of the interdependence of all of God's creation. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote in his 2008 World Day of Peace Message, "...(It) is essential to 'sense' that the earth is 'our common home' ..." (See also the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, paragraphs 466-471, 481-487). Created imago Dei, human beings enjoy both the gift and the task of striving toward the fulfillment of the common good of all of God's creation. The signs of the times, particularly the devastating effects of global climate change together with wanton consumption and waste of the world's energy resources, remind us that the protection and nurturing of human life and well-being requires contemplative awareness of and intentional care for all of creation as the abundant fruit of God's love.

MARGIE PFEIL
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Energy

Energy is an issue that is the lynchpin to so many other issues. It deals directly with our stewardship of the earth. It ties us to the collective sin of corporate greed. We are drawn into a web of potential support for unethical governments, dictatorships and possibly terrorism. This is not what the Holy Spirit is calling us to. The Holy Spirit calls us all to move forward into a more loving embrace of God, his creation and his children. Sitting still is not a viable, ethical option.

MARILYN FECH
BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL

Genocide

Solidarity teaches that all human beings are part of one family. Our brothers and sisters are not qualified by geographical boundaries, economic status, or any other quality. As Catholics, we need look no further than the Eucharist to see this dynamic in action. If the dignity of one human is compromised, the dignity of all of us is threatened. In situations of genocide, such as the one occurring today in Darfur, our brothers and sisters are being injured, maimed and killed senselessly. Who are we as Catholics if we do nothing and therefore tacitly endorse the evil that is killing our brothers and sisters?

MELISSA WHEELER
BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

A family guide to Faithful Citizenship

In the statement *Forming Consciences for Citizenship*, the U.S. bishops remind us that, "In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation" (No. 5). The decisions we make as citizens about who leads us and what policies are enacted have important moral and ethical dimensions. The values of our faith should be our guide to public life.

The most important place to share and reflect on this message is in our families. While it's always a challenge to use a statement like *Faithful Citizenship* — so obviously written to an adult audience — within a family context, it's worth the challenge! Civic responsibility starts with the adults in the family.

Some Do's and Don'ts

Do show your children that you are concerned about the issues and questions raised in the statement. Express your opinions or beliefs about these issues, and share questions you have about issues or candidates. Look for opportunities to state where you stand on a certain issue or why you favor a certain candidate. Don't push your children to adopt your stance or to support your candidate. Don't preach or try to convert them.



CNS FILE PHOTO

Do ask for their opinions, questions or concerns. Be genuine with your interest, and really listen to whatever they have to say. Don't worry if they don't agree with your position or even with all the positions expressed in *Faithful Citizenship*. (Most of the issues addressed in the statement are very complex, even for adults.) The most important thing is that your children are aware and concerned and that they are thinking about the issues in moral terms.

Do show that you truly respect different points of view on the issues or candidates — that good people can disagree on specific matters without rancor.

Do get involved yourself. If you believe strongly in an issue or candidate — and hopefully you do — take an active role. It's a cliché, but actions do speak much louder than words, especially to our children. Do look for activities that your children or your whole family could get involved in with you (e.g., pro-life marches, environmental cleanup projects, the design of posters for a campaign, canvassing or leafleting for a candidate, attendance at rallies, letter writing to elected officials). Don't coerce or shame them into involvement, but invite and encourage it, leaving them free to participate or not. Of course, promising a favorite treat to children at the end of an activity is an excellent means of encouragement. Social action and ice cream just seem to go together.

Do vote and let your children know that you see voting as a priority. Bring your children with you to the polls. Watch the election returns together and discuss their implications.

Raising Family Awareness

Using *Faithful Citizenship* with your family involves thinking creatively, planning interesting family activities, and taking advantage of opportunities that present themselves. Here are some suggestions.

• **Use TV as a resource:** Look for shows that in some way address one of the issues mentioned in the statement. An example may be a news show or a documentary; it might also be a sitcom that is treating some current political or social topic. The key is to check out the show ahead of time and then to watch the show together. It's often effective if you just "wander in" and sit



CNS PHOTO BY DAVID MAUNG



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING



CNS PHOTO BY JUAN GARCIA, THE EVANGELIST

down while your children are viewing it. Or it may be necessary to decide ahead of time that you will watch a specific show together. However you do it, the most important thing is to talk about the show's topic. As mentioned above, share your thoughts and listen to their thoughts without being judgmental. Sometimes the only talking you can do is at the TV, but that's okay. They'll hear it.

• **Question, question, question:** The bishops' statement lists "Goals for the Campaign." Rephrase these goals as questions so that young people can relate to them. The following are examples: "I wonder how much money the person who sews the clothes we buy earns, or how much the farmer who grows the food we eat receives of the price we pay?" "Why are some people poor when so many people are rich?" "I wonder where we would go for health care if we didn't have insurance?" If the questions lead to further discussion, you or your children may need to do a little research.

• **Look at billboards and television advertisements for various candidates, and critique the advertisements as a family.** Do the candidates address any of the issues mentioned in the statement? How well?

• **Pick out a few short excerpts from the statement,** rephrase them for children, and post them on your



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

refrigerator. Here are some possibilities: "The answer to violence is not more violence." "Every child should have the opportunity to be born and to feel welcomed." "Make the needs of the poor a priority." "Safe and affordable housing should be available for all." Try to find candidates or elected officials who support these positions by their policies and actions.

• **As a dinner prayer** in the days leading up to election day (usually the first Tuesday in November), read one of the scriptural passages referenced in the statement.

• **Contact your library** to get good children's books that deal with the issues. Some of the Dr. Seuss books are excellent for this. Children's librarians are very helpful resource people.

• **Have a family night on "citizenship":** Choose one or two issues from the statement that are of particular interest to your family. For example, if you have an aging relative in a nursing home, you may want to pick health care or Medicare reform as your issue to discuss. If you know someone who has been a victim of crime, you might focus on handgun legislation. Make a list of how this issue does or could affect your family. Develop a family statement that summarizes your view on the issue. Write this statement in a letter you send to one of the candidates, inviting their comments. End the evening with "patriotic sundaes": vanilla ice cream topped with strawberry and blueberry syrup or with the berries, if available.

• **Identify some heroes** — people who have taken a stand on these issues — whom your family could learn more about. Blessed Theresa of Calcutta, Archbishop Oscar Romero, Dorothy Day, Cesar Chavez and Gandhi are some well known examples of heroes, but you can probably find a number of local heroes as well. Again, your public library is a great resource, as is your diocesan social action office, peace and justice office, or pro-life office.

• **With older children,** reflect and act on *The Call to Family, Community and Participation* by using the Catholic Campaign for Human Development booklet of that name or downloading the internet version. Focus on Chapters 1 and 2, or on line Sections 3 and 4, entitled, "Call to Community" and "Call to Participation."

Visit www.usccb.org/chd for more information. This article was provided by the USCCB Web material on *Faithful Citizenship*.

Forming consciences for Faithful Citizenship:

What the U.S. bishops' reflection on Catholic teaching and political life teaches us

BY FRED EVERETT

In their ground-breaking document, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the U.S. bishops have set out much more clearly than ever before how faithful Catholics should go about forming their consciences in preparation for the 2008 election.

The bishops start by reminding us that "the church's obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith. It is a basic part of the mission we have received from Jesus Christ. ... What faith teaches about the dignity of the human person and about the sacredness of every human life helps us see more clearly the same truths that also come to us through the gift of human reason. At the center of these truths is respect for the dignity of every person. ... Because we are people of both faith and reason, it is appropriate and necessary for us to bring this essential truth about human life and dignity to the public square."

The bishops further underline that as Catholic citizens, "participation in political life is a moral obligation. ... As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group."

The document points out that "clergy and laity have complementary roles in public life." The clergy "have the primary responsibility to hand on the church's moral and social teaching, to teach fundamental moral principles that help Catholics form their consciences correctly, to provide guidance on the moral dimensions of public decisions, and to encourage the faithful to carry out their responsibilities in political life."

In doing this, the clergy are not to go about endorsing or opposing specific candidates. This, in fact, is the job of the laity who have formed their consciences in accord with fundamental moral principles. They should "become actively involved: running for office; working within political parties; communicating their concerns and positions to elected officials; and ... other efforts to apply authentic moral teaching in the public square."

The bishops go on to explain how a Catholic gains such a well-formed conscience: "Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere 'feeling' about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God

resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil. ...

The formation of conscience includes several elements. First, there is a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying sacred Scripture and the teaching of the church as contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is also important to examine the facts and background information about various choices. Finally, prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God."

Prudence

Such discernment requires that the faithful develop the virtue of prudence, which enables us "to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it. Prudence shapes and informs our ability to deliberate over available alternatives, to determine what is most fitting to a specific context, and to act decisively."

A good end does not justify an immoral means

Further, the bishops remind us that "a good end does not justify an immoral means. As we all seek to advance the common good, it is important to recognize that not all possible courses of action are morally acceptable. We have a responsibility to discern carefully which public policies are morally sound. ... Aided by the virtue of prudence in the exercise of well-formed consciences, Catholics are called to make practical judgments regarding good and evil choices in the political arena."

Intrinsic evils

The document reminds us that "there are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called 'intrinsically evil' actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. A prime example is the intentional taking of innocent human life, as in abortion and euthanasia. In our nation, abortion and euthanasia have become preeminent threats to human dignity because they directly attack life itself, the most fundamental human good and the condition for all others. It is a mistake with grave moral consequences to treat the destruction of innocent human life merely as a matter of individual choice. A legal system that violates the basic right to life on the grounds of choice is fundamentally flawed."

"Similarly, direct threats to the sanctity and dignity of human life, such as human cloning and destructive research on human embryos, are also intrinsically evil. These must always be opposed. Other direct assaults on innocent human life and violations of human dignity, such as genocide, torture, racism, and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war, can never be justified. ... Pope John Paul II explained the importance of being true to fundamental church teachings: 'Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights — for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture —

is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination.'"

Defense of Life

The bishops then go on to warn that "two temptations in public life can distort the church's defense of human life and dignity." The first is "a moral equivalence that makes no ethical distinctions between different kinds

of issues involving human life and dignity. The direct and intentional destruction of innocent human life from the moment of conception until natural death is always wrong and is not just one issue among many. It must always be opposed."

The second is "the misuse of these necessary moral distinctions as a way of dismissing or ignoring other serious threats to human life and dignity. Racism and other unjust discrimination, the use of the death penalty, resorting to unjust war, the use of torture, war crimes, the failure to respond to those who are suffering from hunger or a lack of health care, or an unjust immigration policy are all serious moral issues that challenge our consciences and require us to act. These are not optional concerns which can be dismissed."

Laws, policies that violate or weaken life

Nevertheless, the "exercise of conscience (aided by prudence) begins with outright opposition to laws and

other policies that violate human life or weaken its protection. Those who knowingly, willingly, and directly support public policies or legislation that undermine fundamental moral principles cooperate with evil."

The bishops are also aware that faithful citizens can hold the same principles, but differ in their prudential judgments in applying them. This would apply to such areas as "the war in Iraq, housing, health care, (and) immigration."

In making decisions about how to vote, the bishops emphasize the importance of voting "according to a well-formed conscience that perceives the proper relationship among moral goods." They note that "a Catholic cannot vote for a candidate who takes a position in favor of an intrinsic evil, such as abortion or racism, if the voter's intent is to support that position. In such cases a Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation in grave evil. At the same time, a voter should not use a candidate's opposition to an intrinsic evil to justify indifference or inattentiveness to other important moral issues involving human life and dignity."

The document makes the crucial distinction that while "there may be times when a Catholic who rejects a candidate's unacceptable position may decide to vote for that candidate for other morally grave reasons, voting in this way would be permissible only for truly grave moral reasons, not to advance narrow inter-

ests or partisan preferences or to ignore a fundamental moral evil."

In other words, there needs to be a "proportionate" evil effect that is being avoided. However, the bishops admit that "when all candidates hold a position in favor of an intrinsic evil, the conscientious voter faces a dilemma. The voter may decide to take the extraordinary step of not voting for any candidate or, after careful deliberation, may decide to vote for the candidate deemed less likely to advance such a morally flawed position and more likely to pursue other authentic human goods. ... These decisions should take into account a candidate's commitments, character, integrity, and ability to influence a given issue. In the end, this is a decision to be made by each Catholic guided by a conscience formed by Catholic moral teaching."

A public witness of our faith

The bishops conclude this series of reflections with a clear affirmation that citizens who do not make prudential judgments based upon fundamental moral principles

are not only failing to promote the common good, they are also affecting their spiritual well-being and endangering their salvation.

The document cites Pope Benedict who has stressed that "worship pleasing to God ... demands a public witness to our faith ... regarding fundamental values, such as respect for human life, its defense from conception to natural death, the family built upon marriage between a man and a woman,

the freedom to educate one's children and the promotion of the common good in all its forms. These values are not negotiable."

"Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere 'feeling' about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil.

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

"participation in political life is a moral obligation."

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

"worship pleasing to God ... demands a public witness to our faith"

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

Fred Everett is a co-director of the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

EDITORIAL

Tackling Faithful Citizenship

This issue of *Today's Catholic* arrives as both major political parties have held their national conventions to nominate their presidential tickets. With this official kick-off to the fall campaign season, *Today's Catholic* presents a section on Faithful Citizenship, drawn largely from the U.S. bishops' document, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship."

In the center spread of this issue, we explore some of the issues raised by the U.S. bishops and allow people from within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to explore them and share why these issues are important to the church.

These people include priests, religion teachers, college professors and other people from our diocesan offices and parishes. The purpose of these local and regional voices is to provide, in effect, a "cloud of witnesses," voices that area Catholics know and trust, speaking together, to help form consciences by giving their own thoughts of Catholic teaching on social issues.

Presenting such a wide array of issues raises one of the fundamental challenges the church faces in this area, namely, how to advocate fairly on the issues without endorsing a party or candidate. Not endorsing, it seems, might be the easier part of the challenge compared to avoiding "two evils" described by Fred Everett in his article on the U.S. bishops' document. The first evil is to presume that, since the church advocates on an array of issues, that these issues are of equal importance. The bishops — and Everett — make it abundantly clear that the defense of human life, especially its most vulnerable forms, is the top priority. The second evil is the other extreme, the belief that, since life issues, namely abortion, are so important, other issues can be disregarded. Finding the dynamic balance between these two extremes was one goal of this issue of *Today's Catholic*.

Finally, this special section includes a family guide published by the U.S. bishops that goes beyond the issues themselves and addresses proper ways to engage one's family in the political process. This includes issues such as sharing and discussing one's views with one's children, raising family awareness, identifying heroes and planning events and activities for the whole family. *Today's Catholic* hopes our diocesan families find this helpful.

That's the ticket

With the addition of running mates to the Democratic and Republican presidential tickets, the church suddenly finds itself drawn more closely into the issues and debate of this election. Barack Obama's choice, Delaware Sen. Joe Biden, brings a Catholic to a major party ticket. As reported last week in *Today's Catholic*, Biden isn't shy about his Catholic background and education. In the U.S. Senate, Biden has held close to church positions on immigration, minimum wage and providing health care for all children. All this, however, comes with the major caveat that his voting record does not reflect consistency with the church's teachings on abortion, in that he supports keeping it legal and its federal funding.

As Sen. Biden and his bishop continue their dialogue on this issue, Sen. John McCain has cemented his standing with pro-life voters by choosing Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate. Palin, who was baptized Catholic but has since practiced as a non-denominational Christian, is less of a known quantity than Biden, who has spent 35 years in the public eye, but she holds pro-life views on abortion, exemplified even by her personal life. For instance, when Palin was pregnant with her youngest child, Trig, she knew that he would "face special challenges," but opted still to have him. He has Down syndrome. More recently came the announcement that Palin's oldest daughter, Bristol, is five months pregnant, but intends to keep her baby and marry the child's father.

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

Chinese do not have religious freedom

The front-page piece that ran recently, in *Today's Catholic*, on the Beijing Olympics, suggested that Catholics in China enjoy religious freedom. Unfortunately, most do not. Readers of *Today's Catholic* should understand that, although there are millions of heroic Christians in China, the religious liberty these Christians enjoy is more apparent than real. The government of the People's Republic of China continues to persecute, even to imprison, those who stand up for the freedom of the church, and who

insist — correctly — that it is a hollow religious liberty that exists only in government-run churches.

The recently concluded Olympics showcased hundreds of amazing athletes. It is too bad that the coverage only rarely reminded viewers that China continues to disrespect basic human rights, including the "first freedom," religious liberty.

Richard W. Garnett
Notre Dame

Elusive fifth vote

The Aug. 24 issue of *Today's Catholic* includes an article on the Democratic platform wording on

abortion. The article contains comments by Douglas Kmiec, a Pepperdine University law professor, who indicates he is against abortion, but backs Obama for president.

Kmiec then states he has "been trying to find the elusive fifth vote on the Supreme Court (to overturn *Roe v Wade*) for over 30 years." Obviously, he must realize that voting for Obama guarantees no fifth vote on the court.

It is people like Kmiec, who say one thing but do the opposite, that keep us true pro-lifers from getting the fifth Supreme Court vote.

Paul Marz
South Bend

Paul and the mystery

Paul's theology has influenced the church's understanding of liturgy and sacrament immensely. It is for this reason that the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy offers these reflections on St. Paul and the liturgy during this year.

Too many people have an inadequate idea of liturgy. They associate the word only with the formal structure of the Mass, and nothing more. They think liturgy means strict rules and dry rubrics, and nothing more. Actually, the liturgy concerns more glorious and living things.

One of the pioneers in the liturgical movement, Virgil Michel, said liturgy "is the action of the Trinity in the church." He saw the liturgy "reaching from God to man, and connecting man to the fullness of the Godhead." On this view, liturgy is where Christ's continued presence is met. And Christ, himself, is the mediator between God and humanity.

This is the backdrop for Paul's teaching about both Christ and the liturgy. It is expressed most clearly in Ephesians where Paul describes the mystery he was commissioned to preach. "To me, the very least of all the holy ones, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the inscrutable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for all what is the plan of the mystery hidden from ages past in God who created all things ..."

What is this mystery? What is the plan of the hidden mystery? Simply that God would reconcile us to himself. The hidden plan was that God and man would be united, and this he did in Jesus Christ. Jesus was the God-Man.

So what does Paul preach? Nothing but Christ crucified (1 Cor. 1:23). Jesus is the mystery of God in the flesh. He constantly preaches that God became flesh to reconcile us with himself. It is as if a large chasm separated us from God, so God built a bridge by which to restore traffic between himself and us. We can go to God, and God can come to us.



NOTRE DAME CENTER FOR LITURGY

DEDICATED TO LITURGICAL RESEARCH
AND PASTORAL LITURGY

The Year of St. Paul

First God called Abraham, father of a nation. Then God set that nation free from slavery in Egypt. Then God trained and guided the people with the law and the prophets. And, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son. Love is the mainspring that moves the cosmos, and the mystery behind it all is God's desire to unite all things in his love. According to Paul, Christ is the mystery made flesh.

This is also the backdrop for Paul's teaching about the liturgy. This mystery is celebrated in each liturgical act. We have said that Christ is the mystery of God's love in the flesh. When a person in Galilee saw Jesus, they were seeing the love of God. The incarnation made the mystery visible. This same Christ, this same mystery of

God's love, is presented in the sacraments.

Pope Leo wrote, "What was visible in the Lord has passed over into the sacraments." The sacraments make the mystery visible. When the church celebrates her sacraments, it is Christ acting. This is a great mystery, indeed, but it is at our fingertips and on our lips. Our liturgical life lives in the rhythm of the sacramental mysteries. They keep us nourished with the Spirit of Christ, who can make us apostles of his good news.

For more information about the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, which is providing this series on St. Paul, visit www.liturgy.nd.edu.

Rosalia

c. 1125-c.1166
feast - September 4

This Sicilian saint's story comes mostly from local tradition. Born to a noble family near Palermo, she left home at 14 to live as a hermit. The cave she lived in has an inscription reading "I, Rosalia, ... have decided to live in this cave for the love of my Lord Jesus Christ." She later moved to a grotto on Mount Pellegrino, nearer Palermo. She died there; according to tradition, her remains gradually were buried by limestone deposits from stalagmites. In the 1600s, following two miraculous apparitions during a plague epidemic, she was named the patron saint of Palermo.



Saints for Today

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Knights promote World Day of Prayer for peace and the unborn

When will our world find peace? Not a day goes by without reading about, or seeing on television, another part of our world turned upside down by violence and oppression. Iraq, Afghanistan, Georgia, Darfur, North Korea, Israel, West Bank, Syria and Colombia are just a few hot spots that make the news almost every day. If ever there was a time in history where our prayers were needed, now is that time.

Members of the Indiana Knights of Columbus will join their brother Knights for a World Day of Prayer on Sept. 11, 2008. During the 122nd Supreme Council annual meeting held Aug. 5, 2004, a resolution was passed to honor the memory of those killed or injured Sept. 11, 2001, from a terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City. Members of the Knights of Columbus in Indiana are urged to continue to remember that horrific day in history that underscored how fragile



THE INDIANA KNIGHTS

BY BOB HARTENSTEIN

peace in our world really is.

Equally important, Indiana Knights are reminded to also pray for the life of the unborn child in what has become a culture of death in the United States and throughout the world. We Knights are the vanguard Catholic organization, standing on the front lines and doing battle with those forces of evil with a determination to change the world that we know. We Knights have made it clear that abortion will never be accepted as a way of life anywhere, and we must keep praying the U.S. Supreme Court will end abortion on demand and reverse Roe v Wade. We must also continue to pray to stop and voice our opposition to embryonic stem-cell research.

The Indiana Knights of Columbus also strongly supports the notion of patriotism and all that it stands for as defined by our U.S. Constitution. As members of the Knights, we may not endorse a political party or candidate; however, with the coming election for a leader of our country, its defense and moral values are at stake.

And, though we do not recommend how a brother Knight and his family should vote, we cannot and will not accept a candidate who will not protect our families, "born or unborn." We cannot and must not say to ourselves he or she is the lesser of two evils. Nor can we say we support a candi-

KNIGHTS, PAGE 16

Church teaches love with God's authority



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

For the first reading this weekend, the church gives us a passage from the ancient Book of Ezekiel.

Ezekiel's name in Hebrew in effect was a prayer, "May God make (him) strong." It was fitting since, as the prophet himself said and indeed said in complaint, his calling to be a prophet puts him at odds with so many people.

For God's people, times were hard. The Babylonian Empire, at the time one of the Middle East's most powerful states, had destroyed much and had killed many, in the process taking back to Babylon many survivors of the invasion.

There in Babylon, these exiles, or their descendants, would languish for four generations.

Ezekiel saw this disaster not as a direct punishment from God, pressed down upon the people in a fury of revenge for their sinfulness, but as the result of the people's sin.

Although the prophet was harsh in this respect, he also consoled the people that a better day would come if they returned to God. If they obeyed God, then God would protect them. No matter the people's disobedience,

Ezekiel wrote, God would never forsake them and never desert them in the face of peril.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans is the source of the second reading. It continues the pattern for these weekends of the summer, so many of which have presented readings from Romans.

A highly educated, sophisticated and wealthy Jew, fully versed in the teachings of Judaism, Paul knew the commandments well. While he saw a special vocation in his outreach to gentiles, he knew that God had revealed through Hebrew agents in the past. The commandments were from God, given to Moses, for example.

Paul set the commandments in context. People should obey God because they love God. People should treat others well, according to the commandments, because they love others. This urging echoed the teaching of Jesus.

For its last reading, the church this weekend offers a passage from the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus told the disciples to admonish anyone among them who somehow is at fault.

The Lord gives a progression of steps. First, a Christian should call a wayward brother or sister to task. This step failing, the Christian should seek the aid of others in calling the wayward to task. Finally, this step also failing, the disciple should go to the church.

If the wayward will not reform, the church should dismiss the wayward.

The reading reminds us of the teachings of the church regarding how to read the Gospels. We should remember that the Gospels were not written at the time of Jesus, but rather years later. By the time Matthew was written, the church had formed.

Being a follower of Jesus is a serious matter. The church has the right to judge a member's behavior, even a member's sincerity. Christ is in the assembly of disciples. The church is not simply a convenient, occasional gathering of people of like minds.

Reflection

For weeks, we have heard advice about being good disciples. We hear advice again this weekend about discipleship.

Ezekiel gives us a clear message. All humans are inclined to sin. Bad results follow, and we do not like these bad results, obviously. Searching for excuses, we blame others or something else, saying that actually we are helpless in the face of temptation or we did not understand the seriousness of our sin.

We are responsible for what we do. We are weak. We are myopic. We are afraid. Even so, if we ask, God will strengthen us.

God speaks and acts through the church. So, the church acts with God's authority. It guides us, and it warns us. Frank and straightforward, it reminds us that we must love God above all else.

READINGS

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9 Ps 95:1-2,6-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20

Monday: Mi 5:1-4a Ps 136:abc Mt 1:1-16,18-23

Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13 Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14b, 23-24 Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 8, 12 Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22 Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 Lk 6:43-49

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson
Labor

1. The Book of Genesis tells us labor in both senses of the word was invented when God told Adam he would

- a. have to toil for his bread.
- b. suffer the pangs of hunger after eating Chinese food.
- c. never know if his wife would be faithful.

2. And God told Eve she would

- a. suffer death as her reward for sin.
- b. endure pain when bearing children.
- c. not be able to tell if her husband was faithless.

3. Jacob had a rather rough labor agreement with this man, complaining he worked 14 years for his two daughters and six years for his flock:

- a. Israel
- b. Moses
- c. Laban

4. The Hebrews suffered greatly while performing this specific task in Egypt:

- a. mercenary fighting
- b. mummifying the Egyptian dead
- c. making bricks

5. Specifically, they had to assist in the building of these two cities:

- a. Pithom and Ramses
- b. Thebes and Memphis
- c. Karnack and Armarna

6. Wisdom 15 specifically criticized this as meaningless toil:

- a. a potter molding a meaningless god from clay
- b. a baker making leavened bread
- c. Jews making pork sausages

7. The Book of Deuteronomy makes it clear that the Jews are to labor six days, but not do any work on

- a. Sunday.
- b. the Sabbath.
- c. days ending in y.

8. The wife of Phineas, daughter-in-law of Eli, had her labor brought on by this news:

- a. the defeat of the Davidic armies.
- b. the capture of the Ark of the Covenant by the Philistines.
- c. the burning of the Temple by the Romans.

9. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus chided his listeners asking them

- a. why work when you can marry a rich wife ... or win the lottery?
- b. to learn from the wild flowers; they do not work or spin.
- c. to not emulate the lilies of the valley, which work and die.

10. King Herod was upset when he heard that Jesus was doing miracles. One theory shared with Herod was that

- a. Herod's son Antipas had become a follower of Jesus, so would work on his behalf
- b. the potions of the Magi had been slipped into Jesus' wine, but did not work
- c. Jesus was really John the Baptist raised from the dead; that was why mighty powers were at work in him

11. In Luke 13 the leader of a synagogue criticized Jesus for doing work

- a. for the Romans.
- b. on the Sabbath.
- c. for "Greeks" or Gentiles.

12. In John 4, Jesus says that his food is

- a. to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work
- b. to work to build the church
- c. to have his followers work for justice

13. Also in John's Gospel in the famous Bread of Life discourse in which Jesus admonishes his followers to not

- a. work on the Sabbath
- b. work for food that perishes
- c. work for riches, but rather work for the poorest of the poor

14. Acts 15 shows a very human side of the early church, a dispute between Paul and Barnabas over John-Mark. What was the reason Paul did not want to take John Mark with them?

- a. Paul believed the John Mark was unwilling to work for his food and so would be a burden to the new church communities.
- b. Paul had seen John work miracles and thought him a rival.
- c. Paul believed that they should not take him because he had left them at Pamphylia had not continued with them in their work.

15. The Epistle of James was a problem for many of the Reformation Church leaders because it clearly states that faith without works is

- a. salvific
- b. bound to lead to glory
- c. useless

ANSWERS:

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

A glimpse into life in Bethsaida, hometown of St. Peter

What was the hometown of St. Peter, the head of the apostles, like?
Anonymous

The hometown or native village of St. Peter is said to be Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee in northern Israel. Bethsaida is also the hometown of Peter's brother the Apostle St. Andrew, as well as the Apostle St. Philip, according to the Gospels.

Theodosius (A.D. 530) says the apostles James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also born in Bethsaida. At Bethsaida, Jesus healed a blind man by placing mud on his eyes. Eventually Jesus rebuked the town of Bethsaida for its lack of repentance.

Although the exact location of Bethsaida on the northern coast of the Sea of Galilee is disputed, G. Freeman says it may be placed at Khirbet Minya (also called Hurbat Minnin) three miles north of the town of Magdala where Mary Magdalene lived.

K. Prag says at Khirbet Minya

are the ruins of a well-preserved palace built by the caliph Walid I (A.D. 705-715). Later it was used as a caravansary or medieval motel. The palace now lies amid palm trees and vegetation and is marked by its towers, walls, dome, courtyard, mosque and many rooms.

J. Finegan, however, places Bethsaida at Khirbet-el-Araq on the northernmost point of the Sea of Galilee and further toward the east and only 50 yards from the lake shore. Roman pottery, mosaics and traces of ancient buildings have been found here. Bethsaida was on the tourist route of the early Christian pilgrims.

Theodosius says Bethsaida is six miles from Capernaum, so Bethsaida could be located near the place where the Jordan River enters the Sea of Galilee. The first-century historian Josephus says that Philip the tetrarch raised the village of Bethsaida to the status of a city and named it after Julia, the daughter of the Roman emperor



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

Augustus, and called it Bethsaida Julius. Since Philip's territory was east of the Sea of Galilee, whereas his brother Herod Antipas' territory was west, Bethsaida could have been a little way above where the Jordan River enters the Sea of Galilee and on the east side of the river. Bethsaida was probably a fishing village, since that was the job of the apostles who lived there. The name Bethsaida may also come from the Aramaic word "house of the fisher."

Another site is et-Tell, a rocky hill northwest of Khirbet el-Araq

that is two kilometers from the lake shore. Roman pottery and a large stone wall have been found here.

J. Finegan and J. McKenzie feel that Khirbet-el-Araq on the lake is the site of the original fishing village and et-Tell is the site of the new city with its citadel built by Philip.

The traveler St. Willibald (A.D. 725), the bishop of Eichstatt in Germany and a relative of St. Boniface, the apostle to Germany, says at Bethsaida where the house of Peter and Andrew stood, there is now a church.

J. Finegan says that, since no excavations have been made at Bethsaida, no church has yet been found. But there is a large unhewn basalt stone at et-Tell that bears Christian symbols, namely a tree branch symbolizing a shoot from the stump of Jesse, a cross with a rainbow symbolizing several divine covenants, and two eyes, one open and one closed, symbolizing the miracle of the healing of

the blind man at Bethsaida.

H. Vos mentions that the location of Tabgha, more than a mile southwest of Capernaum on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee, had been a traditional site for Bethsaida. Tabgha is the site of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes and the feeding of the five thousand people. However, the Gospels require that Bethsaida be located on the northeast shore of the Sea of Galilee.

The town of Bethsaida was important because it was in an area for good fishing. J. Comay mentions that the best fishing grounds in the Sea of Galilee were at this northeast end of the lake where the Jordan River deposited its silt. Here the apostles would have to brave the west wind's sudden squalls that funneled down through the Gulf of Pigeons above the town of Magdala.

Father Richard Hire, is pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse.

A gray with grace

"Oh phooey! There's another one!" I said to myself, looking in the mirror, as I discovered a wiry gray hair poking out from my thick light brown mane. Carefully, I separated the lush locks from the ugly mutant one and pluck. Out it came ... but then I spotted another. I poised the tweezers into position and hunted the other one down too, like a sportsman seeking an evasive prize deer. As I pulled back my hair to the roots I could see it was trapped. Pluck! Out was the evidence of my 40-some years of living. It's happened. I've hit middle age.

This whole thing snuck up on me. Just yesterday, it seems, David and I were planning our wedding and then welcoming bundle after

bundle of joy (nine bundles in all — thank you, God!).

Next I knew, we were realizing those bundles have their own ideas and opinions (both a happy and frustrating revelation) and then we were teaching them to read and signing them up for

YMCA soccer, tending to sick bed after sick bed as the flu hit everyone at once, and soon realizing the greatest joys ever in simple things like spending an occasional Sunday at Lake Michigan playing in the sand and sun, and sitting regularly at Mass (taking up nearly the whole pew) together.

Another blink and the oldest boys left to college, and my sweet oldest daughter is now flipping through college brochures and scheduling her senior picture. My youngest is three. Three! How did that happen? I've always had a baby on my hip. I don't get mistaken for an older sister of one of my children like I used to. I exer-



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

THERESA A. THOMAS

cise regularly but my shape is stubbornly stagnant in the same form. (Not quite 'hourglass' nowadays, more like 'shot glass'). And the laugh lines — oh the laugh lines! I obviously enjoyed making them yesterday, but they don't make me smile today.

What is a woman to do?

Modern society suggests a woman should panic. Society implies the richest parts of our lives are over by my current age.

Hollywood reinforces that image and pays homage to youth by hiring mostly young attractive females for the prime acting positions. The actresses make appointments with plastic surgeons almost regularly, exercise obsessively, tan habitually, and many local

women follow suit. "Tuck your tummy!" "Lift that face!" "You deserve it!" are messages emblazoned across literature from local doctors willing to try to help us turn back the clock and "gain who we once were." Should we?

I have to admit. It's tempting. I would never elect for surgery to alter my looks, but it is an alluring idea to regain that youthful feel and appearance. Who doesn't want to feel like they're 20 again?

A little-quoted Scripture passage speaks to this issue well. "Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you

not perceive it?" — Is 43: 18-19.

My faith plainly tells me, "The best is yet to come." It tells me God is in control. It reminds me that I am exactly where God wants me to be when I try to do his will and walk with him in faith. God is "doing something new" with me and my life although I am no longer very young. (My father-in-law who is in his early 80s would still consider me very young. I need to remember that perspective too) God gives me more wisdom and patience and opportunities to grow in virtue as I age. He gives me the gift of watching my children grow in faith and goodness.

It's incredibly freeing to be past that awkward, single, 20s stage when I didn't know if someone was paying attention to me because of my ideas or looks. In my 20s I wasn't entirely sure who I wanted to be. Now I am.

I would be lying if I said I didn't care at all about aging. I do. I've already told my husband when the gray overtakes the brown I'm going to be writing regular checks to the hair salon to maintain my "natural" color. I'm planning on continuing exercising for health and fitness, and I'm still going to pluck those wiry hairs for awhile. But I'm not going to fret about where I am and what's around the corner. I'm going to try to "gray with grace." I know I'm right where I'm supposed to be.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for September 7, 2008

Matthew 18:15-20

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: a lesson on ways to restore harmony to the church.

Words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SINS	AGAINST YOU	ALONE
LISTENS TO YOU	TAKE	TWO OTHERS
THREE	WITNESSES	REFUSES
THE CHURCH	GENTILE	TAX
COLLECTOR	YOU BIND	EARTH
BOUND	IN HEAVEN	LOOSED
AGREE	FATHER	MY NAME

GATHERING

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

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KNIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

date who doesn't support the culture of life, but we like everything else about them. This is not being true to our faith as practicing Catholics and members of the Indiana Knights of Columbus. Prayer for a moral political candidate has never been more important.

And so we reflect on the events occurring all around us and the desperate need for all of us to pray for peace in our world, a peace that cannot exist without human rights, and the sanctity of life.

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

Sports

FOOTBALL TEAMS HONORED Bishop Dwenger will honor its 1967, 1968, 1978, and 1983 football teams during halftime of the Dwenger vs. Northrop football game on Friday, Sept. 12. A reception will be held at the school immediately following the game in the Student Activity Center. Call (260) 496-4706 for information.

CYO fires off two weeks of football action

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football kicked off "Week 1" action in the scorching sun at Zollner Stadium on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 14, posting four shutouts. Despite a few changes for the team from a year ago, the St. John Fort Wayne/St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Eagles won their opener over the Holy Cross Crusaders by a tight margin of 6-0.

The Eagle team, which was comprised of three schools for the past several years, now feeds from just two after the merging of Benoit Academy.

"We still hold our practices at the Benoit site, which keeps them close at heart," reports Coach Jim Carroll. Many of the Benoit students transitioned to St. John Fort Wayne so there was not a significant impact on the overall roster numbers. Coach Carroll lists around 30 for 2008 — typical of prior Eagle units.

Restarting a brand new winning streak for the Eagles, Sam Stroncsek hooked up with Brian Volmerding on a 10-yard pass play late in the final quarter to seal the victory for the season opener. The Eagle defense played strong allowing Holy Cross only one visit past the 50-yard line.

In other action, St. JAT quarterback John Cassell led the scoring attack as the Knights chalked up their first win of the 2008 season over Queen of Angels/ Precious Blood.

Will Nolan, Nick Deiser, Matt Harris, Brandon Thiele all scored touchdowns. Trey Casaburo hit several PAT attempts in the game and threw one of the touchdown passes. Big defensive plays by Aaron LeMaster also contributed to the shutout of the Royal Reds.

In the Redeemer Radio broadcast of the week, St. Vincent downed St. Charles, 14-0. Panther tailback Chris Rama scored in the

first half on a run off-tackle while Nick German had a quarterback sneak in the second. Defensive coaches Alf Fertil, Greg German and Kevin Thompson are credited for pitching the shutout while the offensive line of Blake Bowers, Gunnar Dahm, Jeremy Reese, Brandon Evans and Jeremy Gladiuex did a solid job all day long of opening holes for their backs.

Head coach Cory Kitchen also reported that wide receiver, Ryan Burns, did a fine job for the victors. "I was pleased with our effort level, but we certainly have a lot to work on," summarizes Kitchen.

Although they are small this year with just 13 healthy players listed on their opening day roster, the Raiders from St. John New Haven beat the St. Jude Eagles in the final contest of the day. Adam McCarthy returned the opening kickoff for 80 yards, and it was all Raiders from there. McCarthy went on to carry the pigskin three times for 18 yards and a 3-yard touchdown run. He also had two interceptions, returning one for a 15-yard score. Dillon Carey rushed for 58 yards and two touchdowns. Quarterback Jake Britton added two more touchdown runs and Michael Yagodenski had a big interception. Finally, Weston Painter and Jeffrey Heaton had numerous sacks and anchored the line on both sides of the ball.

Battle of the St. John's

In the annual Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football "Battle of the St. John's," the St. John, Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel Eagles squeaked by the Raiders from St. John, New Haven, 14-8, in week 2 gridiron action at Zollner Stadium Saturday, Aug. 30.

The game was a hard-fought battle between the two big hitting teams. In a scoreless gridlock at the half time break, both teams came out determined to take home the "W."

The Eagles' workhorse, Jocquel "Big Jake" Cooper, was first to light up the scoreboard on a 10-yard scamper. Sam Stroncsek hit the PAT. The Raiders battled back to tie things up 8-8 in the fourth quarter on a 3-yard touchdown run by Dillon Carey with Adam McCarthy kicking the extra points.

With less than four minutes remaining, Cooper ripped off a 70-yard run for another touchdown sealing the victory for Jim Carroll's Eagles in the Labor Day weekend heat.

In the St. Vincent vs. St. Jude matchup, the Panthers improved to 2-0 beating the Eagles 30-8. Nick German had a stellar game for St. Vincent scoring three touchdowns. The first came on a "special teams" 63-yard punt return. He also scored defensively on a 55-yard interception return and offensively on a 13-yard run, which was set up by his own 64-yard punt return. Chris Rama added six points for the victors on an 8-yard run breaking multiple tackles on his way to the end zone. Stephen Colligan went 3-4 on PAT attempts.

"Our defense once again was up to the challenge as they shutout the St. Jude offense," said a pleased Panther Coach Cory Kitchen. The Eagles touchdown was scored by their defense late in the game.

In other games at Zollner, Holy Cross downed JAT (St. Joe/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese), 22-0, and St. Charles beat Precious Blood/Queen of Angels, 25-0. Leading the Cardinals in the victory were Ben Kosiarek (TD, 2 PAT, 1 FG) and Austen Edwards (2 TD passes, 1 INT). Also scoring for St. Charles were Max Gabet on a 10-yard catch and Tyler Tippmann with a 45-yard run in the final quarter.

Week 3 varsity CYO action will return to Sunday afternoon this week and switch to Bishop Luers field on Sept. 7.

After jamborees, ICCL teams ready for season

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The school-boy football jamborees provided both the varsity and B-team junior varsity an opportunity to check their skills and techniques. This Sunday, both the varsity and junior varsity preps will officially open the 64th year of action in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL).

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints, who wound up as defending champions and also proved their mettle by snaring the diocesan playoff title, will face a talented Holy Family Trojans in one of the two varsity games on tap.

The game will also bring together two super senior coaches: Tony Violi of the Saints and Jeff Boocher of Holy Family. Violi is in his 25th year of coaching the schoolboy aspirants in the ICCL. Boocher is starting his

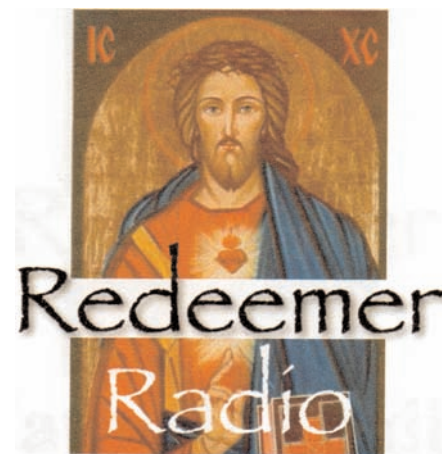
20th year of working with players in the ICCL.

The tilt is set for 1 p.m. at Marian High School.

The second varsity game will send the St. Matthew Blazers against the St. Anthony-St. Joseph combination at Saint Joseph's athletic field. The Blazers are lead by Mike Ernst, and Kevin Sandor leads the St. Anthony-St. Joseph consolidation. Both are part of the new younger group of coaches in the ICCL. Both Ernst and Sandor cut their teeth in the ICCL as players when they were students. And now they are both giving their time and experience back to the league.

Also on the schedule are three B-team contests. They are Mishawaka Catholic vs. Holy Family, Holy Cross vs. Granger Catholic — both at Marian; and St. Matthew vs. St. Anthony at Saint Joseph's.

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Catholic sax player blends faith with talent

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Ray Herrmann may not be the first name that pops up in an everyday conversation, but his world-class music has been heard around the globe for over 20 years. His musical expertise has grown to encompass performing, composing, arranging and directing. As a professional musician living and working out of Los Angeles, Herrmann has performed extensively in various venues and is currently performing with Chicago on an international tour. But what makes this brilliant and accomplished musician truly unique is his passion for producing music for Catholic families.

Born in Evanston, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, Herrmann was introduced to music early on by his German immigrant parents whose faith and love of music sustained them through the horrors of World War II. He began piano lessons at age six and subsequently studied the clarinet as well.

Herrmann credits his parents for not only instilling in him the value of discipline as he developed his musical talent, but for his deeply rooted Catholic faith as well.

"After the trauma my parents went through (during the war) they instilled the Catholic faith in us. We stayed close to the sacraments, prayed the family rosary every day and attended Mass," he recalls, adding that his deep faith



Grammy award winning musician Ray Herrmann rocks out on his saxophone on stage with Chicago, one of the longest running and most successful rock-and-roll bands in America. He has recently teamed with the Redemptorist Congregation to produce two inspiring Catholic CDs with music from the works of congregation founder St. Alphonsus Liguori.

is what grounded him during his early years of auditioning to make a name for himself in the music industry.

Ray Herrmann's Grammy-award winning musical brilliance has led him on an exhilarating professional journey from the early days at the renowned University of North Texas where he earned a master's degree in

music, to performing, recording and arranging music with the likes of greats LeAnn Rimes, Herbie Hancock and many more.

He has appeared on several TV programs including Jay Leno's "Tonight Show" and "Late Night with David Letterman." Herrmann's music can also be heard on over 100 motion picture soundtracks and countless albums with pop and jazz greats. He currently rocks as a member of the house band on the popular television hit "American Idol."

Married four years ago to his beloved wife Theresa, Herrmann has found a new venue for his music. Following the birth of their now two-year-old daughter, Maria, who is named after the Blessed Mother, the couple discovered a need for Catholic music for children.

"Theresa would sing Catholic hymns to Maria. We looked for CDs for Catholic babies, but there were none. We thought if we're looking for it, others want it too," says Herrmann, who with his wife formed Little Lamb Music Company. Together they have produced "Little Lamb Lullabies," a delightful instrumental version of traditional hymns and songs from "Holy, Holy, Holy" to "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Then last year Herrmann's lullaby CD came to the attention of the Redemptorists priests in Colorado, who for some time have sought to deliver the inspiring music of St. Alphonsus Liguori to the Catholics of

America. And following a providential meeting, Herrmann and the Redemptorist priests teamed to translate and perform the ageless music of this inspired doctor of the church.

The Redemptorists are a congregation of over 6,000 priests and brothers who minister to some of the poorest and most abandoned of the world in the tradition of the Italian St. Alphonsus, founder of the 275-year-old order.

According to Bruce Crane, communications and public relations manager of the development office in the Denver Province, the team production of "Praying the Rosary with St. Alphonsus Maria Liguori" is the first of its kind. "It's the American premiere for the music of the saint," he says. Herrmann was able to assemble an outstanding group of performers, including members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Los Angeles Master Chorale, to create the original English version of the works on CD.

Herrmann says of the project, "It was a wonderful experience. Quite moving. I worked with great musicians who gave inspiring performances. I'd always wanted to do a rosary CD for families." And though he says touring with Chicago, the band whose members were his heroes in childhood, is "beyond fun," he's the first to admit that his heart belongs to producing Catholic music for the faithful. "To me that is much more meaningful."

Recently, a second outstanding

CD featuring the works of the Redemptorists' founding saint, interpreted through Herrmann's music, "Praying the Seven Sorrows of Mary with St. Alphonsus Maria Liguori," was produced by the team. The version is led by Father Pablo Straub of EWTN fame.

All proceeds from the sale of these inspiring CDs goes directly to assist Redemptorist missionaries building schools and clinics for the people of the Amazon Rain Forest and other depressed areas of Brazil, Nigeria and Thailand.

As for Ray Herrmann, his enthusiasm and passion for his music remain life's melody as he quips, "Different situations call for different music. That's part of being a musician. Learning music is unending. That's the beauty of it. I love playing all the instruments. It's fun and beauty and joy!"

Ray Herrmann will be performing as saxophonist with one of the longest-running and most successful rock-and-roll bands, Chicago, on Sunday, Sept. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Embassy Theater in Fort Wayne.

For more information visit www.rayherrmann.com. To order or hear excerpts from both Catholic CDs visit www.little-lambmusic.com.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Anniversary Mass

Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School will celebrate its 45th anniversary with a Mass on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m. Following Mass, there will be a reception and tours of the school. Guests are asked to enter through Door #5. Reservations can be made to (260) 496-4710 or by e-mail to: ldelaney@bish-opdwenger.com.

Precious Blood School plans anniversary celebration

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood School opened its doors on Sept. 12, 1898 to 160 students in grades 1-8. The students and staff will have a 110th birthday party for the school on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 1:30-2:45 p.m. at the school parking lot, 1528 Barthold St.

Chicago bus trip

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Development Office is sponsoring a bus trip to Chicago on Saturday, Nov. 8. The bus will depart the Bishop Dwenger at 7 a.m. and leave Chicago at 5 p.m. Central Time. Cost is \$35 per person. Seating is limited so get your reservations in early. Checks should be made payable to Bishop Dwenger High School and sent to the Development Office: 1300 E. Washington Center Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46825. Call (260) 496-4710 for more information.

XLT planned for Elkhart

Elkhart — XLT (exalt) "Schooled in the Spirit" will be

held at St. Vincent de Paul Parish Sunday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. Father Bill Sullivan will preside, with praise and worship music, reflection and time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. XLT appeals to high school and college age Catholics, but everyone is welcome to attend.

Lisa Everett to speak

South Bend — Humanae Vitae 40 Years Later: A Detailed Look at a Prophetic Document will be presented by Lisa Everett on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Peterson room of Corpus Christi Parish. Sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Family Life.

FUNDRAISERS

Lakeville to host hog roast

Lakeville — The Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish located on U.S. 31, will hold a hog roast on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$3 for children ages 6-12. Carry-outs will be available.

Poor Handmaids announce 64th bazaar

Donaldson — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ will have a bazaar on Sunday, Sept. 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Children's games, raffles, bingo, craft booth, rummage sale and spaghetti dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds benefit the sisters ministry efforts to those in need.

Knights plan fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on

Friday, Sept. 5, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Fish fry and salad bar

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry and salad bar on Friday, Sept. 19, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-outs \$7, children 5-12 \$3. Children under 5 free.

Rummage sale

Fort Wayne — St. Henry's Community Center, 3029 E. Paulding Rd., is collecting items for a rummage sale to be held Sept. 12-13. Proceeds will benefit the community center. Call Elaine Bakle at (260) 447-5121 ext. 124 to drop off your items or if your items are too big, we will pick them up. A barbeque rib and chicken dinner will also be held on Friday, Sept. 12, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Parish festival

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish, 4500 Fairfield Ave. will have a parish festival Friday, Sept. 12, from noon to 11 p.m. with adult games and silent

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Decatur

Richard J. Gase, 84, St. Mary of the Assumption

Juan Jose Garcia, 65, St. Mary of the Assumption

Elkhart

Mauricio Ramirez, 17, St. Vincent de Paul

Patra P. Lese, 89, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne

Evelyn C. LeBeau, 92, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

James R. Ryan, 77, St. Patrick

Evelyn Marie Weikart, 90, St. Peter

Velora C. Boedeker, 96, Most Precious Blood

Matthew C. Schnellker, 49, St. Jude

Dortha Girardot, 97, St. Charles Borromeo

Goshen

Dorothy L. Eberhardt, 92, St. John the Evangelist

Granger

Monica E. Freneau, 84, St. Pius X

Huntington

Dennis James Klepper, 56, Ss. Peter and Paul

New Haven

Marjorie M. Linder, 84, St. Louis Besancon

Notre Dame

Rosaleen Crowley, 93, Sacred Heart Basilica

South Bend

William J. Hums, 81, St. Matthew Cathedral

Margaret Schuttrow Mitchell, 83, St. Matthew Cathedral

Richard A. Grzegorek, 87, St. Anthony de Padua

Verna H. Dzialakiewicz, 84, St. Adalbert

Marcel H. Vroman, 86, Corpus Christi

Joseph E. Martin, 25, St. Stanislaus

Sebastian Nowicki, 89, St. Hedwig

Nina M. Stout, 94, Christ the King

Franz F. Nabicht, 80, St. Matthew Cathedral

James C. McIntyre, 75, Christ the King

auction for adults only. Saturday, Sept. 13, is family day with children's games, food, bingo, raffles, talent show, beer tent and adult games. Music by Fawn Liebowitz.

Luncheon card party

South Bend — The Saint Anne Society will have a luncheon card party Sunday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m. at the Our Lady of Hungary School Auditorium, 735 W. Calvert St. Donation of \$5 at the door and bring your own cards.

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.

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Reconciliation - St. Peter's
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m.



6:30 p.m. Services at St. Mary's
1101 South Lafayette Street

Sunday 9/14, Monday 9/15
and Tuesday 9/16

Refreshments following the service.

Closing Mass - St. Mary's
Thursday, Sept 18, 6:30 p.m.
Followed by a reception.

TOPICS: Sunday, Sept. 14: "What Is The Treasure We Share?"

Monday, Sept. 15: "Too Good A Secret To Be Kept" Tuesday, Sept. 16: "Do You Love Me?"

Wednesday, Sept. 17: "Are We A Forgiving Community?"

Thursday, Sept. 18: "A Work That Cannot Fail"



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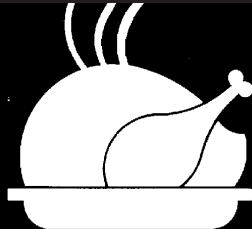
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St. Pius X School opens doors and welcomes first graduating class



PHOTOS BY DIANE FREEBY

Father William Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X in Granger, welcomes sixth-grader Maggie Gillis and her brother, second-grader Joey Gillis on the first day of school. St. Pius X School officially opened its doors Aug. 27. Faculty and staff joined Father Schooler in welcoming the new students as the line of cars and vans made their way through the parking lot.



Father Schooler, Associate Pastor Father Bob Lengenrich and Principal Elaine Holmes led a prayer to begin the new school year. That was followed by a mini pep-rally, with Father Schooler revving up the troops and unveiling the school mascot, a winged lion. Father Schooler congratulated everyone for being part of a historic and brave new undertaking.



Because there is no eighth grade this year, the incoming seventh graders will be the first-ever class to graduate from St. Pius X School in 2010. Homeroom teacher Allison Krisch helped gather the history-making group for the first-ever class photo.

Today's Catholic

BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

This month's featured selection:

Gary MacEoin's "Basil Moreau: Founder of Holy Cross"

Persecution, derision and animosity — such were the crosses that Blessed Basil Moreau embraced at the hands of his tormentors, men whom he had joyously welcomed into his spiritual family. Yet, through it all, the holy priest maintained his generosity of heart and trust in God. In "Basil Moreau Founder of Holy Cross," Gary MacEoin depicts the struggle that no man could withstand without the intervention of a divine source.

Born into a French peasant family on Feb. 11, 1799, the ninth of 14 children, Basil Anthony Mary Moreau was taught the pious ways of his parents from childhood. Growing up immediately after the French Revolution, the young boy was well-acquainted with tales of bravery and heroism that concerned even his own parish priests who risked their lives in order to bring the sacraments to their flock.

Hence, neither Basil's faith nor his education was to be taken lightly. Noticed from a young age as one who could become a priest, Basil studied under good teachers who encouraged the developing virtues within him. After having received what was considered a mediocre seminary training at best, as priests were scarce in those days following the revolution, Moreau was ordained at the age of 22.

Though he desired work in the missionary field, Father Moreau obediently began teaching at a Sulpician seminary. There, he learned the error in his previous training and saw more clearly the truths of the faith.

As he conducted his daily work, the young priest recognized the need for personal sanctification. Seeing the Sulpician method of formation at work, he began to feel a call to religious vows. His thought was like that of his spiritual director at the time, Father Mollevaut, who said, "A man can do whatever he wants, but no one can produce a saint on the spur of the moment; and without sanctity, even with the best of dispositions, we cannot count on any success."

Hence, Father Moreau began to have other dreams — a threefold congregation of teaching priests, brothers and sisters. Although the vision was grand, Father Moreau was constantly scourged by his many times recalcitrant "followers" and by others within the church holding positions of authority. Yet, the holy priest continued to carry out God's will, founding the congregation he had long dreamt of and reaching the personal sanctification that he knew was so necessary for all.

Despite the alarming lack of charity with which Father Moreau was treated by others, as he neared the end of his life, he wrote that he prayed that "the Divine Mercy ... pardon all those who have harmed my reputation or the goods I have held in trust."

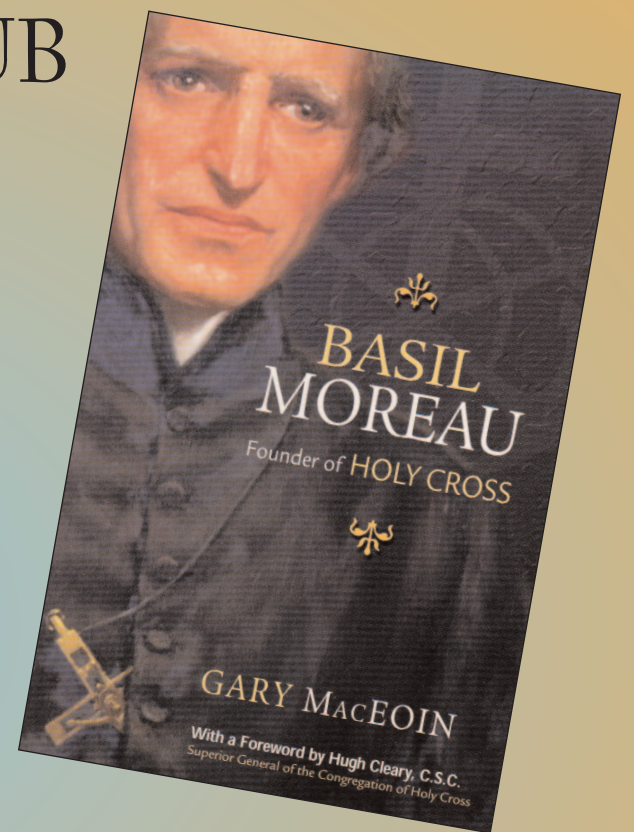
The life of Basil Moreau is inspiring and uplifting, showing that, though one may undergo great hardships, he can overcome them through personal sanctification — a flourishing friendship with God.

Though Father Moreau's life was far from dull, some of the events are unclear in MacEoin's book, causing the biography to be difficult to follow at times. The reader may first want to become familiar with the chronological listing of events, given toward the end of the book. Since members of Holy Cross came to the U.S. and now serve in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, it is fitting that all should come to know and venerate this holy founder.

About the author

Gary MacEoin — an editor, author of 25 books and speechwriter — was a Catholic writer for 70 years. Playing a strong role in the history of the *National Catholic Reporter* since its inception, the 94-year-old man died in 2003.

Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/blog for discussion on this book.



Questions for discussion

- Though it was difficult, Father Moreau obediently accepted the commands of his superiors throughout his life. Are there ways in which you can submit to another's will in order to gain grace?
- Father Moreau was often tormented by his so-called followers, yet he offered those trials to God. In what ways can you offer your sufferings to God?
- Father Moreau believed that one must first reach a high level of personal sanctification and wisdom before attempting to teach others. How are you becoming closer to God? What more should you be doing?

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