



Finding the right college

Joe Kozinski takes you on his 'odyssey' trip

Pages 9-14

Catholic teaching on abortion

San Francisco archbishop wants to talk to Pelosi

Page 3

Exalting XLT

Praise and worship music, preaching, prayer and adoration

Page 8

To kneel or sit

What are we to do after Communion?

Page 17

Football, volleyball action

ICCL and CYO action explodes

Page 18



Think Green
Recycle this paper

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

St. Vincent blesses addition, welcomes kindergarten

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — One of the largest Catholic grade schools in the diocese celebrated even more growth with the dedication and blessing of the new 14,000 square-foot building addition to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School on Friday, Sept. 5.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy was on hand for the dedication ceremony in the school gymnasium, as was the entire St. Vincent de Paul student body, which included, for the first time, kindergartners. Four of the eight classrooms in the addition are used for kindergarten.

"Kindergarten has become more important in education now," Father John Kuzmich, pastor of St. Vincent, told *Today's Catholic*. He noted that, prior to the addition, the school did not have room for the program, but that "It was the time to do it. I think we were the only Catholic grade school in this diocese without a kindergarten."

Welcoming the bishop at the dedication ceremony, Father Kuzmich, related how he had visited all four kindergarten classrooms the day before and asked them who was coming to visit their school.

When one student replied, "Bishop D'Arcy," Father Kuzmich had asked who Bishop D'Arcy was.

"And he turned to me, and he said, 'your boss,'" Father Kuzmich recounted, adding, over the laughter of the students in the assembly, that the bishop is a "nice boss."

After being welcomed at the dedication ceremony by second graders with greeting cards and cardboard miters, Bishop D'Arcy cited the strengths of St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

"This is a parish where, every year, many people become Catholics," he said, then added, "St. Vincent's also helps poor parishes. We're not Catholic if we don't help the poor." The bishop also cited the parish's



DON CLEMMER

Bishop John M. D'Arcy meets a second-grade class as he visits and blesses the St. Vincent de Paul School library during the dedication of the school's new addition on Sept. 5. Thanks to the addition, the library is now handicap accessible.

ADDITION, PAGE 3

ANNIVERSARY MASS CELEBRATED IN SOUTH BEND



TRISH LINNER

Bishop John M. D'Arcy presided over the Anniversary Mass Sunday, Sept. 7, at St. Matthew Cathedral. Bishop D'Arcy blessed the couples celebrating their 25th and 50th anniversaries. Over 50 couples were in attendance, many with their families. A reception was held afterwards.

Charities receive Annual Bishop's Appeal funds

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — Local organizations that work with those in need found their burdens a little lighter thanks to the Annual Bishop's Appeal.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy recognized the impact workers have had on each charity and honored each of them with a donation to help with their ministries. The checks were distributed Sunday at St. Augustine Church in South Bend during the installation Mass of Holy Cross Father Leonard J. Collins.

Thanks to the funds from the Annual Bishop's Appeal, needy residents in the South Bend area and throughout the diocese receive some much-needed help as the tireless advocates continue in the struggles to help the poor.

Jo Fisher, the West Regional administrator of Catholic Charities said, "We serve anyone in need with the food pantry. We're open

three days a week, and we always are in need of food.

"Thank you Bishop D'Arcy for the donation," she continued. "It will be put to good use, and it was a honor and privilege to be here. Again, thanks for the donation, and I would like to encourage (the Catholic community) to keep giving to the (Annual) Bishop's Appeal."

The Annual Bishop's Appeal funds the work of the diocese beyond the parishes. Contributions to the appeal provide the churches with an opportunity to participate in the ministry and mission of the diocese — a community of faith that extends beyond the boundaries of any one parish. Contributions to the Annual Bishop's Appeal are used for education, family and pastoral assistance, evangelization and charities.

"I wasn't prepared to give a speech but we

FUNDS, PAGE 3

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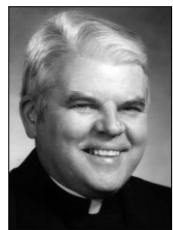
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We are not fully a parish unless we are drawing in new people, young and old



NEWS
& NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

St. Augustine's: Always special

St. Augustine's, on the west side of South Bend, is truly a historic parish. When I came here as bishop, so long ago and yet so short in some ways, there was no parish that I found more fascinating than St. Augustine's. It is made up of African-American Catholics, and many of them had experienced prejudice not just from society, but even within the church. It was founded by a Holy Cross priest, Father Francis Sullivan.

Years ago, members were very active in the civil rights movement. Many of the young people went on to study at Saint Joseph's or Marian High School, and Notre Dame or Saint Mary's College. Recently I met Julianne Newbill, whom I remember as running track at Saint Joseph's High School and later at Notre Dame. Julie was there Sunday with her little baby and grandmother.

Mel Tardy, a longtime member, and a native of New Orleans who works at a counseling position at Notre Dame and is now a candidate for the diaconate, was present and leading the music.

Most impressive was a group of young men, some in high school and others in grammar school, who Mel is preparing through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children. I met some of them after Mass. Some were baptized in a Protestant church, and some were never baptized. It is hoped that they might be ready for reception into the church at Easter time. It is important that evangelization is going on at St. Augustine's, as it should be in every parish. We are not fully a parish unless we are drawing in new people, young and old.

A new pastor

The purpose of my visit was to install Father Leonard Collins, CSC, as the new pastor to replace Father Charles Lavelly, CSC, who is now working at Notre Dame with retired Holy Cross priests. Father Collins is from Chelsea, Mass., a native of St. Rose Parish in Chelsea. St. Rose, Chelsea, was a great place for Irish and Jewish immigrants. Father Leonard has worked in black parishes in Montgomery, Ala., and other places and later turned to ministry to Hispanics. He became fluent in Spanish after working in Mexico. I am delighted he is back in the diocese. He lives at St. Adalbert Parish with several Holy Cross priests. His long experience will help us, both for our African-American Catholics and the large number of those coming from Central America to live and work and worship here.

The giving of grants

As we do each year in each of our major cities during the Annual Bishop's Appeal, one of my purposes was to give grants to Catholic Charities, the Women's Care Center, the Center for the Homeless, and the Sister Maura Brannick Health Clinic, formerly the Chapin Street Clinic, which takes care of those without health insurance on the west side. Grants were also given to the Christ Child Society and the soup kitchens at St. Augustine's and Little Flower parishes and St. Vincent de Paul Society and others.

How about the hats

It is a custom at St. Augustine's, as it has been a custom at many of the great black churches in our country, for women on special church occasions to wear large and beautiful hats, and that was the case on this lovely Sunday morning at St. Augustine Parish, South Bend. I am grateful to the Holy Cross fathers for taking on the pastoral care of St. Augustine's Parish. I look forward to working with our excellent new pastor, Father Collins.

The opening of schools

I reported in this space recently about the new school at St. Pius X Parish, Granger. I went recently to St. Vincent Parish, north of Fort Wayne. St. Vincent's is now our largest

So the witness of these couples
and of their fidelity for a half century
and more is a blessing,
and it was a joy to be with them.

parish with about 3,100 families. Many years ago I led a group of priests and laity to a place north along Route 3 at Cedar Canyon Road, and we purchased a large expanse of land. If we were to decide to place a parish in that northern area we would have land to do so, and it will soon have to be seriously considered because of the great explosion of population north of Fort Wayne.

At any rate, we now have huge growth at St. Vincent's. My purpose in visiting was to bless a new addition to the school, including a kindergarten, a new library and several new classrooms. For the first time in the long history of St. Vincent School, we have a kindergarten; and it was a joy to bless it. Father John Kuzmich has been nothing short of heroic as a pastor at St. Vincent's. He has drawn great generosity from his people. Through a twinning program, they support a number of parishes in our diocese with financial assistance. They also help a parish in Honduras. Six of the young men studying for the priesthood in our diocese are from St. Vincent's. Much credit must be given to their excellent program of youth ministry with its emphasis on catechesis and eucharistic adoration as well as the service of others. It was a joy to spend some time at St. Vincent's.

A special Friday

In fact, that particular day was full. After an early morning phone conversation, I went to St. Joseph's Parish, Fort Wayne, to meet with those engaged in Hispanic ministry. Notable among them was Father Tom Ascherman, SVD. He is a member of the Society of Divine Word and has spent six years in Mexico, so he comes to us fluent in Spanish and English. It was a joy to meet with all those working among our Hispanic Catholics.

Then off to St. Vincent's, and then to City Hall for a conference concerning the large number of Burmese refugees coming to Fort Wayne. Then off to the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center to plan the Red Mass, the Mass for lawyers, which we have each fall in both of our major cities.

Jubilarians

One of the beautiful events of the year took place last Sunday at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, and will come soon to Fort Wayne. After St. Augustine's, I took the short trip to St. Matthew's for a Mass for those who have been married 25, 50 and even 60 years. They renewed their vows. Then we had some champagne and refreshments, and many, for some reason, wanted their picture taken with the bishop.

As Pope Benedict told us in his visit; "... how can we not be dismayed as we observe the sharp decline of the family as a basic element of church and society."

The culture no longer grants that marriage is a communion between one man and one woman. Indeed even some theological writing within the church claims that under certain conditions union between two people of the same sex are legitimate and can be considered to be marriage. This can never be accepted. It has terrible

ramifications for the future in the church and society. It is a distortion of sexuality and of the foundation both in nature and in grace of marriage as a communion of life and love.

So the witness of these couples and of their fidelity for a half century and more is a blessing, and it was a joy to be with them at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend.

So this is the life of a bishop here. Defending the family. Meeting with ministers to the Latino community. Discussing a large number of refugees that come to us through Catholic Charities. The dedication of two new schools. Meetings with priests. The Annual Bishop's Appeal meetings this past week for our workers. Fundraising has been part of the mission since the time of the apostles. Central to our fundraising are these efforts to provide scholarship grants for those who could not otherwise attend our Catholic schools. On and on it goes. It is a privilege and a joy, and I sure would not wish to be anywhere else.

I was unable to attend the opening Notre Dame football game. Those who went were disappointed, but the year is young. Let us hope for the best. After all, a win is a win.

See you all next week.

ADDITION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

charitable work with Latin America.

Bishop D'Arcy also pointed out that, thanks to the youth program at the parish, the diocese has more seminarians who "sat where you did," that is, from St. Vincent de Paul, than any other parish in the diocese. The assembly applauded loudly. This, the bishop concluded, was not supposed to make the parish proud.

"It's supposed to make us humble, because that's the work of Jesus Christ," he said. "When we bless the kindergarten and other classrooms today, what we're saying is that Jesus Christ loves to be with children."

He also said to the students, "I hope that you grow every day in learning and every day in prayer."

The bishop then processed with Father Kuzmich, associate pastor Father Jason Freiburger and superintendent of diocesan schools, Holy Cross Father Stephen

Kempinger, through the new addition, blessing classrooms and the students.

Stopping in the classrooms, Bishop D'Arcy spoke with kindergarten, second- and fifth-grade students about what and whom they pray for, as well as the importance of praying every day.

He also visited the school's library, which, thanks to a walkway in the addition, is now handicap accessible.

"When we put on the last addition," Father Kuzmich said, "we anticipated the building growing."

This made it easier to incorporate the expansion into the existing structure. As a result, along with the new kindergarten, the Spanish, French and health teachers have their own classrooms, as does the school's director of development.

With kindergarten, this year's enrollment at St. Vincent de Paul is 774 students.

"This new addition is a commitment to keep the school strong, to allow it to continue to grow, at least to meet the needs of this parish," Father Kuzmich said of this growth. "It's a lot of work, but it's well worth it, because we believe in Catholic education."



MAY LEE JOHNSON

Jo Fisher, the West Regional administrator of Catholic Charities in South Bend, accepts the donation presented to her by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Sunday at St. Augustine Church, South Bend. Fisher said Catholic Charities is always in need of donations, and the Annual Bishop's Appeal check will really help.

FUNDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

were down to our last few boxes of macaroni and cheese," said Janet Lentz, of Little Flower Parish Food Pantry. "We thank you so much, Bishop D'Arcy. This will go a long ways to help the people. Our numbers have been really up this year."

Holy Cross Father Richard Warner, chairman of the board of directors for The Center for the Homeless, noted, "The Center for the Homeless celebrated 20 years of help and service to those most in need of our help." Father Warner is also the director of campus ministry at the University of Notre Dame.

"Thank you very much for your donation, Bishop D'Arcy. Your help and the help of others is very much appreciated," Father Warner said.

Charities receiving checks and the amount received in South Bend included the following:

- Catholic Charities, represented by Jo Fisher, \$23,000;

- Women's Care Center, represented by Bobby Williams, \$10,000;
- Hannah's House, represented by staff member Sue Guljas, \$3,000;
- Center for the Homeless, represented by Father Warner, \$9,000;
- Sister Maura Brannick Health Center, represented by Holy Cross Brother Frederick Raehsler, \$9,000;
- South Bend Christ Child Society, represented by President-elect Beth Barrett, \$2,000;
- Little Flower Food Pantry, represented by Janet Lentz, \$1,000;
- Center for Basic Learning Skills, represented by Franciscan Sister Marita Stoffel, who was unable to attend, \$1,000;
- St. Vincent de Paul Society, represented by Matt Vigneault, \$1,000;
- St. Augustine's Soup Kitchen, represented by Father Leonard Collins, \$1,000;
- Logan Center, represented by Matt Harrington, \$1,000;
- Life Athletes, represented by Chris Godfrey, \$500;
- Chiara House, represented by Mike Szymanski, \$500.

San Francisco archbishop wants talk with Pelosi on Catholic teaching

BY DAN MORRIS-YOUNG

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — Calling recent nationally broadcast comments by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi "in serious conflict with the teachings of the Catholic Church," Archbishop George H. Niederauer of San Francisco invited the Catholic lawmaker "into a conversation with me" about church teaching on abortion, the beginning of human life and the formation of conscience.

Archbishop Niederauer said in a Sept. 5 statement that he regretted addressing the issue so publicly, because Pelosi — a Democrat who represents the San Francisco area — has been a dedicated public servant who has promoted some legislation that is in line with the social teachings of the Catholic Church.

"But the widespread consternation among Catholics made it unavoidable," he added.

The statement, which was carried in the Sept. 5 issue of *Catholic San Francisco*, archdiocesan newspaper, was Archbishop Niederauer's first public comment on the matter since Pelosi's Aug. 24 remarks drew national criticism.

The house speaker said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that day that church leaders for centuries had not been able to agree on when life begins.

Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia and Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., chairmen of the U.S. bishops' pro-life and doctrine committees, respectively, criticized Pelosi the next day, saying she "misrepresented the history and nature of the authentic teaching of the Catholic Church on abortion."

Since the first century, the church "has affirmed the moral evil of every abortion," the two chairmen said.

Archbishop Niederauer said many Catholics "have written me letters and sent me e-mails in which they expressed their dismay and concern about the speaker's remarks."

"Very often they moved on to

a question that caused much discussion during the 2004 campaign: Is it necessary to deny holy Communion to some Catholics in public life because of their public support for abortion on demand?" he added.

Church leaders should be cautious when making judgments about who is worthy of receiving holy Communion, he said.

"The practice of the church is to accept the conscientious self-appraisal of each person" when he or she approaches for Communion, Archbishop Niederauer said.

Bishop Michael J. Sheridan of Colorado Springs, Colo., took a stronger position in a statement issued Aug. 26.

"Those Catholics who take a public stance in opposition to this most fundamental moral teaching of the church place themselves outside full communion with the church," he wrote in his statement, "and they should not present themselves for the reception of holy Communion."

In the "Meet the Press" interview, Pelosi said specific considerations must be undertaken during each trimester of a child's development before an abortion can be performed.

"This isn't about abortion on demand. It's about careful, careful consideration of all factors ... that a woman has to make with her doctor and her God," she said, adding that her goal is to make abortion safe and rare while reducing the number of abortions nationwide.

Though critical of Pelosi's statements and stands on abortion and other life issues, the archbishop described the member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in San Francisco as "a gifted, dedicated and accomplished public servant" who "has stated often her love for her faith and for the Catholic Church."

The archbishop told *Catholic San Francisco* he had written to Pelosi personally about his statement and had a copy of it delivered to her office Sept. 4.

Bishops from Denver to St. Paul and Minneapolis, Chicago and Fargo, N.D., asserted that

Catholics have a responsibility to study church teachings on human life and when life begins, which is at the moment of conception.

"The teaching of the church was clear in a Roman Empire that permitted abortion," said Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "This same teaching has been constantly reiterated in every place and time up to Vatican II, which condemned abortion as a 'heinous crime.'"

"This is true today and will be so tomorrow," Cardinal George continued in a statement issued Sept. 2. "Any other comments, by politicians, professors, pundits or the occasional priest, are erroneous and cannot be proposed in good faith."

In his statement, Archbishop Niederauer said Pelosi has consistently mischaracterized church doctrine on abortion.

"For 20 centuries, not for 50 years (as stated by Pelosi), the Catholic Church has taught that abortion is grievously sinful," he said. "Individual theologians may from time to time have speculated about the beginning of human life, but the church has consistently taught that abortion is wrong. The answer to the question, 'When does life begin?' should not have an impact, we are told, on the woman's right to choose. Nevertheless, the woman's right to choose certainly has an impact on nascent human life."

The archbishop said he had an obligation as her pastor "to teach forthrightly and to shepherd caringly, and that is my intent. Let us pray together that the Holy Spirit will guide us all toward a more profound understanding and appreciation for human life, and toward a resolution of these differences in truth and charity and peace."

Pelosi has defended her position, saying, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "This isn't really an abortion issue" but rather consideration of "a procedure that any parent would want her daughter to have access to if she needed it."

SUPERIOR PRAYS AT SPECIAL SERVICE FOR MOTHER TERESA



CNS PHOTO/JAYANTA SHAW, REUTERS

Sister Nirmala Joshi, superior of the Missionaries of Charity, right, prays during a special prayer service for Blessed Mother Teresa in Calcutta, India, Sept. 5, the 11th anniversary of Mother Teresa's death.

In talk, John McCain invokes themes of 'Faithful Citizenship' document

Pledges to fight for reform, support culture of life

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Positioning himself as a Republican outsider, Sen. John McCain pledged to reform politics as usual in the nation's capital while upholding a culture of life as he began the final two months of the long presidential campaign.

Accepting his party's nomination for president Sept. 4 in St. Paul, Minn., the 72-year-old Arizonan set out to distinguish himself from his Democratic opponent, Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, as the candidate better positioned to achieve prosperity for the country and rebuild America's faltering status as the world's leading economic power.

McCain also framed his life as one devoted to serving his country. Describing his career in the U.S. Navy, how he was shot down over North Vietnam and his five and a half years as a prisoner of war, McCain explained how he came to realize how much his country meant to him during his captivity as he struggled to recover from the serious injuries suffered in the jet crash.

The senator's 46-minute speech invoked in broad terms a few themes expressed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' 2007 "Faithful Citizenship" document, which calls for Catholic voters to form their consciences around a variety of social concerns based on Catholic social teaching.

Most notable was his call for the widening of educational



CNS PHOTO/RICK WILKING, REUTERS

U.S. Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the Republican presidential nominee, and his vice-presidential running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, wave to supporters at the 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 4.

options for parents and children. Calling education "the civil rights issue of this century," McCain said parents should be able to send their children to charter schools or private schools of their choice.

While stopping short of calling for the institution of a nationwide voucher program — under which parents would be allocated funds to be used to send their children to a school of their choice — McCain said parents should not be required to send their children to a failing public school.

Like the bishops, he urged the country to set aside me-first concerns and to step up to serve others, volunteer for worthwhile causes or enter politics, much as he did, to build a stronger, more caring society.

But he offered few specifics in the way of policy, instead embracing the mantle of maverick given to him by critics and supporters alike and depicting himself as someone who will fight for the

concerns of average Americans.

"He didn't talk a lot about economic issues that (Catholics) traditionally think of as justice/fairness issues," said Martin Shaffer, dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. "He talked more about the economy in terms of there being tough times for people. He hasn't been known as a person as interested in those policy areas," he said.

On the other hand, the fact that the candidate spoke more specifically about the threats posed by al-Qaida, Iran and the Russian intervention in Georgia and its former satellite states reflects his strong desire to protect the country, Shaffer said.

McCain's approach to foreign affairs, as expressed in his speech, concerns June-Ann Greeley, direc-

tor of the Center of Catholic Thought, Ethics and Culture at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. She said his seeming willingness to flex American military muscle around the world runs contrary to his views of embracing a culture of life.

"You can tell he was formed by his experience in the military," Greeley said. "I think he identifies his place as part of the warrior culture and that he's going to protect this country. As a Catholic I can certainly identify with the importance of being ready to take up arms for the right kind of cause. Speaking as a Catholic, I do think we are asked by the Holy Father and the (U.S.) bishops to seek other paths."

Mark Gray, research associate and director of Catholic polls at the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University, said McCain seems to be reaching to capture independent and undecided voters in the political center by not being more specific on domestic policy.

"I think he's pretty confident in the base now," Gray said. "I think he's left a lot of the conservative issues to the vice-presidential candidate (Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin). From here on out, the traditional conservative issues he's going to have her address and he's going to try to appeal more to the voters in the center."

Even as McCain spoke of his belief in the culture of life, a term often used by Pope John Paul II throughout his long papacy to call for an end to abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia and embryonic

stem-cell research, the senator failed to mention any of the procedures individually.

Scott Paeth, who studies religion in public life as an assistant professor of religious studies at DePaul University in Chicago, said McCain's use of the term culture of life serves as shorthand to supporters to express a belief in many of the life issues the Republican Party has championed.

"That's very standard from a Republican perspective ... for talking about a whole raft of issues on Catholic teaching, anti-abortion, anti-stem-cell research, anti-cloning," Paeth said. "But it doesn't include anti-death penalty and it doesn't include a strong anti-war perspective."

Marianist Father John Putka, a political science lecturer at the University of Dayton in Ohio, suggested that even though the term culture of life may be considered a "code" to like believers, McCain was able to differentiate himself from Obama on a key issue.

Father Putka called McCain's references to his POW experience "very powerful."

"He framed it in terms of his war and what it did for his faith: find God and find yourself through your suffering," Father Putka added. "The average American has got to feel it in his gut for him."

Editor's Note: Analysis of the Democratic convention speech was featured in the Sept. 7 issue of *Today's Catholic*.

Pope prays for Haitians as they battle to survive series of storms

CAGLIARI, Sardinia (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI offered prayers and requested international aid for the people of Haiti, battered by four hurricanes in the space of three weeks.

Speaking during a visit to the Italian island of Sardinia, the pope said he was following events in Haiti, where the storms have left at least 500 people dead and hundreds of thousands without basic necessities. One million people have been affected by the storms.

"I am praying for the victims, unfortunately numerous, and for those without homes. I am close to the entire nation, and I hope that the necessary aid will reach the country as soon as possible,"

he said.

The pope, who had just finished celebrating Mass at a Marian sanctuary, entrusted the protection of the Haitian people to Mary Sept. 7.

After being struck by Hurricanes Fay, Gustav and Hanna, Haitians were hit Sept. 7 with downpours from Hurricane Ike. Swollen rivers caused new flooding that sent residents to their rooftops, and 61 more people were reported dead Sept. 8.

The flooding and mudslides have isolated many towns, and relief supplies have not always been able to get through. The storms have also ruined crops and threatened to create a long-term food supply problem in

Haiti.

Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' international aid agency, has been providing emergency supplies, including water purification kits and food rations, to those in need. CRS, one of the largest humanitarian agencies in Haiti, has been working with other agencies in Haiti to provide relief.

Caritas Haiti also has been assisting in relief efforts on the ground. Caritas said it plans to build shelters and will rebuild 500 homes.

Caritas Haiti and CRS are affiliates of the international umbrella group of Catholic aid agencies, Caritas Internationalis.



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GOP platform decries abortion, calls for human life amendment

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Upholding its long-standing view that life begins at conception, the Republican Party decried the practice of abortion and repeated its call for a human life amendment to the U.S. Constitution in its 2008 political platform.

Adopted Sept. 1 at the start of the GOP's national convention in St. Paul, Minn., the platform affirms that "the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed." It echoes language in the party's 2004 platform.

The abortion plank drew praise from several pro-life organizations, including a spokeswoman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"According to their 2008 platform, the Republican Party stands courageously for the protection of innocent life from its earliest stages onward, both in the womb and in the lab, laying the necessary foundation for promoting all other basic human rights," said Deirdre McQuade, assistant director for policy and communications in the USCCB's Office of Pro-Life Activities.

She praised the party for opposing the "status quo of abortion law" under the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision.

The National Right to Life Committee called the plank the "strongest and most explicit support of life ever expressed by a major political party."

The plank reads: "Faithful to the first guarantee of the Declaration of Independence, we assert the inherent dignity and sanctity of all human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution, and we endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to unborn children. We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion and will not fund organizations which advocate it. We sup-

port the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity and dignity of innocent human life."

The platform goes on to note what it calls progress, including the Supreme Court upholding a ban on partial-birth abortion, and the passage of the Born Alive Infant Protection Act.

Meanwhile, its only reference to aiding women who are pregnant says: "We all have a moral obligation to assist, not penalize, women struggling with the challenges of an unplanned pregnancy. ... Every effort should be made to work with women considering abortion to enable and empower them to choose life. We salute those who

provide them with alternatives including pregnancy care centers and we take pride in the tremendous increase in adoptions that has followed Republican legislative initiatives."

In a separate section on health care, the platform supports the conscience rights of health care workers — doctors, nurses and pharmacists — by allowing them to opt out of performing, providing or referring health care services which they morally oppose.

Noticeably missing from the platform's final text was a section inviting "all persons of good will, whether across the political aisle or within our party, to work together to reduce the incidence of abortion."

The statement had appeared in an earlier draft and had buoyed advocates of a "common-ground" approach in politics to reduce the number of abortions.

The advocates said they were hopeful the final document would indicate a willingness by Republicans to move closer to the Democratic Party's abortion plank that called for reducing abortion by supporting prenatal services, child health care, education, income support and adoption.

In a Sept. 3 teleconference organized by Catholics United, Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good and Sojourners, an

evangelical social justice community, speakers asked Republican leaders to restore the language that had been dropped.

"Americans are tired of the acrimony about abortion," said Chris Korzen, director of Catholics United.

Alexia Kelley, director of Catholics in Alliance, cited a study released by her organization the previous week showing links between socioeconomic factors and rates of abortion.

The study by Joseph Wright, visiting political science fellow at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, and Michael Bailey, assistant professor of American government at Georgetown University in Washington, found that improving poor people's economic situations can reduce abortion rates by 20 percent to 30 percent.

Speaking at the teleconference, Wright said factors such as increased funding for the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program and low unemployment among men contribute dramatically to lowering rates of abortion. He said strategies aimed at reducing abortions through socioeconomic means might logically have a more substantial effect than making abortion illegal in some states.

He also noted that if *Roe v. Wade* were overturned, laws in 25 states would allow abortion to remain legal. Those states where abortion would become illegal are less densely populated, limiting the impact such a court decision would have, he said.

Kelley and Korzen were among those in August lauding the Democratic National Committee for including language in its platform that they said was an effort to reach common ground. They also criticized the Democratic platform's unequivocal support for *Roe v. Wade*.

Contributing to this story were Patricia Zapor and Dennis Sadowski.

Editor's Note: The Democratic platform was featured in the Aug. 24 issue of *Today's Catholic*.

... the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed."

Bishop D'Arcy installs St. Augustine pastor

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — During a Mass celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Holy Cross Father Leonard J. Collins was officially installed as pastor of St. Augustine Church in South Bend.

Father Collins said he has felt very much at home at the parish since being a deacon here in the 1960s.

"It's a privilege to be put in this position," he said. "I always said that I started out here at St. Augustine under Father Dan Peil, and now I'm back here as pastor. I'm happy to accept the assignment as your pastor."

Bishop D'Arcy said Father Collins will do a great job at St. Augustine.

"I know the great potential of what has been done here at St. Augustine's, and we have no doubt that things will go well," Bishop D'Arcy said.

In the installation rite, marked with a reading exchange between the bishop and Father Collins, the pastor promised his faithfulness to church teachings. He also vowed to call on his fellow priests, two of whom were present, as well as on the pastoral and financial councils, for assistance in caring for the parish and its people.

Father Collins received an ovation and cheers from the packed audience when he accepted his new role as pastor of the church.

Father Collins, entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1961 and was ordained in April of 1969. He served as a deacon at

St. Augustine Parish in 1968.

Father Collins began his ministry in the Southern Provinces at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, the oldest parish in Holy Cross in New Orleans. The parish never recovered after Hurricane Katrina and was closed.

Father Collins was elected provincial in 1988 and served for nine years. He has spent the last years working in a parish in Mexico until being asked by the Congregation of Holy Cross to become pastor of St. Augustine.

After Mass, many St. Augustine parishioners waited in line to congratulate the priest. Later Father Collins and Bishop D'Arcy were treated to a dinner and fellowship in the church hall.

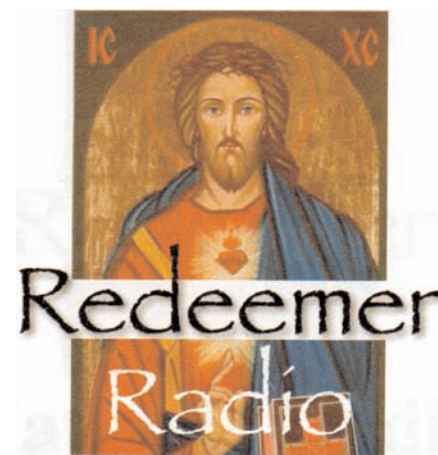
"It was a very smooth transition, and although I haven't had much contact with him, from what I have seen he is a good listener," said Linwood Bailey, president of the parish council. "I think it going to be a great experience for us and for Father Collins. He seems to be sensitive to the church, and I think he'll be a great person to work with."

The installation Mass also included distribution of checks though the Annual Bishop's Appeal to local organizations who help the poor and needy of South Bend.



FATHER LEONARD J. COLLINS, CSC

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St. Mary's and St. Peter's Parishes (Fort Wayne)

PARISH MISSION - SEPTEMBER 14 -18, 2008

"Sharing the Good News" Fr. Richard Hart, O.F.M. Capuchin, Preacher & Storyteller

9:00 a.m. Masses at St. Peter's
518 East DeWald Street

Monday, 9/15, Tuesday, 9/16
and Wednesday 9/17

Refreshments following Mass.

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"

Pope names more women than ever to Synod of Bishops on Bible

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Choosing men and women from every part of the world and from a wide variety of professional spheres, Pope Benedict XVI nominated 32 voting members, 41 experts and 37 observers for the upcoming world Synod of Bishops. The nomination of six female scholars as experts and of 19 women as observers will give the Oct. 5-26 Synod of Bishops on the Bible the largest bloc of women ever participating in a Catholic synod. The list of papal appointments to the synod was published Sept. 6 by the Vatican. The 32 clerics Pope Benedict named as full members of the synod will join about 180 bishops who were elected by their national bishops' conferences, 10 priests elected by the Union of Superiors General and about two dozen cardinals and archbishops, heads of Vatican congregations and councils, who automatically are members of the synod.

Iraq's Chaldean refugees fleeing to Lebanon seek help from church

BEIRUT, Lebanon (CNS) — Chaldean Catholic refugees who flee Iraq face an uncertain status in Lebanon and often seek help from the Catholic Church. "When Chaldean Catholic Iraqi refugees arrive in Lebanon, the first place they come to is the bishop's house asking for help," said Chaldean Bishop Michel Kassari of Beirut. Each week, up to 10 and sometimes as many as 20 newly arrived Chaldean families come to St. Raphael the Archangel Chaldean Cathedral, across from the bishop's residence, in a Beirut suburb. The numbers have increased in recent months, as the persecution of Christians in Iraq continues to escalate. The parish has a team of volunteers helping with the humanitarian crisis of the Iraqi Chaldean population in Lebanon. To meet the demand and coordinate the needs of these refugees, the Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center in Beirut set up a satellite office in St. Raphael's staffed with three Caritas social workers. Of its 35 social workers in Lebanon, Caritas has assigned at least 15 to work with Iraqi refugees.

Italian Cardinal Innocenti, diplomat and Vatican official, dies

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Italian Cardinal Antonio Innocenti, a Vatican diplomat and one-time head of the Congregation for Clergy, died Sept. 6 at the age of 93. In a telegram of condolence, Pope Benedict XVI praised Cardinal Innocenti, saying he had demonstrated "keen priestly enthusiasm and fidelity to the Gospel" throughout his long career. Cardinal Innocenti was perhaps best known in his native Tuscany for his conduct during World War II, when he used his linguistic abilities to help save a number of people from Nazi deportation. Convicted in a summa-

NEWS BRIEFS

CHICAGO CATHEDRAL REOPENS AFTER REPAIRS



CNS PHOTO/KAREN CALLAWAY, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

Cardinal Francis George presides at Mass at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago Aug. 30. It was the first liturgy celebrated there since the cathedral closed for roof and ceiling repairs in February. More than 23,000 hand-carved wooden points from the ceiling were polished and secured as part of the renovation. The cathedral was dedicated in 1875, four years after its predecessor was destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire.

ry trial, he was led before a firing squad for execution, but at the last minute the order to shoot was revoked. Once the war was over, he helped form an Italian Catholic social movement before enrolling in the Vatican's diplomatic academy. He eventually held a number of important diplomatic and Roman Curia posts.

Newman biographer criticizes gays for objections to moving tomb

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Writing in the Vatican newspaper, a biographer of Cardinal John Henry Newman criticized what he called the "homosexual lobby" for its objections to moving the cardinal's tomb ahead of his possible beatification. The article argued that Cardinal Newman, who is buried in the same grave but in a separate coffin above his most cherished friend, should not be presumed to have been homosexual. In fact, the article said, Cardinal Newman considered celibacy a necessary sacrifice from a heterosexual point of view. When he wrote about the burden of celibacy, he was "naturally speaking of marriage with a woman," the article said. The article, written by Father Ian Ker was published Sept. 2 in *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican daily. Father Ker is the author of the definitive biography of Cardinal Newman as well as more than 20 other books about him. The issue has caused a controversy in England, where the 19th-century cardinal is buried.

Peter Tatchell of the homosexual lobby group Outrage said the exhumation of Cardinal Newman's body would be an "act of grave-robbing, sacrilege and desecration." Tatchell has claimed repeatedly that the cardinal's 30-year friendship with Father Ambrose St. John, with whom he lived, suggests he was a celibate homosexual.

Catholic-Jewish group issues statement against same-sex marriage

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A dialogue group made up of Catholics and Orthodox Jews has issued a statement defending the "special standing" of marriage between a man and a woman against efforts to classify same-sex unions as marriages. "We recognize that all persons share equally in the dignity of human nature and are entitled to have that human dignity protected, but this does not justify the creation of a new definition for a term whose traditional meaning is of critical importance to the furtherance of a fundamental societal interest," said the joint statement. "Created in the Divine Image" was released Sept. 3. It was signed by the Catholic co-chairman, Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., and the Jewish co-chairman, Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld of Young Israel Synagogue in New York, as well as other members of the Consultation of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Orthodox Union and the Rabbinical Council of America.

Jury awards \$5 million, says Belleville Diocese hid abuse information

BELLEVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — The Diocese of Belleville was ordered to pay \$5 million in a sex abuse case after a jury determined that it had fraudulently concealed information and thus prevented the plaintiff from filing suit earlier. James Wisniewski, now 47, filed a civil suit against the diocese for abuse that he said took place beginning in 1973, when he was 12 years old, and continued until 1978. At the time Wisniewski was a boy, Father Raymond Kownacki was pastor at St. Theresa of Avila Parish in Salem where the Wisniewski family belonged and where his parents continue to be parishioners. The diocese contended that several statutes, including the statute of limitations, should apply. But Judge Lloyd Cueto, the trial judge, told the jury that if they determined the diocese fraudulently concealed documents from Wisniewski, the statute of limitations could be set aside, and the jury could then award damages to the plaintiff. Father Kownacki was removed from ministry in 1995 by a diocesan review board.

'Schulerkreis' sets up foundation to promote study of pope's work

ROME (CNS) — Scholars who wrote their doctoral dissertations under the direction of then-Father Joseph Ratzinger have set up a

foundation to promote the study of their professor's work. The 40 scholars put the finishing touches on the Joseph Ratzinger-Pope Benedict XVI Foundation during their annual meeting Aug. 29-Sept. 1 in Castel Gandolfo, said U.S. Jesuit Father Joseph Fessio. Father Fessio, who studied under the future pope in Regensburg, Germany, said the foundation will collect video and audio testimonies from the pope's former students, sponsor conferences on his theological thought, offer scholarships and establish a documentation center. In addition, for the first time, the scholars — known as the "schulerkreis" (students' circle) — met with 17 young theologians from different countries whose work focuses on the pope's writings.

North American College welcomes largest incoming class in 40 years

ROME (CNS) — The Pontifical North American College welcomed its largest incoming class in 40 years Aug. 28 when 61 seminarians arrived. While classes at the pontifical universities in Rome do not begin until mid-October, the new students at the seminary sponsored by the U.S. bishops arrived early for orientation, intensive Italian classes and a retreat. But first, they sang for the pope. Given a place of honor in the courtyard of the papal villa at Castel Gandolfo Aug. 31, they serenaded the pope in Latin after joining in the noontime recitation of the Angelus. Msgr. Robert Gruss, vice rector for student life, said that when the new men are joined by the second-, third- and fourth-year students by mid-September, the college will have a booming community of 208 seminarians. On the Janiculum Hill overlooking the Vatican, the college opened in 1954 with room for more than 200 students, but recently some rooms had been put to different uses. "Those rooms have been reclaimed," Msgr. Gruss said.

Archdiocese reiterates that Emmitsburg visions 'not supernatural'

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Responding to an apocalyptic posting to a Web site by Gianna Talone-Sullivan claiming that the Blessed Virgin Mary told her of an impending worldwide disaster, the Archdiocese of Baltimore has reaffirmed its position that Talone-Sullivan's alleged visions "are not supernatural in origin." Talone-Sullivan, a pharmacologist, claimed to have received messages from Mary during Thursday evening prayer services at St. Joseph Parish in Emmitsburg from 1993 until 2000, when the archdiocese banned them. Talone-Sullivan claimed that Mary remained "publicly silent" for two years following the end of the prayer services, but continued to appear and speak with her privately. Talone-Sullivan began disseminating monthly "public messages to the world," allegedly from Mary, via the Internet on Aug. 5, 2002.

New director and name change for Holy Cross College career center

NOTRE DAME — Daniel Haverty is changing the face of Holy Cross College's career center. Formerly known as the Lilly Career Development Center, the name



DANIEL HAVERTY

has been changed to the Lilly Center for Discernment and Preparation. Haverty plans to shift the focus of the center, from strictly careers, work study and internships to also helping students with post-graduate vocations like graduate school, religious life and service.

Haverty received his associates degree from Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Mich. From there, he attended Eastern Michigan University School of Business where he earned a bachelor's in business administration and then his MBA. Haverty has worked in banking, insurance and real estate before coming to work at Holy Cross College.

"I felt this was a calling," says Haverty. "I have always wanted to work for an organization close to my faith and I have always had a desire to train and teach."

He does not want to simply help students find internships to fulfill their graduation requirement. Instead, Haverty wants to work closely with the students from their freshmen through senior years in order to establish suitable post-graduate placement.

"I will help students discern a direction for their careers by using a variety of tools such as the FOCUS assessment, talking with them about their interests and praying with them so they are guided to their ultimate fortune," says Haverty.

The FOCUS assessment is an online evaluation and career compass tool now utilized by the College. He is supported by his wife of 17 years, Laurie, son Marcus, 11, daughter Shannon Rose, 7, and son Aidan, 4.

Bereavement seminar scheduled in Fort Wayne

FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home's Fall Bereavement Education Series will host "Learning to Live After the Death of a Spouse" on Saturday, Sept. 13, from 9-11:30 a.m. The free seminar held at First Presbyterian Church, 300 W. Wayne St., offers hope for men and women who have lost their spouses through death, with speaker Kay Cozad, grief and loss educator. Continental breakfast will be served. For more information call (260) 435-3222.

John XXIII Center offers retreat schedule

HARTFORD CITY — The John XXIII Retreat Center is offering the following retreats:

- An Evening for Dads — 7-9 p.m., Sept. 18. Come share with other dads and learn more about the Christian priorities of being a father. The challenges that the book of Ephesians maps out for dads will

AROUND THE DIOCESE

UP, UP AND AWAY



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH-ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON SCHOOL

In a creative writing, science and geography lesson, first grade students from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Fort Wayne, launched balloons with postcards. The children drew a picture of what their balloon might see from way up in the sky. They dictated their story for their picture to their parents. These stories and pictures were saved to compare with the postcards that they hope to get from the people that find the balloons. The classes will use maps to see how the balloon traveled.

be examined and applied to practical examples in today's culture. Facilitator John Stark is a father of four and works at New Horizons Youth Ministries in Marion as the Social Service Department head. Register by Sept. 16. Fee: \$6.

- Inner Family Healing — Sept. 26-28, a woman's retreat that helps one to learn how to love themselves unreservedly and experience healing from the past. Facilitators are Mary Grunte, RN, Sister Maureen Mangan, CPPS and Vicki Peterson. The retreat begins Friday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. to Sunday at 1 p.m. Fee is \$150. Register by Sept. 23.

- On Sept. 25 is Inner Family Healing-Special Session for Men with Mary Grunte from 7-9 p.m. Free will offering.

- A Day of Solitude and Quiet Prayer will be held Tuesday, Sept. 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. A continental breakfast will be furnished. Bring your own lunch, and beverages will be furnished. This is a non-structured time to listen to God within. Optional spiritual direction is available for those who wish for an extra fee. Register by Sept. 25. Fee: \$15.

- A Walk with Dorothy Day will be held Wednesday, Oct. 8, 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. Topics include "The Long Loneliness" and "Becoming Community." Share with others the life of Dorothy Day. There will be presentations, faith sharing, reflection time and prayer. Fee: \$18. Facilitator is Sister Joetta Huelsmann, PHJC. Register by Oct. 6.

- David — a retreat for men

based on King David, will be held Friday, Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m. to Sunday, Oct. 12. This retreat will examine the two sides of David that we find in the Bible. One is a "man after God's own heart," and the other is a dark and vengeful man. Facilitator is Father Al Naseman, CPPS. Fee is \$135, commuter: \$95. Register by Oct. 7.

Partial scholarships are available if needed or opportunities to serve as a host or hostess for any of the above retreats. Call (765) 348-4008 for more information.

Sessions on St. Paul offered in Fort Wayne

FORT WAYNE — The diocesan Office of Catechesis is sponsoring a five-week session on St. Paul presented by Marilyn Fech. Meetings will be held on Monday evenings from 7-9 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne, Sept. 22 and 29; Oct. 6, 13 and 27.

Fech will help participants make this Jubilee Year of St. Paul more meaningful. The sessions will include insight into Paul, his letters, his world and the church.

Registration is required and can be done online at www.diocesefwsb.org/OC or by calling Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411 or e-mail at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Participants will join in small group discussions using the book, "St. Paul: A Bible Study Guide for Catholics." To purchase the book to complete readings prior to each session contact Kara Slocum at the Cathedral Bookstore by calling

(260) 422-1411 ext. 3356 or by e-mail at kslocum@fw.diocesefwsb.org. A 20 percent discount will be given off of the original \$8.95 price, plus tax.

Introduction to the U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults course offered

ANGOLA — In the fall of 1992, Pope John Paul II published his apostolic constitution, "The Deposit of Faith," resulting in the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The bishops of the United States subsequently worked to develop a local and national adult catechism, taking into account the culture and situation, all while preserving the unity of faith and fidelity to the Catholic teaching that is found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The first printing of the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults was realized in July of 2006.

Four evenings are planned that will introduce one to the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults text and work to simultaneously instill a desire for further spiritual growth. The USCCA is not a new catechism, but rather a local catechism presented to Catholics of the United States.

Approximately one-third of the USCCA will be examined in some detail. Structure of the discussion each evening will follow the arrangement of the text material: "Lesson of Faith"; "Teaching: Its Foundation and Application";

"Sidebars"; "Relationship of Catholic Teaching to the Culture"; "Questions for Discussion"; "Doctrinal Statement"; and "Meditation and Prayer."

Keith Turner will be the presenter for the four evenings sponsored by the diocesan Office of Catechesis to be held at St. Anthony of Padua, Angola, on Wednesday evenings: Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8 and 15 from 7-9 p.m.

Registration is required, and can be done online at www.diocesefwsb.org/OC or by calling Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411 or e-mail at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

To prepare for these informative sessions contact Kara Slocum at the Cathedral Bookstore by calling (260) 422-1411 ext. 3356 or by e-mail at kslocum@fw.diocesefwsb.org to purchase the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults at a 25 percent discount plus tax.

Bishop Dwenger to hold SAT prep class

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School is offering an SAT prep course on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. Classes will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 16, and end on Thursday, Oct. 30. The 14 sessions will include the diagnostic testing, six verbal and six math sessions. The class fee is \$170 and includes the text for the course. The class will address all areas of the SAT. The class is open to any high school student in the Fort Wayne/Allen County area. For more information and registration, please call Bishop Dwenger High School at (260) 496-4700.

Bishop Luers offers PSAT/SAT seminar

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School is offering a PSAT/SAT Seminar on Monday, Sept. 22, and Tuesday, Sept. 23 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Bishop Luers High School. This is a seminar for students of all ability levels. Students in the PSAT/SAT seminar may see a 50 to 200 point increase. The individual score increase depends on how much effort is put into the preparation and application of the take home materials students will receive at this seminar.

The fee for the five-hour workshop is \$79. To enroll, please call Bishop Luers Guidance Department at (260) 456-1261.

Christian culture lecture series' speaker announced

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College has announced the 2008 Christian Culture Lecture will be delivered by Maria Rosa Menocal, PhD, director of the Whitney Humanities Center at Yale University. The lecture, which is open to the public, will be held on Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in Little Theatre in Moreau Center for the Arts. A reception will follow in the foyer of O'Laughlin Auditorium.

Dr. Menocal will discuss the complex history of relations among the Islamic, Jewish and Christian communities of the Iberian Peninsula during the Middle Ages. Her lecture is called "Poetry as an Act of History: Al-Andalus, Sefarad, Spain."

Praising the Lord with XLT

BY TRISH LINNER

MISHAWAKA — If you haven't heard of the new XLT youth program sweeping the nation, don't worry. It's coming to a parish near you soon. "XLT" is short for Exalt and was created by veteran youth minister Paul George in Atlanta, Ga. He recognized that in today's fast-paced, technology-driven world, teens and young adults really needed a time to come together and simply worship the Lord.

"Young people today especially need time to gather with each other and feel that connection to God. Peer pressure is so strong in our society. This is a great way to see that others feel the way you do," said George. XLT is known as "an intense night of worship," according to George.

The night is typically divided into three parts: praise and worship music, preaching and prayer, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The format engages each person in attendance and has developed a strong following among those who have attended XLT services.

Locally, Cindy Black, youth director with the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Spiritual Formation has worked to bring the XLT program to the South Bend area.

"We have hosted our young people twice a year on retreats. The XLT program seemed like a perfect way to bring our youth together on a more regular basis. Pope Benedict said at World Youth Day that our young people need to spend more time with the Blessed Sacrament. XLT is a beautiful way for them to come together, worship

and pray," said Black.

In the South Bend area, two parishes are currently hosting XLT evenings of worship. Queen of Peace in Mishawaka holds XLT nights on the fourth Sunday of each month. Father Dan Scheidt and youth ministry leader Shawn Scott coordinate the event.

"The beauty of XLT is that it combines both active and contemplative prayers," said Father Scheidt, "XLT allows students to participate in several forms of prayer and that makes the adoration time a more unique experience for them. Teens have a thirst to be together and with the Lord. By combining prayer, contemporary music and adoration, together we are able help them really connect with their faith."

Both Black and Father Scheidt noted that XLT is not simply for teens.

"One family that worships at the XLT program in Fort Wayne has told me how moved their toddler and young kids were at the service," said Black. "They believe XLT has planted the seed of worship in them by witnessing teens who are devoted to their faith."

The older generation is not left out either according to Father Scheidt, "I have been told by older members of our parish after witnessing the XLT program that it has answered their prayers for our youth. They can see the response that the young people have and it has given them hope for the future of our parish and church."

Queen of Peace is not the only parish hosting the XLT program. St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart also hosts the event once a month, normally on the second Sunday of the month. Father Bob Lengerich and Deacon Kevin Bauman often participate at St. Vincent event. St. Thomas the Apostle, also in Elkhart, has helped

coordinate the events as well. Holy Cross College has recently started hosting an XLT service. Mary Bielski is the coordinator on campus. "It's a wonderful way for our students to come together. It's fairly new here and I am glad we are able to offer an opportunity like XLT," said Bielski.

Black is excited about the future of the XLT program in the diocese.

"We are hoping to continue the expansion of the XLT program so that all parishes can be involved. While it was originally designed for the youth of our nation, clearly it is something that everyone can enjoy and be a part of. Small children, teens, young adults, families, you name it. It is a moving service that brings us closer to God," Black said.

Want to attend an XLT program and learn more? The next dates planned for XLT are Sunday, Sept. 14, at St. Vincent's Elkhart, 7 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 27, at Queen of Peace in Mishawaka. Also, at FaithFest, the annual high school youth rally currently planned for Sunday, Sept. 28, there will be a shorter version of XLT. For more information on the XLT service, contact the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry at (260) 422-4611, Megan Oberhausen (Ext. 3385) or moberhausen@fw.diocesefwsb.org and Cindy Black (Ext. 3348) or cblack@fw.diocesefwsb.org.



Computers donated to Niles women's shelter damaged by fire

SOUTH BEND — The recent implementation of Genesis at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center made some of its computers obsolete due to outdated hardware. The equipment has been stored in information resources for the last few months. But a recent fire at a Niles, Mich., home for domestic violence victims, has led to a new home for the computers, keyboards and screens.

In early July, a suspected arson severely damaged and even destroyed parts of Polly's Place in Niles, an international ministries network established as a response to the growing need for programs and services to address the issue of domestic violence. The Niles location was the very first Polly's Place shelter program in the United States.

The vandals did more than ransack the home. Police believe they headed to the back of the facility and set the computer lab on fire — a place workers renovated in the last three years.

"We want to teach these women how to use computers so they can go out in the world today and work," said Peggy Caine, who has been involved with Polly's Place for nearly a decade. "That's another reason why this was so tragic."

But when SJRMC's Scott Dempsey of information resources read of the fire in the *South Bend Tribune*, he immediately thought of the newly unused computers and contacted the reporter to see if they could be used. Through a series of phone calls after receiving approval that the computers could be donated, Scott received a very enthusiastic confirmation from Polly's Place that they would indeed go to very good use.

"We simply can no longer use them here and they were just sitting in storage," Dempsey explained. "But for what the shelter would be using them for — to help teach some computer skills for office work — they certainly filled the need. So I just called to see if we could help."

On Aug. 25, Dempsey personally delivered all equipment to set up 10 workstations for the residence of Polly's Place to use.

"It's nice to know that these computers will go to very good use and that we were able to help some people," Dempsey said.

Writer Mary Tabor to speak at the USF

FORT WAYNE — The School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Saint Francis will host a lecture by award-winning writer Mary Tabor on Thursday, Sept. 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Doermer Center room 156.

From high school teacher to corporate executive to an award-winning fiction writer, Tabor will speak about how to begin writing about one's own family and personal history as well as her own story. After the lecture, attendees will have the chance to meet the writer.

Tabor published her first book of fiction at age 60 after a 16-year career in corporate America as a senior executive and director of public affairs writing for the oil industry's trade association. Her book, "The Woman Who Never Cooked" won Mid-List Press's First Series Award. Her experience spans the worlds of journalism, business, education and fiction writing.

For more information, please contact Dr. Matt Smith at (260) 399-7700 ext. 8105.

Ethics series kicks off with climate change discussion

NOTRE DAME — In the post-Enron age, the topic of business ethics often is considered in a narrow sense as an antidote to corporate malfeasance. But in today's complicated business environment, ethics includes a broad range of topics far more encompassing than avoiding wrongdoing, issues such as climate change, work-life balance and social responsibility.

The University of Notre Dame's Berges Lecture Series in Business Ethics began Sept. 9 with a panel discussion about climate change from a business perspective.

The annual fall lecture series, hosted by Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business is held at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

The schedule for the balance of the 2008 Berges series is:

- Sept. 15: Robert Nyhuis, senior program manager for Herman Miller, "Values and Decision Making," Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business
- Oct. 2: Cathleen Black, president of Hearst Magazines, a Notre Dame trustee and author of "Basic Black: The Essential Guide for Getting Ahead at Work (and in Life)," Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business
- Nov. 11: Joe Loughrey, president and chief operating officer of Cummins Inc., "Ethical Leadership in Business," Room 141, DeBartolo Hall

For more information, visit www.nd.edu/~cba/BergesLectureSeries on the Web.



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Odyssey: Checking out colleges with your college-bound high school student

BY JOE KOZINSKI

Parents and prospective college students, the following is a “clip and save” from a father and a mother that have first hand knowledge of the college visits, selections, applications and acceptance during the last year.

I hope that the story of our sons, Kenneth and Tyrus loaded into our family car in search of the perfect school, shed some light on the college experience and help navigate families to not only find the right educational fit but the perfect spiritual connection.

I will lay claim to being a current expert on the subject matter of college visits after a 10-day, 18 state, 4,011 mile odyssey traversing tropical storm Eduard with my youngest son, Tyrus. (After day one, Tyrus said, “Dad, if you say odyssey one more time during this trip, I will kill you.”)

It all starts before senior year

The first and most important rule for college visits starts in the first hour of the first day of a son or daughter’s freshman year in high school. Without good solid grades in challenging curriculum, your choices may be limited.

On a visit during the summer of our eldest son Kenneth’s senior year, the office of admissions let us know that the grade point average

that our son had accumulated to that point would be what was used to determine his acceptance and that his senior year grades would be used only to disqualify him if he stopped producing in the classroom.

The point is, you have three solid years in the classroom to establish your grade point average for many admissions boards — use that time wisely.

The second step to planning college visits is to use your high school guidance counselors’ knowledge and the Internet to your advantage.

I found that listening to our sons’ interests, knowing our financial abilities, having an established grade point average and SAT or ACT scores in hand, that when searching the Web you can focus in on schools that are a fit.

In looking into schools, my sons and I used four common Web sites to narrow the search down; www.education.yahoo.com, www.princetonreview.com, www.collegeboard.com, and www.college.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com.

Once the search was narrowed we looked into the individual college Web sites for more detail. Remember the first rule, grades. The ability to get automatic scholarships depends on grades and SAT/ACT scores.

Pay close attention to application deadlines

As all 18-year-olds, our son Kenneth knew what college he was going to attend. He didn’t think that difficult acceptance guidelines pertained to him. We could not get him to visit schools or, for that matter, to apply to them. Long story short, Easter weekend he was still on the wait list for his college of choice and he received a scholarship in the mail.

Kenneth said, “Dad I have some good news. I just received a full ride NROTC Scholarship to Notre Dame. I have some bad news; I never applied to Notre Dame.”

Another quick story about the 18-year-old that knew everything: Kenneth did apply to Indiana University after the deadline and was accepted. When visiting IU in late April of his senior year the bursar’s office informed us that his grades and SAT scores automatically qualified him for a \$20,000 scholarship.

The bursar then looked back at the screen and back at us and said, “I’m sorry, he applied too late and he is not eligible for the scholarship.”

Clip and save note: You can apply to more than one college and make your decision after you have been accepted. Apply early.

The third rule to live by is to visit early, a visit during your junior year or the summer before your

senior year is important. December of your senior year may be too late.

Tyrus and I knew that we would not be placed in the same predicament that his older brother had gone through. The wait lasted until June 25 after graduation, so we studied colleges, map quested locations, made tour appointments, filled the tank up, packed our bags and headed out on our odyssey.

College road trip begins in Memphis

Tyrus had one major request that I have to share. He wanted to go to a major public school that did not use snow shovels during the academic year. This would mean 100 degree temperatures in early August and plenty of windshield time.

The first college stop on our trip was to the University of Memphis, only a 10-hour trip from our home in Granger. Ty and my game plan was to get to all of the universities the day before the tour and check out the campus and town on our own.

After the tour, we made our way right on campus to a quaint white building that looked much like a neighborhood house with a garden hose watering the small front lawn. Across the front of the building there was a sign that read, “Catholic Campus Ministry.” After a ring of the door bell, a man in gym clothes answered the door and invited us in.

The man was Father Paul Watkins, OP, and after a brief tour, we found that the house held his office, a library, kitchen, recreational room and chapel. Father Paul then had us sit down, offered us a beverage and began discussing all of the activities the Memphis University Catholic Ministry provided.

Father Paul had an itinerary that included parties, service projects, movie nights, dances, an alternative spring break, 5 p.m. Sunday night Mass followed by a meal and, of course, in Memphis, a kick off barbecue.

The more Father Paul spoke of the activities the more comfortable Tyrus and I got with the university. Tyrus now had a place at the University of Memphis that he could feel at home at and still not shovel the driveway.

The Catholic population in Memphis is about 6 percent, but the campus ministry is important in bringing students together and supplying spiritual guidance during sometimes difficult times in college.

As we left the humble building, I said to Tyrus, “If you like the University of Memphis, we can send you here.” With that Tyrus had a pleasant smile on his face and said, “I really like the University of Memphis.”

University of Houston

Into the car we hopped headed to our next destination, the University of Houston, just a short 10 hour drive from Memphis.

The tour and presentation at the University of Houston was fantastic, the sausage we ate at Minute Maid Park, home of the Astros, were “to die for” and the people were extremely friendly.

On the corner of the campus, right across from the visitor’s center and bursars office, was a well kept large building standing in a prominent location, one might say the most prominent location. The sign big and bold called out, Catholic Newman Center.

Again a ring of a door bell and a young lady named Delores Perez

COLLEGE, PAGE 13



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Restlessness leads to career change — to the priesthood

BY JUDY BRADFORD

ELKHART — About 10 years ago, Kevin Bauman started feeling a little restless.

“Something was missing from my life,” says the former college professor. “It wasn’t for lack of good students or courses. But I couldn’t quite put my finger on what it was.”

He started having conversations with an old friend.

“Father Dan Jenky, who was then auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at the time, had known me since I was 18 because he’d been rector at St. Matthew Cathedral. I started working with him, and in the course of spiritual direction, he said to me ‘Have you ever thought about being a priest?’”

Bauman thought he might be too old for that, since he was 39. “Father Jenky said ‘No, you’re not.’”

“So, it was kind of an invitation for me,” Bauman added.

On Oct. 25, Bauman will be ordained as a priest at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. Currently, he is a transitional deacon working at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Elkhart. He is 48.

The career change from teaching Spanish Literature — at the University of Notre Dame — to

the priesthood has been a long road, but Bauman feels very good about it.

“I knew it would mean a radical change for my life. I had always worked, and leaving behind the security of the workplace and a regular income, to go back to school, was my greatest fear.”

For others contemplating a career change, he gives this advice: “You have to be receptive to God leading you, not you leading him.”

For him, the career change meant returning to seminary for an undergraduate degree in philosophy. He attended Sacred Heart Major Seminary, in Detroit, and graduated with honors. Then he earned his master’s in divinity at Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

But first, he had to ask God, “Is this what you really want me to do?”

He also had to understand the meaning of Christ’s words “Come, follow.”

“God doesn’t give us a roadmap when it comes to our careers,” he says. “There’s no book of instruction.”

To others who are struggling with whether to change careers, he says: “Go for it. When that spirit moves within us, there’s a reason for it. But also, talk to people. Ask people if what you want to go into is a viable field



JUDY BRADFORD

Deacon Kevin Bauman stands in the altar area of St. Vincent de Paul Church, in Elkhart.

right now. Is there a need for what you will be doing?”

There is definitely a need for what Bauman is currently doing. Since July 2, he’s been working with the Hispanic community surrounding St. Vincent de Paul, preaching most of the Masses in Spanish.

He has baptized dozens of children, and one day, he did 16 of them. He also travels to wherever there’s a need for a Spanish-speaking priest.

Bauman’s ability to speak Spanish fluently was called “a special gift” to the diocese by Bishop John M. D’Arcy in the bishop’s Call to Orders letter written to Bauman the end of July.

Speaking Spanish was just a small part of the call to the priesthood, however, and Bauman saw many other signs of encouragement along the way.

To others who are contemplating any kind of new career, he said, there will be signs along the way telling you whether you’ve made the right decision.

“Once I had made the decision and started along the path to the priesthood, there was a sense of personal peace, a joy that never diminished,” said Bauman.

“And, I received affirmation from other seminarians, from priests, and from the community. Those affirmations were my barometers.”

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A nation of slobs

Notre Dame offers seminar this fall

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY

NOTRE DAME — Americans don't know how to dress, says Linda Przybyszewski, associate professor of history at the University of Notre Dame—their clothing is too tight, too big, or inappropriate for the occasion.

The title of her book-in-progress is a little more blunt: "Nation of Slobs: How Americans Learned — and Forgot — How to Dress."

A colleague suggested she called the book "What Not to Wear," she says, "But that was already taken," by the popular cable TV makeover show.

But Przybyszewski (pronounced preh-beh-SHEV-ski) does have a lot in common with style gurus Stacy London and Clinton Kelly — she goes through life wishing she could make over other people's ill-fitting outfits.

The book is a bit of a departure for Przybyszewski, a legal scholar whose previous books include a biography of Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan, lone dissenter in *Plessy vs. Ferguson* (1896), which upheld Southern segregation statutes.

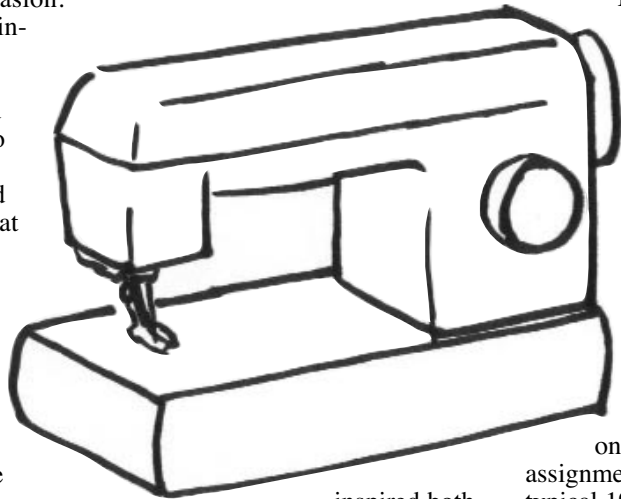
But Przybyszewski has sewn since she was a little girl and still makes most of her own clothes ("I don't make sweaters, and I can't cobble shoes," she clarifies). Something resonated when she came across a 1950s home economics textbook, "Clothes for You," by Mildred Graves Ryan and Velma Phillips—"the dress doctors," she calls them.

Ryan and Phillips' book taught young girls both the art of

dressing and the art of life — sewing, design and color theory, grooming, budgeting. They're skills girls have missed out on since the disappearance of home economics from school curriculums in the 1970s,

Przybyszewski says.

The textbook



inspired both her own new book and the university seminar she'll teach this fall, "Fashioning the Self: Identity, Aesthetics, Economics and the Clothing of the Human Form."

Students today live on the other side of two dress revolutions, Przybyszewski notes — the 1920s, when women rebelled against the painful corsets and hourglass figures of the 19th century, and the 1960s, when informality in dress became the norm, "and everything fell apart."

There used to be a difference between city and country dress, and between day and evening dress, she notes. People used to dress up for church and for funerals. Employers today have to cope with young employees who can't distinguish between appropriate attire for the beach and for the office.

In exploring the rules of the art of dress from previous eras,

Przybyszewski realized that you have to have your clothing tailored, or make it yourself, to apply the rules—you won't find the right color, the right fabric, the right fit in off-the-rack merchandise.

"Dressmakers feel sorry for people who don't sew," she says.

"Most people are dependent on ready-to-wear sizing — they don't realize their clothing could be made to fit."

This summer, Przybyszewski and niece Ursula Adams were busy sewing muslin copies of women's dresses and loungewear from different fashion eras for her upcoming class.

Her students will likely be easy to spot on campus this fall. One assignment will be to dress in typical 1950s-style student dress — tweed jackets and ties, poodle skirts and twinsets with sensible oxfords and the like — and report back on the reactions they get.

The class — and the book — will be a lot of fun, Przybyszewski adds.

"I've sewn my whole life and loved it," she says. "I've learned a lot. I never thought I would be using two very different parts of myself — sewing, and history and research."

And for those who would like to have better-fitting clothes, she does have a tip: Think separates.

"Buy for the hips—it's easy to fix the waist," she says. "You can take things in, but there's no room in the fabric to let things out. If you can't do alterations yourself, find a tailor."

Sewing is not that hard to learn, she adds. "People think it's hard to sew, but they'll spend hours miserable in the mall looking for something to wear."



PROVIDED BY ROB SEDLMAYER

Rob Sedlmeyer, a recent college graduate, poses with a sign to creatively market his talents to potential employers.

Recent college graduate finds Spirit driven inspiration in job search

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Never doubt the power of the Holy Spirit to provide a stroke of genius every now and then.

Rob Sedlmeyer, 25, a May graduate from Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW), was unsuccessful in his job search until an "aha" moment inspired him to take a nontraditional approach. The college graduate had sent out resumes left and right since graduating in May from the hospitality and tourism management program.

"I was really upset because I didn't hear back," he said about his fruitless efforts.

Then, one day, as he said, "I was sitting on the porch with Ryan Arnold, thinking of ideas to get my name out. He joked around that I should wear a sign (advertising my interest in a career)," he explained. Two weeks later it occurred to me that it actually might work."

Sedlmeyer's parents were skeptical when he first told them,

but still supportive.

"I don't care ... I'm doing it," he told himself.

Bound and determined to succeed, he tried on his suit jacket and prepared a sign reading, "College grad looking for career," which would later gain national attention.

The IPFW graduate said he was nervous about his approach but trusted in God.

"I spent all night praying about it," he said. "I hoped God would bless me."

So July 29, sign in hand, Sedlmeyer stood on the corner of Coldwater and Dupont roads for three two-hour stints during rush hour.

The result was overwhelming. Several local media outlets were drawn to his approach and soon, the story was broadcasted nationally. Companies across the nation received word and contacted him with inquiries.

"I've been getting calls from everyone," he said.

For the most part, he noted, the attention has been positive.

"I've only had a few negative responses," he said. "What better way than to have thousands of people see you?"

Sedlmeyer is proud to share that his job search has come to an end. Schwan's frozen foods delivery service has offered him a customer service position in which he will service and sell products. He said he's looking forward to the atmosphere because he'll get "to get out there and meet new people."

While his ultimate career goal is to enter the food and beverage management industry in Oregon, he said he's content with remaining in Fort Wayne for the time being.

There's no doubt God played a role in this journey, he said.

"I felt God's presence for sure," he said. "(My approach) was a good idea and it was what he wanted me to do."

The St. Vincent's parishioner offers some advice for those job hunting: "Think outside the box when it comes to a job. ... Think of what you want to do and go out there and get it."

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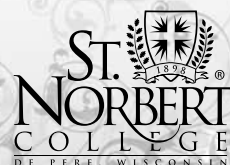
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COLLEGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

answered the door. I briefly explained our trip. I may have mentioned the word odyssey, (I know I did because Tyrus hit me in the arm this time and flashed an evil eye) after I did, the caretaker began to explain the ministry.

Delores told of the family atmosphere and how the priests interacted with the students and about the upcoming kick off barbecue. She spoke volumes on the weekly adventures of the ministry and how great it would be to have Tyrus be part of the team. Delores definitely loved her vocation and loved telling it even more. Tyrus was not just a prospective student but now a "Meho."

The Newman News, a newsletter for the Catholic Newman Center serving the University of Houston, main campus, was filled with articles welcoming students to the Catholic Center.

Examples of their titles were; "Freshman Cougar and Catholic" by Linh Pham, "Discovering the Same Catholic Church far away from Home" by Mate Kosor, and "Be not afraid" by Luis Gonzales.

Daily Mass was held in the chapel and the Sunday Mass was held in a church right in the middle of campus. I spotted a poster by the front door and then it hit me that our Catholic roots thrived and were needed by our young adults when far way at college.

The poster read, "... For I was a stranger and you welcomed me. ..." Mt 25:35.

As we left the prominent building, I said to Tyrus, "If you like the University of Houston, we can send you here." With that Tyrus had a pleasant smile on his face and said, "I really like the University of Houston."

LSU

Into the car we hopped headed to our next destination, Louisiana State University, just a short 4- 1/2 hour drive and into tropical storm Eduard.

The tour and presentation at the Louisiana State University was fantastic, the shrimp Creole we ate on Bourbon Street was "to die for" and the people were extremely friendly.

Again, across the street from the welcome center, was a significant building, bigger than the last. The sign read, Christ the King Parish and Catholic Center at LSU.

A ring of the door bell and we were met by a nice older gentleman. I explained our quest and he looked puzzled and spoke plainly, "I'm the cleaning man, I think you are looking for a priest." At that moment I was glad I didn't use the word odyssey on him.

We were invited in and met Father Cary Bani, a knowledgeable priest that had just arrived at the parish and was anxiously awaiting his first class.

As I remarked about the beautiful church and outstanding facilities, Father Cary looked towards

Tyrus and described what the parish would mean to him.

Father Cary detailed the sanctuary that Tyrus could find within the walls of the church. He described how when things in the classroom went asqueue and if things in his personal life began to tumble that he had a place to go to find comfort and acceptance.

The center provided places to study, places to gather for fellowship, other local parishes bring in food for the kids one day a week and a place where all are welcome. The parish's insight was to provide for the material needs of a student first and then be there if a young person needs spiritual guidance.

Father Cary also quipped about that the church that holds almost 1,200 people was only used on seven Saturdays a year. All of them were three hours before a home football game. He also explained that their Sunday Mass schedule during the academic year was 10 a.m., noon (Spanish), 6 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. and usually said in front of a standing room only congregation.

The mission statement of the parish read as follows; Christ the King Parish is a diverse, international community, formed to be a living ministry of Jesus Christ among persons on the campus of Louisiana State University and in the Diocese of Baton Rouge.

Mindful of the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ through the Roman Catholic Church, we actively, publicly profess our faith through worship and evangelization; nurture our faith through educational and formal opportunities;

promote social justice; foster unity, charity, and respect for all legitimate expressions of our Catholic tradition; create an environment that is safe, hospitable and welcoming to all.

Father Cary explained that the Catholic Church is a place for comfort and solace when everything around a young student is so different then what they are used to.

As we left the significant building, I said to Tyrus, "If you like Louisiana State University, we can send you here." With that Tyrus had a pleasant smile on his face and said, "I really like Louisiana State University."

Auburn University

Into the car we hopped headed to our next destination, Auburn University, just a short six hour drive.

The tour and presentation at Auburn University was fantastic, the lemonade we drank at Toomer's corner store was "to die for" and the people were extremely friendly.

We didn't visit the local Catholic Church in Auburn, but our tour guide pointed it out to us and added remarks about all the churches around the campus and how important they were to student life.

One final stop

Tyrus and I had one more important stop to make and it was 13 hours away. You see, I have described how our oldest was on

the wait list until June 25. We were on our way to visit Kenneth at The United States Naval Academy in Annapolis (his first choice) where he was inducted as a midshipman on July 2.

At the yard we were pleased to go to Mass at the church that was build above the crypt of John Paul Jones and in the center of the campus. We were pleased that Kenneth had joined the choir and that almost 625 of the 1,250 Fourth Class Midshipmen and their families celebrated the Eucharist together.

Kenneth had written home telling us prior about the choir, saying that he found out that he couldn't sing. We already knew that he couldn't carry a note and were not surprised when entering the church that he was passing out the hymnals and not in the choir area.

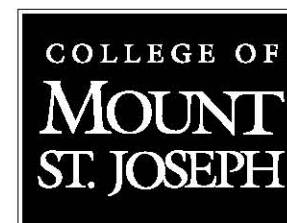
Parents and students the final clip and save: Parents take the time on a campus visit to introduce yourself and your sons or daughters to the campus ministry. This is a safe haven for your student when you can't be there.

One final footnote; 330 days before classes start for the class of 2013 at Louisiana State University, Tyrus received his letter of acceptance in the mail. No shoveling.



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Ancilla College announces six new faculty hires

DONALDSON — Ancilla College has announced the hiring of six new faculty members for the 2008-2009 academic year.

The group, described as “talented and imminently qualified” by Dr. Joanna F. Blount, dean of Academic and Student Services, includes Theresa Obias, Kathy Gulliver, Daniel Clampitt, Patricia Bawcum, Joyce Palmateer and Karen Taubert.

Obias holds a master’s of science in chemistry from Western Michigan University, and is currently a candidate for a doctorate in chemistry there. She will teach both Introduction to Chemistry and General Chemistry I at Ancilla.

Gulliver holds a master’s in mathematics from Western Michigan University and has spent the past five years teaching at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Mich. She will instruct Introductory Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Statistics and Calculus II.

Clampitt is a full-time instructor in biology who holds a master’s in environmental studies from Southern Illinois University. He has been teaching

part-time at College of DuPage and Lewis University. He will teach Principles of Biology I and Humans and the Environment.

Bawcum, who is being promoted, has been teaching at Ancilla as an adjunct since 2005. She holds her master’s in nursing from Valparaiso University. She has served as the director of nursing at the Catherine Kasper Life Center for over four years. Bawcum will instruct various nursing courses, including Fundamentals of Nursing and Issues, Trends, and Ethics.

Palmateer holds an MSN / Family Nurse Practitioner from Rush University in Chicago and currently works at Holm Medical Clinic in Plymouth. She has been an adjunct faculty at IU-South Bend and Purdue University Calumet. Palmateer will instruct Lifespan Nursing II and Lifespan II-Clinical.

Taubert holds a master’s in Advanced Practice Nursing in Adult Health from Valparaiso University and will also serve as a nursing instructor. She has previously taught as an adjunct at Ancilla and Saint Mary’s College (Notre Dame).

University of Saint Francis noted for environmental practices

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — The National Wildlife Foundation for its outstanding environmental practices has recognized the University of Saint Francis.

The foundation’s Campus Environment 2008 Report Card recognized Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Goshen College and the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne as colleges in Indiana with “exemplary” sustainability programs.

The report, a “comprehensive look at nationwide trends in sustainability among America’s institutions of higher learning,” compares findings with the previous study conducted in 2001, the National Wildlife Foundation said in a statement.

Director of environmental sciences Larry Wiedman explained the significance of the award.

First, he said, the university is “well represented” in both academic and outreach programs in terms of environmentalism.

Wiedman, who is responsible for establishing the undergraduate

biology program, detailed the university’s community outreach efforts. Specifically, he noted its efforts to reach out to the local Catholic elementary schools. His students “adopted” a class of third graders, he said, to teach them basic principles of environmental science.

Wiedman said the students responded well to the program, especially the “hands on” components. But the highlight of the program was an edible wetland model.

Looking to the near future, Wiedman said he intends to plan to continue to broaden the scope of the environmental programs. He has a vision of campuswide initiative involving faculty, staff, and students. The “green campus initiative,” as he calls it, calls students to become self sufficient and sustainable.

Headlining the initiative is the construction of the Clare Hall dormitory.

“All kinds of things have been done architecturally to turn it into an eco-friendly facility to save energy,” he said.

Inside the classroom, students in his introduction to environmental sciences course are working on a service-learning project to develop a bicycle loaner program. According to the proposed model, students would be able to rent refurbished bikes in exchange for a \$20 deposit, which covers the cost of repair and maintenance.

Wiedman said the concept would minimize the need for more parking spaces with fewer students driving. Furthermore, through an incentive awards program, he noted, students can win prizes for being green.

One thing he stressed is the students’ direct involvement in these green efforts across the board. All these projects are student generated, with the faculty and staff acting as facilitators. In this context, Wiedman calls to mind Habitat for Humanity’s “sweat equity” concept.

“The kids are doing all the groundwork and leg work,” he

said.

A large-scale project in the works is the development of the Cougar Connection, a link to the River Greenway through a partnership with the city of Fort Wayne. The city of Fort Wayne’s River Greenway has 20 miles of trails, so it’s just a matter of linking a path to St. Francis.

The university has its hands in smaller scale efforts, too. Visible and user friendly recycling centers have been strategically placed near the dormitories. And resident assistants encourage the recycling of cardboard.

“Everybody wins,” he said. “The little things add up.”

University officials are also becoming environmentally conscious. The university’s advertising agency, HPN Inc. Marketing Services, he noted prints the football programs on recycled paper.

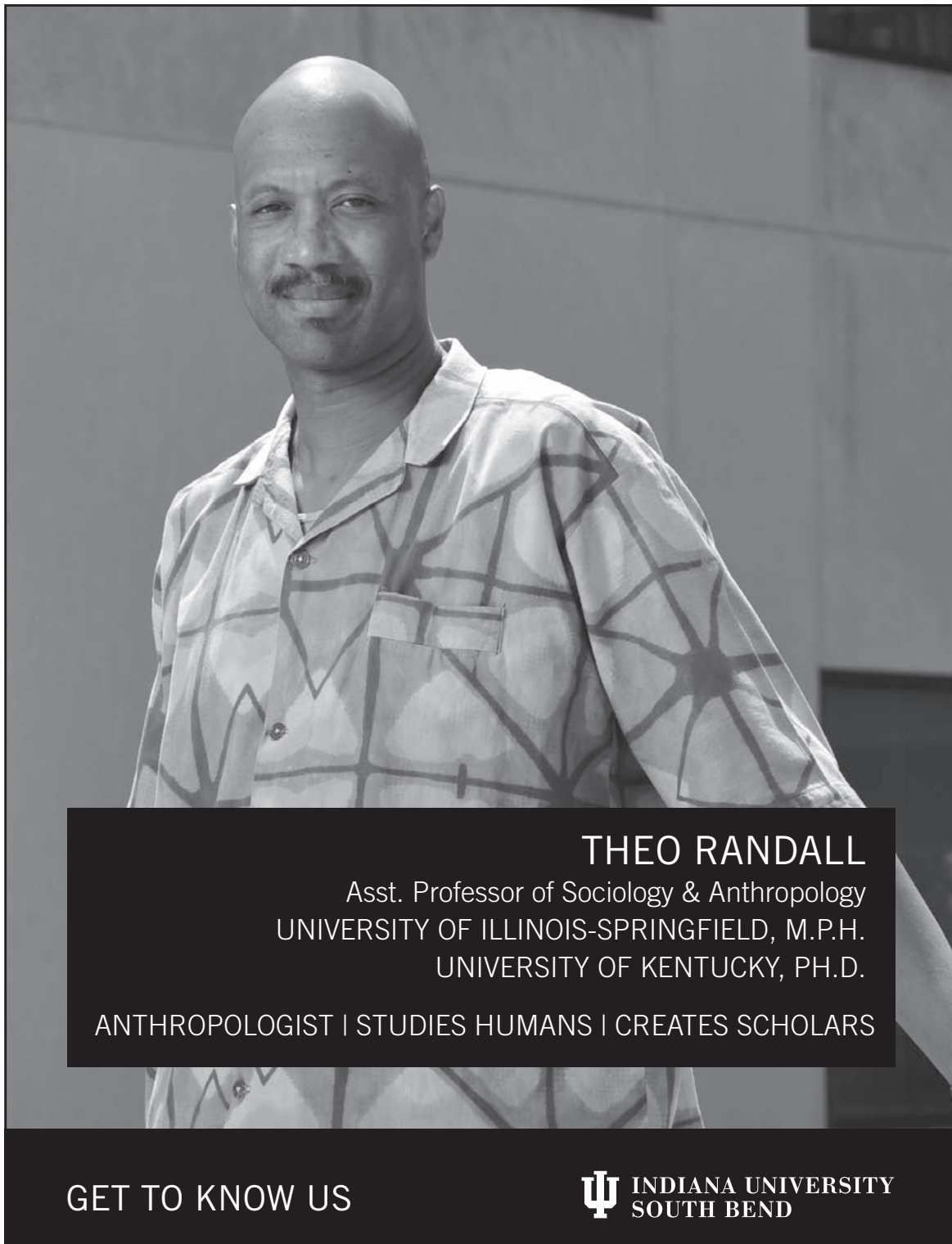
Wiedman said this move sends a positive message out to the community about the university’s values.

“Being the director (of environmental science), it legitimizes things we’ve been doing all along,” he said. “This was something that was an important visible statement. It’s one more validation that we’re doing the Franciscan thing.”

Respect for the environment, he said, involves putting your money where your mouth is — something Saint Francis has done well in his opinion.

Wiedman offered some advice for institutions seeking to establish or enhance environmental programs. First, he said authority figures need to be aware “that it’s not all gloom and doom” when it comes to environmentalism. Optimism makes a difference, as it inspires you to affect change. Likewise, he encourages group involvement.


“Just put a call out ... talk about things,” he said about gathering like-minded people.



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EDITORIAL

Juggling the weeds and the wheat

"Hate the sin; love the sinner." The Gospel reading we heard not too long ago about the weeds sown amidst the wheat prompts some remarks about an inherent — and healthy — tension in Catholicism. The Catholic tradition gentle and gingerly juggles in a careful balance two facts.

First, there exists an objective moral order which is independent of any individual and the world he or she may construct or concoct for him or herself; thus there is objective truth and objective good and evil, which do not depend simply upon the intentionality of any individual or group.

Second, none of us is in the position to discern the status of another before God. The parable of the weeds sown among the wheat has been taken up — most famously by St. Augustine — to explain the complex ambiguity of the human condition and of our incapacity to make judgments with any degree of certainty about others' moral or religious status. In fact, Augustine would contend, the distinction between "wheat" and "weed" is not simply found between individuals or among groups, but rather cuts down the very center (he would prefer the word heart) of each one of us.

In this gentle balancing act, maintaining objective moral standards and at the same time remaining circumspect about the position of others before God, we are apt to err in one of two ways.

First, in an effort to avoid passing judgment (and the Gospel texts which warn against this danger are many), we can easily water-down or relativize that objective moral order. We can emphasize (to the near exclusion of everything else) the good intentions of the agent; or, perhaps worse, we can allow a seemingly good end to justify a less than morally acceptable means: we can say, "well, the world's a messy place, and the small evil entailed is proportionately small," or "chalk that up as collateral damage; the good we've done more than makes up for the harm done."

Alternately, in an effort to maintain the objectivity of the moral order, we slide quickly into judgments about others, easily categorizing and labeling them, subtly securing our own sense of superiority.

The danger of such judgments is obvious. As Augustine would remind us, in this life we cannot be certain even of our own salvation: we can work for it, pray for it, and hope for it, but on this side of the veil, we can never be certain of it. And if we cannot be certain of our own salvation, we are in no position whatsoever to make judgments about others.

Further, naming things is a divine prerogative, shared with Adam by God prior to the Fall. In a fallen world, our capacity to name things, infected by our pride, is reduced to labeling others and becomes a tool to control, master and confine others into a neat little world we more often than not construct for ourselves, at the center of which (if we are honest and look carefully) is our own self-glorification.

What, then, are we left to do? First, simply continue, undaunted, the balancing act: fully aware of the dangers inherent in abandoning the moral order and in judging others, we should be clear about moral good and evil and at the same time be clear about our own inability to see or read the hearts of others. Second, pray. When we see words, deeds, or omissions which are objectively sinful or clearly unjust (and the world is rife with examples), we should pray for the conversion of their perpetrators, all the while — and at the same time — praying for our own.

Still accepting witness stories

One form of evangelization is sharing our faith journey with others.

We are inviting readers to send in their "witness" or faith journey stories with us to run in our Sept. 28 issue. In 50 words or less, please answer one of the following questions:

- I love the Catholic faith because ...
- I was drawn to the Catholic faith through ...
- I came back to the Catholic faith because ...
- I am still Catholic because ...

Please send your name, parish, city or town, an optional photo and your telephone number to editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org, or mail to Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856 before Sept. 15.

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

Campaign '08: Economy seen as prominent factor in U.S. election

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The economy will be a key factor in choosing a president this fall for Ithaca, N.Y., resident Kathryn Hughes and her husband, who are struggling financially to send two children to college and assist another daughter who is a single mother with three young children.

As a faithful parishioner of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Ithaca, the 43-year-old mother, grandmother and recently naturalized U.S. citizen has followed her pastor's call to exercise political responsibility in November's national elections, the first time she will cast a ballot in a presidential race.

"The economy has affected us in every way," said Hughes, a native of Great Britain who became a U.S. citizen in 2006. "We are the middle class and feel the pressure."

In her view, the economic policies of President George W. Bush have been helpful to the wealthy, and in some ways beneficial to the desperately poor, but have ignored the struggles of middle-class Americans.

For years Hughes felt blessed by the good fortune she and her husband found after immigrating to the U.S. in the 1990s. Both found decent-paying jobs and they were able to buy a home in a safe community, where they raised their three children.

However, as the economy soured in recent years and their children entered college, the couple discovered their incomes wouldn't pay the tuition bills, but they made too much money for government assistance.

"So now we and our children must throw ourselves into debt," Hughes said. "I also have had to bridge the gap for my daughter, a single mother of three children, because she is a low-income working mother with few benefits that don't add up to enough to put gas in her car to get back and forth to work."

In their 2007 document, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility," the U.S. Catholic bishops said, "We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a better world."

"The bishops urge Catholic voters to focus not on political questions such as 'Are you better off than you were two or four years ago?'" said Thomas Shellabarger, policy adviser for urban and economic issues in

THE WASHINGTON LETTER

BY CHAZ MUTH



the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Rather, each of us should enter the voting booth focusing on the ethical and moral dimensions of public policies that affect the entire community."

The impact the economy is having on the family life of the Hughes clan and millions like them in the U.S. is a moral issue and a legitimate concern for voters, Shellabarger said.

"The Catholic Church recognizes the incredible busyness of family life and the demands of work that overwhelm families," he said. "Many pressing problems confronting family life are due to broad social forces, particularly economic strife. The decision of a man and woman to marry and raise a family is a significant one with many considerations involved. Yet today, without a job that pays a family wage, marriage and starting a family seem impossible."

Currently the minimum wage is \$6.55 an hour or \$13,624 a year, but for a family of two the poverty line is \$13,167, and for a parent and two children, the poverty line is \$16,079.

The annual income needed to pay for a national fair market rent for a studio apartment is \$19,320, while \$22,360 is needed for a one-bedroom and \$26,520 is needed for a two-bedroom, according to a study conducted by the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

"The study concludes, 'In no community in the U.S. today can someone who gets a full-time job at the minimum wage reasonably expect to find a modest rental unit he or she can afford,'" Shellabarger said. He noted that the study adds, "While planned increases in the minimum wage over the next two years may put affordable housing closer within reach for some households, they will not close the gap between full-time earnings at the federal minimum wage and the income needed to afford prevailing rents in most markets."

According to Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama's campaign Web site, if elected president he would double funding for after-school programs, expand the Family Medical Leave Act, provide low-income families with a refundable tax credit to help with their child-care expenses and encourage flexible work schedules.

On his campaign Web site, Republican presidential nominee Sen. John McCain calls for a National Commission on Workplace Flexibility and Choice. This commission would be a bipartisan group of workers, small and large employers, labor representatives and academics that would give the president recommendations on how to modernize the country's labor laws and training programs to help workers better balance the demands of their jobs with family life.

The current state of the economy also has caused Hughes to limit the donations she regularly makes to organizations that help feed and provide clothes for the needy, a practice that is highly encouraged by Catholic teaching.

"Unfortunately, debates about poverty often become polarized by ideological and partisan divisions," said John Carr, executive director of the bishops' justice and peace department. "This political season, campaigns needs to move beyond false ideological choices that often paralyze national discussion. Catholic teaching and experience insist that reducing poverty will require personal responsibility and social responsibility, better choices and behaviors by individuals, and better policies and investments by government."

At the Vatican, not all voices are created equal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A provocative article on whether brain death is true death has illustrated once again that the Vatican speaks with many voices, not all of them equal.

The article appeared in early September at the top of the front page of *L'Osservatore Romano*, the official Vatican newspaper. That's a prime location in the complex geography of Vatican media.

The author, Lucetta Scaraffia, argued that the generally accepted practice of using brain death as the criterion for declaring a person dead was open to new challenges and debate, both in the church and in the scientific community.

Such a debate could have deep repercussions in health care ethics, particularly on the question of organs harvested from brain-dead patients whose bodies continue to function.

Within a couple of hours, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, put some distance between the Vatican and the article's line of reasoning, saying that the content reflected merely the author's views and not the

church's teaching.

In fact, previous statements by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and leading church officials have made it clear that the church recognizes brain death as "the true criterion for death."

So why was the Vatican's own newspaper questioning that? For one thing, it's become a real newspaper under new editorial leadership and is more willing to tackle issues that were formerly off-limits.

Sometimes these salvos offer an early tip-off of a coming trend. In January, a bishop wrote in its pages that Catholics should show reverence by receiving the Eucharist on the tongue while kneeling.

The article caused a bit of an uproar and some skepticism but, six months later, this form of receiving Communion became the norm at papal liturgies.

Many journalists are in the habit of slapping a "Vatican says" label on anything even faintly associated with Vatican City or the Roman Curia. That's often led to confusion and illustrates a certain

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

disconnect between church officials and modern media.

The Vatican holds to a fairly detailed hierarchy of information that ranges from papal proclamations on the high end to offhand comments from curial officials on the low end. When translated into news stories, however, such distinctions generally fall by the way-side.

One perennial area of confusion has been the church's position on the use of condoms to prevent the spread of AIDS. Although there has never been an explicit Vatican pronouncement on this specific

KNIGHTS, PAGE 17

Disciples must take up their crosses



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Exaltation of the Cross Jn 3:11-17

Whenever a feast supercedes a regular Sunday liturgy in the church, Catholics should realize that the church is interrupting the usual sequence of Sunday readings to provide us with a lesson it considers to be especially important.

Such is occurring this weekend. Last weekend, we observed the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Next week will be the 25th Sunday.

However, instead of presenting to us the liturgy of the 24th Sunday this weekend, the church calls us to celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

This is because it is important for Catholics to think about the crucifixion of Jesus, not just in historical terms, but in terms of the enormous, miraculous effects of the Lord's willing gift of self, as sacrifice to the Father, achieved through the crucifixion on Calvary, and of their place in the story.

For the first reading, the church offers us a passage from the Book of Numbers. The reading looks back to the Exodus, the Hebrews' long, and wearying journey across the Sinai Peninsula in search of the Promised Land. This book recalls how disgusted they were with the want and uncertainty of the trip.

Their disgust was understandable. What is the most critical fact is that their survival was at stake. They were on the verge of starving. They could not find their way. But, God led them. They survived. They eventually reached the Promised Land.

Moses called them to look upon a serpent that he had mounted on a pole. Many people detest snakes. However, in ancient cultures, snakes symbolized life, since snakes shed their skins.

Paul's Epistle to the Philippians furnishes the second reading. Scholars believe that this actually was a hymn in early Christianity, sung during worship. It is one of the most magnificent pieces of literature in the New Testament, dazzling in its exclamation of Christ.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading. The reading is not from John's detailed Passion narrative. Instead, it is from an account of a time when Jesus is explaining salvation to Nicodemus, a prominent Jew.

Jesus draws a comparison between the Messiah and the serpent. The Savior will bring eternal life. To acquire this life, the Christian must look to the Lord, the only bond between God and humanity, between heaven and earth.

Reflection

What is so urgent about the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, about the crucifixion itself, that the church sets aside the 24th Sunday to celebrate this feast this weekend rather than observe?

The urgency is in the fact that we must realize the ancient Christian adage that disciples must take up their crosses and follow the Lord.

Why? Understanding the story

of Calvary helps us to understand our place in the story.

Christ came to reconcile all people to God, and to bring God's mercy to them. Human sin works against this process. Indeed, human sin can seem to triumph. Christ died. Human sin overtook the situation, but only for a moment. Christ rose. He was victorious. He lives.

We too can live if we resist sin, and if we follow Christ. Following the Lord will require determination, even to the point of seeming to bear a burden as heavy as the cross.

Enabling us to carry our own cross is the mercy of God. Theologians call it grace. It strengthens us. It enlightens us.

We must ask for grace, and we must prepare ourselves for grace, by looking only and always to Jesus. We must resolve never to pause, or desert, our intention to follow Jesus to Calvary, and beyond Calvary to the glory of heavenly life, life eternal.

Jesus faced crucifixion not in despair, but in faith. We too must live in faith.

READINGS

Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1b-2,34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26,33 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Jn 19:25-27

Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14,27-31a Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22 Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11 Ps 118:1b-2, 16-17, 28 Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20 Ps 17:1b-d, 6-7,8b, 15 Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49 Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 Lk 8:4-15

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplison

In September, the church remembers St. John Chrysostom. He is often regarded as an Orthodox saint, but this quiz looks at both Orthodox and Western views of this saint.

1. St. John Chrysostom lived in this century long before the division of Eastern from Western Christianity:

- a. 4th b. 6th c. 8th

2. That division did not occur until this century:

- a. 9th b. 10th c. 11th

3. John was patriarch in this city, capital of the Eastern Roman Empire:

- a. Constantinople b. Antioch c. Jerusalem

4. The term "Orthodox" literally means:

- a. Eastern in orientation
b. from the source
c. correct in religious doctrine.

5. While "Catholic" literally means:

- a. Roman b. universal c. Western

6. What is the division between the East and Western versions of Christianity technically known as?

- a. The Babylonian Captivity
b. The Great Schism
c. The Reformation

7. Chrysostomos means

- a. "golden mouthed"
b. rich in mercy
c. devout and faithful

8. Because of the differences, John has different titles in East and West. In the East he has two titles. One is:

- a. Archimandrite
b. Archbishop
c. Great Hierarch

9. And the other Eastern title is:

- a. Stylites
b. Ecumenical Teacher
c. Heronin

10. In the West he is referred to as bishop and

- a. Holy Hierarch
b. Divine Teacher
c. doctor of the church

11. The Orthodox Church and Eastern Catholic Churches honor John as one of these:

- a. the Three Holy Hierarchs
b. the Three Wise Men
c. the Three Archangels.

12. Who are the other two?

- a. Cyril and Methodius.
b. Basil the Great and Gregory the Theologian
c. Martin Luther and John Calvin

13. Perhaps, surprisingly, this saint is also celebrated by some

- a. Muslims
b. Protestants
c. Jews

14. Ironically considering the high position he reached, John had originally sought only to be this:

- a. a monk
b. rich
c. a good husband to Theophilia

15. His defense of the church caused him to suffer this repeatedly:

- a. martyrdom
b. cholera
c. exile

16. One thing he ended that has (mostly) remained banished from churches was this:

- a. vestments
b. liturgical music
c. applause

ANSWERS:

1.a, 2.c, 3.a, 4.c, 5.b, 6.b, 7.a, 8.c, 9.b, 10.c, 11.a, 12.b, 13.b, 14.a, 15.c, 16.c

Do we sit or kneel after Communion?

After Communion, when the priest sits down, the congregation does too. Do we have to sit or could we remain praying in kneeling posture? Anonymous

The "General Instruction of the Roman Missal" states that the faithful "may sit or kneel while the period of sacred silence after Communion is observed." The common Roman Catholic practice in the United States is for individuals to kneel following reception of holy Communion. However, in a great many parishes, it also seems to be a common habit for the congregation to kneel in prayer after Communion only until the priest returns to his chair, at which point everyone typically stops kneeling and moves to a sitting position as well.

While this habit may have originated from a sense of defer-

ence to the lead role of the priest, it should be made clear that it is unnecessary, and perhaps even disruptive. The moment when the celebrant sits after the distribution of holy Communion is not an official liturgical cue for the congregation to change its posture.

For a congregation to start sitting when the priest does can actually disturb a prayerful post-Communion atmosphere. It can pressure fellow worshipers to feel that they should follow suit by folding up the kneelers and sitting back. Besides the potential for distraction from the movement and noise, the unfortunate reality is that this coordinated sitting all too often is understood as ending the time of prayer. The congregation is then left waiting for the priest to "get to the end of Mass," which in turn can rush the priest, who is just at that moment

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

able to enter into his own private reflection after distributing holy Communion. It also leaves those who were at the end of the Communion lines with much less time to pray. After all, there are sometimes Masses with deacons or concelebrants when the main celebrant sits before the last communicant has even made it back to the pew.

This is truly an important liturgical issue. When the priest returns to his seat to join the

faithful in silence, the entire assembly finally has the opportunity to thank God together for the gift of the Eucharist, and to seek the graces of Christ's body and blood as a unified faith community. Silent kneeling in this context is particularly appropriate. Sacred silence is an essential part of the liturgy and a necessary contemplative element in our spiritual lives. Moreover, kneeling is our foremost Roman Catholic expression of reverence, and one that facilitates prayer. Since humans have been created as a union of body and soul, it makes sense for our body language to complement our mental and spiritual actions. It is therefore natural that a sudden switch in posture would make it difficult to remain in a state of fruitful, meditative prayer.

Of course, there is nothing

prohibiting an individual from sitting after holy Communion, especially if he or she is unable to kneel for whatever reason. Again, the problem is when everyone is expected to stop kneeling and prematurely interrupt prayer. So, while one may sit after Communion, one should not feel obligated. It should not be frowned upon to remain kneeling and to continue meditating in this manner until it is time for the whole assembly to stand for the Prayer after Communion or a hymn of praise.

Brian MacMichael, director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, answered these questions.

Campaign 2008: The life issues

Thirty-five years after *Roe v. Wade* struck down the abortion law of all 50 states, the life issues remain the most sharply contested in American public life. They are also signature issues of Catholic concern, not for any "sectarian" reason but because the life issues engage first principles of justice, principles that form the moral foundations of the free and virtuous society. That has been the case for decades. But things are different this year, in two respects.

First, the biotech revolution is gaining momentum. Human-animal hybrids created for research purposes are now legal in Britain; "savior-siblings" artificially created to provide spare parts for a sick brother or sister are openly discussed throughout Europe; the pressure to provide public funding for such practices in the U.S. will inevitably intensify. Then there is what some consider the overriding strategic consideration in this election cycle: the real possibility that the next presidential term could produce a Supreme Court majority willing to return the abortion issue to the people and their legislators, where the Constitution leaves it.

Thoughtful Catholic voters will thus want both to pose serious questions to both the principal presidential candidates.

Questions for both candidates:

- 1) Do you believe that *Roe v. Wade* was rightly decided? Is there a constitutional right-to-abortion in the U.S. Constitution?
- 2) How does *Roe v. Wade*, which declared unborn human beings outside the protection of the law, differ substantively from *Dred Scott*, which declared Americans of African descent outside the protection of the law?
- 3) Would you work to promote, or would you resist, the definition of a "right-to-abortion" in international law?
- 4) Do you favor the continuation of the Hyde amendment,

which bans federal funding for abortions?

5) Would you continue the "Mexico City policy," a presidential order that bans U.S. foreign aid to organizations that promote or perform abortions as a matter of family planning?

6) Under current Supreme Court jurisprudence, what restrictions, if any, would you seek to place on the "right-to-abortion," and what regulation of abortion clinics would you support?

7) What is your position on the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA), by which federal authority would be used to overturn state partial-birth abortion bans, state parental notification requirements, state informed consent laws, and restrictions on state funding of abortions?

8) Has the successful creation of pluripotent stem cells from adult cells ended the debate over embryo-destructive stem-cell research? Or, despite this scientific advance, would you press for federal funding of stem-cell research that destroys human embryos?

9) How would you vote in the upcoming Washington state referendum to legalize physician-assisted suicide?

Questions for Sen. Barack Obama:

- 1) Do you regret your vote against a partial-birth abortion ban when you were an Illinois state senator?
- 2) During your service in Springfield, you opposed a bill that would give legal protection to infants who survive an abortion. Was that a choice you would like to revisit? If so, why? If not, why not?
- 3) What precisely did you mean when you said you wouldn't want one of your daughters "punished with a baby," should they find themselves in the dilemma of unwanted pregnancy?
- 4) You have a 100 percent rating from NARAL Pro-Choice America. Is there any matter of public policy on which you and



GEORGE WEIGEL

NARAL differ?

5) Would support for *Roe v. Wade* be a litmus test for candidates you would nominate to the Supreme Court?

Questions for Sen. John McCain:

1) You have a strong pro-life voting record during your congressional service, yet some pro-lifers are nervous about you. Why? Where do the life issues rank in your list of priorities for America's future?

2) You and Mrs. McCain adopted an infant at the request of Mother Teresa; has that experience shaped your views on the life issues?

3) Would you favor Supreme Court nominees who believe that *Roe v. Wade* was wrongly decided?

4) As you know, many pro-life groups opposed the McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform law, arguing that it unduly burdened issue advocacy organizations. Have you rethought your approach to campaign finance reform in light of those criticisms?

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for September 14, 2008

John 3:13-17

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, for Cycle A. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

NO ONE	HEAVEN	EXCEPT
THE ONE	SON OF MAN	MOSES
LIFTED UP	SERPENT	SO MUST
BELIEVES	IN HIM	ETERNAL
LIFE	GOD SO LOVED	WORLD
HE GAVE	ONLY SON	PERISH
DID NOT SEND	CONDEMN	BE SAVED

TO BE SAVED

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

issue — it is, in fact, under study — various cardinals and lesser-ranking prelates have weighed in, generating headlines as disparate as "Vatican condemns condoms" and "Vatican rethinks condom ban."

On another hot topic, some media recently reported that Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, head of the Vatican's Supreme

Court of the Apostolic Signature, said that Catholic politicians who support legal abortion should not be given Communion.

Archbishop Burke made his views on this issue well-known when he headed the Archdiocese of St. Louis, but voicing them as head of the Vatican's highest tribunal seemed to elevate them to a "Vatican says" level. The problem was, he gave the interview last spring, before he was named to his Vatican post; an Italian magazine got around to publishing the interview in August.

Sports

BISHOP LUERS TO HOST ANNUAL WALK-A-THON Bishop Luers High School will conduct its 28th annual Walk-A-Thon on Friday, Oct. 3. Those wishing to sponsor a Bishop Luers student or make a donation are invited to call the school office at (260) 456-1261. Money collected is used for general operating expenses at the high school.

CYO volleyball opens season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball action got underway on courts across the league on Saturday, Sept. 6. At St. Charles, the very first game of the day featured the Green League (seventh grade) defending champions from St. Jude against the 2007 runner-ups, St. Charles, now as eighth graders vying for the 2008 White League (large school) title with the host team, the Lady Cardinals, coming out on top 25-14, 25-20.

As expected, it was an intense matchup between two well coached, solid teams. The two coaches, in fact, were former teammates at Fort Wayne's Northside High School. St. Jude is coached by Martha Payton this season and St. Charles by Laura Hattery.

Payton insists that she can usually only watch "about half of the game" when they have played each other over the years because of the mounting excitement and anticipation.

"(Unfortunately), it was good for our girls to experience a loss. The second match, especially, was some really good volleyball. I was

glad to get St. Charles in right off the bat. Now we can relax and focus on what we need to work on," Payton decided.

St. Jude lists 11 eighth graders on their team roster for 2008. The assistant coaches are Megan Urbahns and Jeff Mickelini. Payton brought Mickelini in for technical assistance to get her team ready for "play at the next level." Payton said she and Urbahns feel very fortunate to have Mickelini as part of the program. "He is such a great guy and brings along so much volleyball experience. He is a phenomenal help teaching our girls versatility and technique and has been a real asset to St. Jude over the years."

Payton expects her Lady Eagles to be extremely strong this season and feels one team strength is, "We are three-deep in every position." Goals for the season include: improving each game, digging a little bit more, getting better at blocking, becoming stronger hitters and better passers and working on their timing when blocking and hitting.

"I also intend for the girls to become better at anticipating — following the ball on the other side of the net," added Payton.

This will be Payton's last season at St. Jude. She ends each practice with prayer and prays with her team before and after every game. Payton feels it is very important to continually stress to this age group to believe in themselves. "It has been special for me to watch this group grow mentally, physically and emotionally since the fifth grade. I want them to do well and have a lot of fun this season," she concluded.

In his first season as head coach, Queen of Angels leader, Dean Noye, is hoping to finish well in the CYO Blue League (small school). The Royal Reds group of eighth graders last season won the tournament beating the Twins from St. Louis-St. Rose and went undefeated in regular season play. This year's group of 11 young ladies return eight from the seventh-grade team and add three newcomers.

Noting a team strength this season, Noye said, "Many of our girls have been playing together since the fourth grade and have built up their abilities and gained much experience."

He was very pleased to finish second to a White League powerhouse, St. Charles, in a pre-season tournament. When predicting his odds against conference foes, Noye concluded, "We know Lisa Palmer's team from St. Therese is always a threat."

Queen of Angels defeated Precious Blood in their season opener 25-8, 25-20 in the final game of the day at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel last Saturday.

Saints, Panthers lead opener of ICCL football games

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — Mishawaka Catholic's football Saints unveiled an impressive show of talent as the defending champions opened the 64th Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) season with a 22-6 win over the Holy Cross Trojans.

The Saints took command early with their rushing and passing technique. Vince Ravotto penetrated the Trojan defense with two aeriels of 20 and 33 yards to Joe Walter for touchdowns, and the Saints never looked back.

Chase Lentych-Hack later intercepted a wayward Trojan pass and returned it 34 yards for a touchdown. He also added two conversion kicks.

Adam Gonzalez tallied Holy Family's score on an 8-yard burst as time expired.

In the other varsity skirmish, St. Anthony-St. Joseph Panthers waltzed past St. Matthew Blazers, 20-6.

Kevin McFadden put the Panthers on top early with a 4-yard touchdown slant, and Frankie Karczewski threw for a 5-yard touchdown pass to Matt Pinter. Collin Szymanski scampered to a 30-yard touchdown run to finish the scoring. Philip Brier added a conversion. Tyran Ottbridge raced 65 yards untouched for the Blazers' score.

Junior varsity games

Three games were played at the junior varsity level.

Mishawaka Catholic defeated Holy Family, 14-0. The Saints were paced by Ryan Schafer's 64-yard-touchdown burst, and Michael Voor intercepted a stray Holy Family pass and returned it for 14 yards and a touchdown. Schafer and Nate Thomas each had conversion runs after the touchdowns.

Holy Cross Crusaders defeated the Granger Titans behind the scoring of Andrew Petsche's 41-yard dash. Peter Rymsza scored on a 12-yard scamper and Gabe Brooks added the third touchdown for the Crusaders on a 13-yard smash over center. Jacob Jobe booted two extra points.

St. Anthony-St. Joseph Panthers conducted a scoring spree with a 41-6 victory over the St. Matthew Blazers.

Oliver Page led the assault with three touchdowns on runs of 20 and 70 yards as well as a kick-off return. Other scores were by Justin Drinkall, who returned a 65-yard kickoff, Chris Lippert who ran a 25-yard off tackle slant, and Reece Happs who had a 15-yard touchdown run.

St. Matthew's score came on a 6-yard dash by B.J. Muguro.

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New Haven, JAT, St. John take CYO wins

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the third week of Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football action at Bishop Luers Field, Holy Cross beat St. Jude, 36-0. Next up, St. John, New Haven, improved to 2-1 downing St. Charles, 34-0. Quarterback Jake Britton scored a touchdown for the Raiders while Adam McCarthy had a big day adding three trips to the end zone and kicking 4-4 extra points.

attempts.

Later in the day, Sts. JAT (Joseph, Aloysius, Therese) came up with a big 20-6 win handing St. Vincent their first loss of the season. The Knights victory was led by the offensive efforts of John Castle, Nick Deiser, Will Nolan and Chad Wyss while the relentless defensive attack was secured by Jack Downey, Alec Wampole, Dan Christian, Aaron Lemaster and Luke Martinez.

A very satisfied Knight Coach Mike Deiser explained, "It was a

huge team effort for us and it has been many years since we have beaten them."

Scoring for the Panthers was Ryan Watercutter on a 22-yard pass from Nick German.

"JAT really controlled the line of scrimmage all day and made it difficult for us to get much of anything going offensively," said St. Vincent Coach Cory Kitchen.

In the final matchup of the day, St. John, Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel defeated Precious Blood-Queen of Angels, 24-0. Thomas Starks threw two successful Eagle attempts first hooking up with Brendan Gonzales on a 50-yarder and later to Channing Williams on a 70-yarder. Sam Stronczek threw the other score to Matt Williamson and was 3-3 on PATs.

Sunday, Sept. 14, the Catholic Radio 1450 AM broadcast will feature St. Vincent against the 3-0 Eagles at 1 p.m. This game will be dedicated to Hessen Cassel's beloved principal, Bob Herber, who passed away over the summer.

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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

Central Catholic 50th class reunion
Fort Wayne — The 1958 graduating class of Central Catholic will have a golf outing Friday, Sept 12, with a casual picnic at Pine Valley Country Club. The reunion will be Saturday evening, Sept 13, at Pine Valley Country Club. For more information or reservations call Barb Hogan at (260) 854-3270.

Corporate communion and luncheon
South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572, will hold a corporate communion on Sunday, Sept. 14, at the 8:45 a.m. Mass at Christ the King Church, State Rd. 933. Breakfast will follow at Perkins Restaurant, 423 S. Dixie Way. On Saturday, Sept. 27, the Daughters of Isabella will meet at noon for the fall luncheon "A Country Western Jamboree" at the Blue Heron at Blackthorn, 5440 W. Nimitz Parkway. Admission is \$25 and proceeds will benefit Camp Millhouse, Logan Center and Reins of Life. Reservations needed to (574) 287-1487 by Friday, Sept. 19.

Transitus
Mishawaka — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration and the Immaculate Conception Secular Franciscan Community invite you to participate in the Transitus of St. Francis at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, in the chapel of St. Francis Convent on Dragon Trail.

Beginning Experience
Donaldson — A Beginning Experience weekend retreat for widowed, divorced and separated persons will be held at

Lindenwood Retreat Center from 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12. Register by Sept 27 to Teresa at (574) 261-0123 or by e-mail at greenlight7113@sbcglobal.net or Marilyn at (269) 684-0882 or Becky at (260) 768-7350.

Youth Mass begins for fall
New Haven — St. John the Baptist, St. Louis Besancon and St. Rose of Lima Parishes will collectively celebrate a youth Mass on Sunday, Sept. 21, at 6 p.m. at St. Louis Besacon Church. A free high school program follows in the parish hall with a teen dinner. Time allowed for teens to socialize with peers while learning ways to strengthen their walk with Jesus Christ.

Little Flower Holy Hour rescheduled
Fort Wayne — Father Glenn Kohrman has been rescheduled to celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 7:15 p.m. Father Kohrman is pastor at St. Mary of the Lake, Culver.

Parishes combine for mission
Fort Wayne — St. Mary and St. Peter Parishes are co-sponsoring a mission Sept. 14-18. Storyteller Father Richard Hart, OFM, will be "Sharing the Good News." St. Peter's will have 9 a.m. Masses on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Evening services will be at St. Mary's at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Reconciliation service at St. Peter's Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Closing Mass at St. Mary's Thursday at 6:30 p.m. followed by a reception.

Find out about becoming a Serran
South Bend — The Serra Club will host an information meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 30, in the Andre Room at Holy Cross Village from 12:30-2 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

FUNDRAISERS

St. Hedwig chicken dinner
South Bend — St. Hedwig Parish will have a chicken dinner at the Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St., Sunday, Sept. 28, from noon - 2 p.m. Advance tickets only. Deadline Sept. 22. Adults \$9, children 6-10 \$5 and children 5 and under free. Call (574) 287-8935 for information. The menu includes traditional Polish fare: chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, kluski noodles, sweet and sour cabbage and green beans. Milk, water or coffee included. Soda and adult beverages will be available for an additional charge.

Fall festival
Decatur — The St. Mary Parish fall fest will take place behind St. Joseph's School, 127 N. Fourth St., on Sept. 20 and 21. Saturday events include dinner by Bandido's (\$10 pre-sale tickets only), live band, Texas Hold 'Em, silent auction and carriage rides. Sunday events include kids' games and rides, bingo, live auction, Chinese auction and food.

Spaghetti dinner helps Gibault School
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5570 will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Sept. 11, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Adults \$7, children ages 5 to 12 \$2.50. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, bread, beverages and

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Fort Wayne

Max Bandor, 88,
St. Jude

Fred C. Ransbottom,
81, St. Vincent de Paul

Isabelle M. Bobay, 95,
Saint Anne Home

Teresa J. Racine, 84,
St. Jude

Albert J. Knight, 90, St.
Elizabeth Ann Seton

B. Jean Kelly, 86,
St. Jude

John F. Fee, 85, St. Jude

Dorothea Eggers
McArdle, 91, St. Vincent
de Paul

Julia B. Neddeff, 83,
St. Charles Borromeo

Juan A. Vasquez, 70,
St. Joseph

Alice M. Scheiber, 96,
St. Henry

Granger
Louis C. Zabona Sr., 70,
St. Pius X

Huntington
Sister Melita Schmitz,
84, Victory Noll Chapel

Mishawaka
Marie Modos, 71,
Queen of Peace

Edward N. Jordan, 66,
Queen of Peace

Notre Dame
Sister Christine Healey,
CSC, Our Lady of
Loretto

South Bend
Leonard Jurgowski, 74,
St. Casimir

Elizabeth W. Andrysiak,
85, St. Adalbert

Delum R. Plonka, 61,
St. John the Baptist

Mary M. Kempner, 88,
Little Flower

Mary Kowalski, 90,
St. Adalbert

Eleanor M. Oudhuis,
83, St. Joseph

Marianne D. Zurbuch,
97, St. Anthony de
Padua

Florence R. Jozwiak, 97,
St. Casimir

Warsaw

Joseph E. Miller, 62, Our
Lady of Guadalupe

dessert. The council is located at 5202 Linden Ave., one block east of Mayflower Road. All proceeds benefit the Gibault School for Boys and Girls.

Buddy Walk supports Down Syndrome
South Bend — A walk to raise funds for Down Syndrome will be Saturday, Sept. 20, at the Stepan Center, University of Notre Dame. Registration begins

at 10 a.m. and the walk begins at noon. Food, entertainment and prizes. Visit www.michianadownsyndrome.org for information.

St. Joseph mission planned
Garrett — St. Joseph Parish will have a parish mission "Bind Us Together Lord" Sept. 14-18 at 7 p.m. each night at the church.



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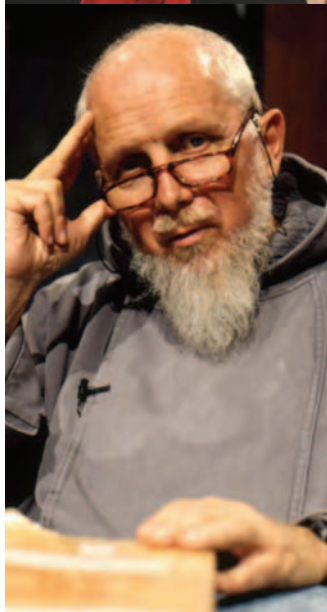



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