



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Two ordained to the priesthood



TIM JOHNSON

Father Kevin Bauman, left, and Father Drew Curry, right, pose with Bishop John M. D'Arcy after the celebration of the rite of ordination to the priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Saturday, Oct. 25. The bishop asked the congregation to take seriously the command of the Lord and to pray to the Lord of the harvest. "Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send forth laborers of the harvest," Bishop D'Arcy encouraged.

Father Drew Curry and Father Kevin Bauman assigned to parishes they served as deacons

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — It was a day of praise and thanksgiving at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Oct. 25 as Bishop John M. D'Arcy ordained two new priests — Kevin M. Bauman and Andrew (Drew) P. Curry.

Joining in the celebration was a congregation from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, where Father Curry has been assigned associate pastor and served his diaconate, and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart, where Father Bauman was assigned associate pastor and served his diaconate. The church flowed over with visitors from Father Curry's home parish, Holy Family, South Bend, and Father Bauman's home parish, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend. Both Fathers Bauman and Curry are graduates of Saint Joseph's High School.

As Bishop D'Arcy began the homily, which explained the symbolism and importance of the rite of ordination, he said, "This moment of faith and love, which we are living together, calls us to give thanks to God for the gift, which only (God) can give by which the ancient sacramental rite from the laying on of hands, these two young men are transformed forever, so that they may, through the power of Jesus Christ, be consecrated, so as to make pres-

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Pope closes synod, says Bible put into practice through service

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI closed the Synod of Bishops on the Bible by preaching a lesson on love of God and neighbor, saying the word of God must be put into practice through service to others.

The concluding liturgy came after the pope accepted 55 final synod propositions, including a proposal that women be admitted to the official ministry of lector, or Scripture reader, at Mass.

Joined by more than 250 bishops at a Mass Oct. 26 in St. Peter's Basilica, the pope said the synod had highlighted a fundamental truth: that the church's missionary activity will fall flat unless it is nourished by scriptural reading and understanding.

Those who think they've understood Scripture but fail to implement its most important teachings — in particular, the double commandment to love God and neighbor — "show that they are still far from having grasped its profound meaning," he said.

There is "a singular connection that exists between listening to God and unselfish service to one's brothers and sisters," he said.

The papal liturgy closed an intense three-week period of speech-giving, small-group

discussion and elaboration of final recommendations by the 253 voting members of the synod and some 50 other observers and experts.

One of the synod's strongest recommendations was to improve the scriptural aspect of homilies, and the pope seemed to offer a model at the closing Mass.

Examining St. Matthew's account of Christ's words on the "greatest commandment," the pope began by looking at the historical context of Judaic law and the originality of what Christ was proposing.

Then he drew connections with the previous readings from the Book of Exodus and a letter of St. Paul to underscore a crucial point: "To be disciples of Christ is to put into practice his teachings, which are summarized in the first and greatest commandment of divine law, the commandment of love."

The pope said the synod had helped the church focus on the importance of Scripture, and he urged participants to return home and launch a program of scriptural renewal in their dioceses and parishes.

He expressed his disappointment that bishops from mainland China were not allowed by their government to attend the synod. He paid tribute to the Chinese bishops' "communion with the universal church

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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



MARK WEBER

At a Sunday afternoon Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, 61 couples and guests celebrated silver, golden and "60-plus" wedding anniversaries. Margie and Joe Hunnicutt, St. Mary Parish, Huntington, shared memories with Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

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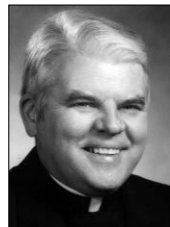
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Instruction represents tradition of the ministerial priesthood



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

The ordination experience

It is difficult to put into words the experience of our ordination at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception last Saturday. I always feel the obligation of prayer and preparation for such an event, and a strong sense of unworthiness. It is right that it should be so. While a bishop can replace the age-old instruction with a homily, I never want to leave out the instruction. It represents the tradition of what the church believes about the ministerial priesthood. At the same time, I always experience the obligation of trying to articulate, not just what is in my heart, for that could be too subjective, but what the church teaches as applied to the present situation. So, in next week's edition of *Today's Catholic*, you will find printed the brief homily I gave after the Gospel and before the instruction from the ritual itself.

Special gratitude to the pastors of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne and St. Vincent Parish, Elkhart. Here we see one of the advantages of our candidates having an extended diaconate in their parishes. The priestly ordination becomes a parish event. Hundreds of families came, bringing their young people with them, and the cathedral was standing room only.

Also, since our theologians now are at a seminary in nearby Columbus, Ohio; and since they were on break, there were about 40 seminarians in addition to the students studying for our own diocese. This was especially encouraging to our people.

So many high points

There were 75 priests in attendance. A solemn quiet in the cathedral, after the conferral of holy orders through the ancient sacramental rite of the laying on of hands. This follows the prostration of the two young men face-down on the cathedral floor while the Litany of Saints is sung in a combination of Latin and English. Then, the laying on of hands by the priests, all in quiet, all with reverence.

A call to love

On two different occasions, both in the instruction and when the priest is presented the chalice and paten, symbolic of his new authority to say Mass, the bishop repeats these words:

"Understand what you are doing, imitate what you handle, and model your life on the Lord's cross."

This willingness and eagerness, out of

love, to share in the cross of Christ is essential to the life of the priest. Indeed, every Christian is called to it, but the priest, since he is the instrument of others hearing the word of God and keeping it, must consciously embrace the cross. The result of this will not be sadness, but rather, gladness; because he is sharing in the cross of the one he loves.

Sunday, a kind of completion

On Sunday, I offered Mass in the cathedral with those who were renewing their marriage vows after 25, 50, even 60 or more, years of married life. It was not hard to keep in my own heart and mind the fullness of Catholic life and to see how closely linked are these two sacraments. Indeed, the vocation to the priesthood comes awake in homes where there is prayer and love and obedience to God's will.

And the poor

At the end of Mass with the married couples, we presented gifts from the Annual Bishop's Appeal to many of our agencies, who are intensifying their work with the

good work in saving the unborn child. They give baby clothing and nutrition and so much else. But here it was — coats for young children and teenagers. Some women had spent numerous weekends purchasing these coats, brand new, but at reduced prices. In his encyclical "Deus Caritas Est," Pope Benedict XVI indicated that Catholic outreach to the poor had certain characteristics, which must always be present. One of these is that it should show a profound humanity. He even says that people, who work in these agencies linked to the Catholic Church, make a gift of themselves. They do not give just food or clothing or housing, they give their very selves. All this was profoundly evident as these women purchased these coats, and prepared them, and gave them out, with such kindness.

I met two students from Bishop Luers High School, fluent in Spanish, who were there to help in translating.

I hope our parishes will prepare to intensify their efforts for the clothing of the poor in the days ahead. Things will get worse economically before they get better.

Two beautiful feasts

November 1, All Saints Day, since it is on Saturday this year it is not a day of obligation, but it is a day to remember the universal call to holiness. We are all called to be saints and also to be mindful of all the saints in heaven, those in the calendar, and those known but to God. Surely many will want to attend a Mass. I will offer the 12:05 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Then Sunday, All Souls Day, the great Catholic tradition of praying for the dead and believing we can help them to obtain

heaven by having Masses offered and praying and making sacrifices for them. Two beautiful feasts as we prepare for the month given over to praying for those who have gone before us.

No baseball news

I think I am rooting for the Phillies. Although I admire Tampa Bay, no one should be allowed a world championship for a franchise only 11 years old.

Fenway Park is dark. To paraphrase the Book of Ecclesiastes: "A time to cheer and a time to be quiet." But it is too cold for night baseball.

See you all next week.

November 1, All Saints Day,
since it is on Saturday this year
it is not a day of obligation,
but it is a day to remember
the universal call to holiness.

poor, in light of the present economic crisis. Grants were given to the Women's Care Center, Vincent House, Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul, the Christ Child Society, St. Martin's Clinic in Garrett, and St. Mary's Soup Kitchen.

Speaking of the Christ Child Society

I drove over last week to the former Sacred Heart School in Fort Wayne. I found an extraordinary sight. Coming down the steps and out into the cold fall air, were hundreds of people — mostly women. Upstairs in a former classroom, there were members of the Christ Child Society sitting at computers and helping to tabulate. Checking people as they came in was my good friend, Bill Dotterweich. This was the fifth of several weeks when these women give new coats to children whose families cannot afford them. They are recommended by public schools and Catholic schools, and by various social agencies — but mostly from schools. The Christ Child Society, founded first in South Bend and in the last 10-15 years in Fort Wayne, has no overhead, no administrative expenses. In Fort Wayne, they work very closely with the Women's Care Center, which does so much

Friends, families celebrate ordination with new priests

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — They came by car, school bus and coach bus — all to see the ordination of Fathers Kevin Bauman and Andrew (Drew) Curry to the priesthood. The parishes where they were raised, the parishes in which they served as deacons, their fellow seminarians and business associates as well as relatives found a day to praise God and rejoice.

Friends and relatives of Father Kevin Bauman prayerfully joined him in celebrating what some have said has been a long time coming. The newly-ordained Father Bauman himself enthusiastically and confidently told *Today's Catholic* that he "has been waiting for this day my whole life."

Hazel Scott, who is non-Catholic and Father Bauman's half-sister agrees, "This is a momentous time in our family to have Kevin make his vows. He's been called for a long time."

Another half sister, Vicki Maybee, who attends a Brethren Church says, "It's been a long journey from start to now. I wish mom and dad (who are deceased) were here."

Father Bauman had quite a following attend the Mass and

reception that followed at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne.

Olivia Preciado from St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart, where Father Bauman served as a deacon and has now been assigned as an associate priest, said, "Everybody is here today to pray for him. Me and all my friends because we are all one."

Barb Lowry is from St. Michael Parish in Plymouth, where Father Bauman served as seminarian and deacon.

"Through Kevin you can just see God working," she says. "He just radiates God's love."

Orla Mileski came with her husband and her son, Joe, from Benton Harbor, Mich. Father Bauman became one of their family when he met with Joe, who is a first year theology student.

"Kevin is going to be an amazing priest," Mileski says.

Mark Coomes came from Detroit to show his support and was particularly impressed with how Father Bauman was reminded throughout the Mass to strive to imitate what he celebrates — Christ's cross — and throughout his life as a priest.

Many traveled by bus to Fort Wayne from South Bend. Holy Family, Father Curry's home parish, where he celebrated his first Mass on Sunday, Oct. 26,

was well represented by enthusiastic parishioners.

Joy Cheminiak, a Holy Family parishioner, took the bus. She wouldn't have missed the ordination. Curry went to Holy Family and Saint Joseph's High School with her grandson Tony. "They were good friends," Cheminiak said. "Drew was the server at Tony's wedding. He is going to be a good priest. He is quiet and easygoing. I think he will be an understanding priest."

Kathy DeLee, also a parishioner of Holy Cross, celebrates with Father Curry. "I have never been to an ordination before." She said she was surprised by Father Curry's decision to become a priest. "I was surprised because he never said anything about it when he was growing up."

Will Heckanan, who graduated from John Adams High School in South Bend in 2007, met Father Curry through Antioch. They stayed in touch even after Curry went in the seminary.

Chip Leinen, a member of St. Piux X Parish, Granger, and co-director of Antioch with his wife, Virginia, met Curry at Franciscan University and was not surprised about Drew's vocation. "He was always a religious person ... a faithful person."

Holy Family parishioners Joe



TIM JOHNSON

Kevin Bauman and Andrew (Drew) Curry lay prostrate on the floor of the cathedral during the Litany of Supplication as the prayers of the saints are invoked for the priest-candidates to live their vocation to the priesthood.

and Reyna Van Overberghe brought their three children to experience an ordination because they are good friends of the Currys. They arrived at the cathedral early so they could get good seats.

Phillip Sordelet and his friend Patrick Krach, a teen from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Fort Wayne, focused on the symbol-

ism of the ordination, especially the laying on of the hands and the fraternal kiss of peace. They said it was "neat" to see because of the unity among the priests that it symbolized.

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, contributed to this story.

SYNOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and their fidelity to the successor of the apostle Peter," and assured them they were in the synod's prayers.

On Oct. 25, the last working day of the synod, the pope lunched with participants, joking that he had probably violated international human rights principles by making them work late into the night and on Sundays during the assembly.

"We'll have to see what can be done to improve this for the next synod," he said.

The synod's propositions, all of which were approved overwhelmingly, were presented to the pope along with an invitation to prepare a document on the topics raised during the assembly.

Proposition 17 asked that "the ministry of lector be opened also to women, so that their role as proclaimers of the word may be recognized in the Christian community." Women already act as Scripture readers, but cannot be installed officially in such a ministry, which is reserved to males.

It was unclear what the pope would do with the proposal, which would appear to require a derogation of canon law. Some Vatican sources said that, if approved, it would have to be emphasized that the ministry of lector arises from baptism and not from any connection to priestly ordination.

An issue that was the subject of four synod propositions was the need to strengthen the theological perspective in exegesis, or scriptural interpretation. Reflecting one of the pope's expressed concerns,



CNS PHOTO/MAX ROSSI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI says Mass to celebrate the end of the Synod of Bishops on the Bible in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 26.

it said the study of Scripture cannot be reduced simply to a historical analysis of biblical texts.

In its propositions, the synod identified several areas needing further study or guidance:

- Proposition 12 suggested that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith clarify "the concepts of the inspiration and the truth of the Bible" in order to make more understandable the Second Vatican Council's teaching on the question.

- Proposition 15 asked for a "homiletic directory" to help priests in preparing homilies. Such a directory would cover the principles of homiletics and the art of communication and would present biblical themes that recur in liturgi-

cal readings.

- Proposition 47 asked the Vatican to conduct a study on "the phenomenon of the sects," citing deep concerns over their growing popularity in traditionally Catholic countries. Often, it said, these sects attract followers by promising "an illusory happiness through the Bible, often interpreted in a fundamentalist way."

- Proposition 16 asked for an examination of the Roman Lectionary, the book of Scripture readings for Mass, to see if "the current selection and ordering of readings is truly adequate to the church's mission in this historical moment." In particular, it asked that the Old Testament receive

greater attention in the lectionary.

On another liturgical question, the synod suggested that moments of silence be more universally adopted between the first and second readings at Mass and at the end of the homily.

It emphasized that scriptural readings never should be substituted with other "spiritual or literary texts," which it said "can never attain the value and the richness contained in holy Scripture."

The synod propositions thanked laypeople, in particular catechists and leaders of small communities, for their help in promoting scriptural understanding, especially in places where priests are absent.

But, sounding a note of liturgi-

cal caution, the synod also recommended the formulation of "ritual directories" to help ensure that where catechists lead Sunday services such celebrations "are not confused with the eucharistic liturgy."

The synod, reflecting an ongoing theme of the assembly, said the connection between Scripture and evangelization needs to be better understood. It said the call to the Gospel must be "explicit, done not only inside our churches, but everywhere" and must be accompanied by the daily witness of the faith.

Missionary activity will often lead to persecution, the synod said. It appealed to civil authorities to respect and protect religious freedom.

On a basic point made by bishops from developing countries, Proposition 42 said many local communities lack Bibles translated into their own languages. It encouraged an effort to train translation specialists.

Proposition 53 dealt with dialogue with Muslims, but did not specifically mention Scriptures. Instead, it insisted on "the importance of respect for life, the rights of men and women, and the distinction between the social-political order and the religious order in promoting justice and peace in the world." In a line added as an amendment, it said another important theme of Catholic-Muslim dialogue was "reciprocity and the freedom of conscience and of religion."

Proposition 54 treated the theme of ecology, urging greater pastoral and theological emphasis on the connection between Scripture and current efforts to safeguard the created world.

Battle of the day is the attack on the family

BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — Citizens for Community Values (CCV) of Indiana is dedicated to protect families from the harmful effects of the pornography-sex industry "by promoting the principles of the Judeo-Christian ethic." The citizen organization has a long string of victories in closing down or preventing the opening of strip bars. This year the group successfully opposed the opening of a strip club in New Buffalo, Mich.

America is at the crossroads of decision, a turning point of either solidifying the acceptance of false and destructive values or returning to the Christian values this nation was founded on. That could sum up the message of concern voiced at the CCV annual awards and benefit dinner Oct. 21 in South Bend.

Joseph Szalay, a Hungarian immigrant, who along with his wife Emma was honored with CCV's Citizen of the Year Award, expressed it this way, "I am very fortunate that God gave me a strong faith to survive seven years in a communist concentration camp ... when I saw the Statue of Liberty, tears came down, and I thanked the Lord we

could see the Statue of Liberty."

He went on to say how "the first thing the communists did was to destroy the family. ... I personally don't know a Nazi or communist in this country, but I am sorry to be experiencing the philosophy and morality of what's going on, this sex mania."

CCV Executive Director Patrick Mangan said, "It is chilling for me to hear them articulate their concern that they have for America because of what they have seen happen in their own country in the past. The attack on the family is the battle of the day."

Fred Crowe, a member of CCV's board of directors, was the recipient of CCV's Business Leader of the Year Award. He shared how he and his wife Rosemary are involved in a ministry in Michigan City.

"There are many people whose lives have been destroyed by sexual addiction and of course all the people they have offended, the victims." He said these crimes are "nurtured by pornography." Crowe noted that today people have to stand with their children at the school bus stop because of what might happen if they do not.

Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter who was named CCV Public Servant of the Year



PHOTOS BY TOM UEBBING

Joseph and Emma Szalay accept the CCV Citizen of the Year Award with CCV Executive Director Patrick Mangan on left and CCV President Joseph P. Sergio, Ph.D.

said, "Early in my term we worked together on an adult business ordinance. In so doing we were able to uphold the necessary morals that are too often absent in our society."

In his keynote address Patrick Mangan, noted that "Now CBS and NBC are leading a lawsuit because they want to have the F-word in prime time. That's the battle we are up against." He continued "pornography is now part of 50 percent of the divorces in

America. We are confronted with the very ugly reality." Mangan said he is often asked if we are in post-Christian America. "The answer is no ... but we are on the edge."

But also surging through everything that was said was a strong message of encouragement, hope, faith and victory. Gideon and Joshua were cited as examples of biblical heroes who through perseverance and faith won great victories for the Lord. CCV President Joseph P. Sergio, Ph.D., urged his listeners to stretch themselves as he has had to do in embarking on a prison ministry to sex offenders. Mangan strongly emphasized the process of repentance, forgiveness and restoration for those caught in the slavery of sexual sin. "There is no greater task than setting the captives free."

William Wilberforce, the British antislavery crusader who persevered against overwhelming odds, was held up as an example. His achievement was realized by the steady "drip, drip, drip" of water on a stone that ex-slave ship captain John Newton counseled Wilberforce would finally end slavery in the British Empire. Mangan said it is the persistent efforts of CCV and its volunteers

that are like that steady drip.

An example was the efforts of Ed Moore, CCV's honoree as the Faith Leader of the Year. Moore is the founder and general manager of WFRN, a Christian radio station heard throughout the Michiana area and beyond. Moore, along with Mel Coil, started Citizens Concerned for Family Values, an organization that did not receive enough support to continue. However, a few years later CCV was launched in part from the groundwork they laid. Moore is on CCV's advisory board.

Also honored was the Virgil



Former Mayor of Elkhart David Miller, says, "This is serious business and what is even more regrettable is that we are producing these monsters. We are fighting the disease at every faucet instead of going to the source and cutting it off right at the pump."

and Rebecca Wesco Family. This family of 12 was named the Volunteer of the Year for their key efforts in successfully and lovingly opposing the homosexual agenda before the South Bend Common Council in 2006.

Mangan concluded the evening with "I believe that if we stand with God, he will stand with us."

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USF professor discusses informed conscience in upcoming election

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — University of Saint Francis Professor Adam Deville addressed an audience the evening of Oct. 23 on the morality behind making an informed decision about politics.

His lecture, entitled "Catholic Faith and Politics: Making an Informed Decision in November" was an unbiased look at how our Catholic faith comes into play at the voting box.

Deville, an undergraduate and graduate professor at the university, summarized his objective.

"Our focus tonight is on the church's teaching ... the theological perspective on sociopolitical issues," he said.

Throughout the lecture, Deville referenced to the U.S. Council of Catholic Bishops document, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," as it serves as an exemplary guide on the relationship between faith and reason and the church and state.

Although the church provides moral guidance in the form of documents like this, Deville emphasized that it has no interest in becoming entwined with the state.

"The church herself has no interest of giving the church power over the state," he said. Rather, it strives for a symphonic relationship in which both institutions respect the freedom and roles of each other.

According to Faithful Citizenship, Catholic social teaching underlines seven key themes to consider when voting.

The first, the right to life and the dignity of the human person, is often a divisive political and moral issue.

"The church has always defended human life," he said. "Human life is sacred."

This theme relates to practices like abortion, euthanasia, as well as torture, unjust war and the death penalty, which are "violations of natural law," he said.

The right to life is paramount he said, but Catholics should not be single-issue voters, he proposed. Abortion, however, is the single most critical issue, as it's an "assault on the innocent," he said.

The call to family and community participation is another issue the document addresses. Family-based marriages, parents' rights and favorable economic policies are encouraged. The church also encourages subsidiarity, he said, which is political action on a local level.

Basics rights and respect for all people is another concept. Catholics should protect all human life and their rights, such as food, shelter, clothing, religion, healthcare and housing. Freedom of religion and family life is important as well, he said.

Moreover, the document stressed the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. This means we should treat the poor and vulnerable with utmost concern. Immigration reform falls in this realm, he noted.

Deville spoke of the document's fifth point — the dignity of work and workers' rights.

"The economy must serve the

people, he said. "Employees should contribute to the common good, and in turn employers should give workers respect. They need to work together to advance justice."

Solidarity is another issue Catholics should study. Solidarity concerns human and family life. We are to love our neighbor and help them in struggles, he said. Furthermore, Catholics are called to promote peace and justice, just war tradition and enforce moral criteria (in the political realm).

Last, the bishops emphasize caring for God's creation. With concern for future generations, we have a moral obligation to protect the planet, he said. Environmental issues would fall into this category.

Deville noted the bishops prioritized the seven themes, with the right to life as the most pivotal. However, Catholic social teaching, he noted, does not endorse any platform or party. As Catholics, we are called to vote according to a "well-formed conscience," with "careful deliberation."

Prudence guides us to make a well-informed decision, he said. Beyond this virtue, he said, we can read, pray, study and fast to clear our minds and make a deliberated decision.

Deville concluded with a simple reminder about affecting changes.

"These issues won't disappear after the election," he said. "The culture needs to be transformed."

Moreover, Deville reminds us that political issues are not to be taken lightly.

Banquet for Life draws enthusiastic crowd

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — The 11th annual Banquet for Life drew a large and enthusiastic crowd recently at the Grand Wayne Center in downtown Fort Wayne. The event was hosted by Indiana State Senate President Pro Tempore David C. Long, the Three Rivers Educational Trust Fund and the Allen County Right to Life Committee.

The evening's keynote speaker was 6th District U.S. House of Representatives Republican Congressman Mike Pence. Life is winning on Capitol Hill, he said, when a bill preventing Planned Parenthood from receiving Title X funding is passed by Congress.

And life is winning in America, he said, because of the work of crisis pregnancy centers and the prayers, education and tenacity of groups like Allen County Right to Life.

Early in the evening, Allen County Right to Life Executive Director Cathie Humbarger was the stunned recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash Award in a surprise presentation by guest speaker Indiana Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman. "This is the highest honor the governor can bestow on a citizen," said Skillman, and called Humbarger especially deserving because she "brings women and faith-based ministries together."

Skillman reminded her listeners of some Indiana laws for life that have changed, citing Senate Bill 76, which requires health care providers to offer fetal ultrasound tests to pregnant women,

Senate Bill 568, which requires birthing centers and abortion clinics to be licensed, and the new "Choose Life" license plates made available this year in Indiana.

And special guest Marjorie Dannenfelser outlined efforts by The Susan B. Anthony List to promote, mobilize and represent pro-life women in the political process.

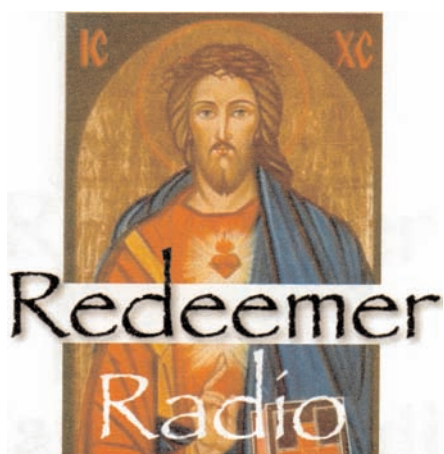
Another highlight of the evening was the announcement of the recipient of the Telemachus Award, which recognizes a person who advocates for life like the fourth-century monk who was killed opposing the senseless slaughter of gladiators in the Roman forum.

This year the honor was posthumously bestowed on the Rev. Dr. Kurt E. Marquardt, a former member of the Concordia Theological Seminary faculty as well as an Allen County Right to Life board member.

The 40 Days for Life campaign co-chairman Rob Gregory spoke briefly about that effort. New to the Fort Wayne area this year, 40 Days for Life is a national campaign featuring prayer, fasting, peaceful vigil and community outreach on behalf of life.

Keynote speaker Pence concluded his optimistic remarks by saying, "What's happening in America is happening at kitchen tables — during discussions between mothers and daughters, grandmothers and granddaughters." In quiet counsel, life is winning the battle. "It's not a choice. It's a baby," young women are told.

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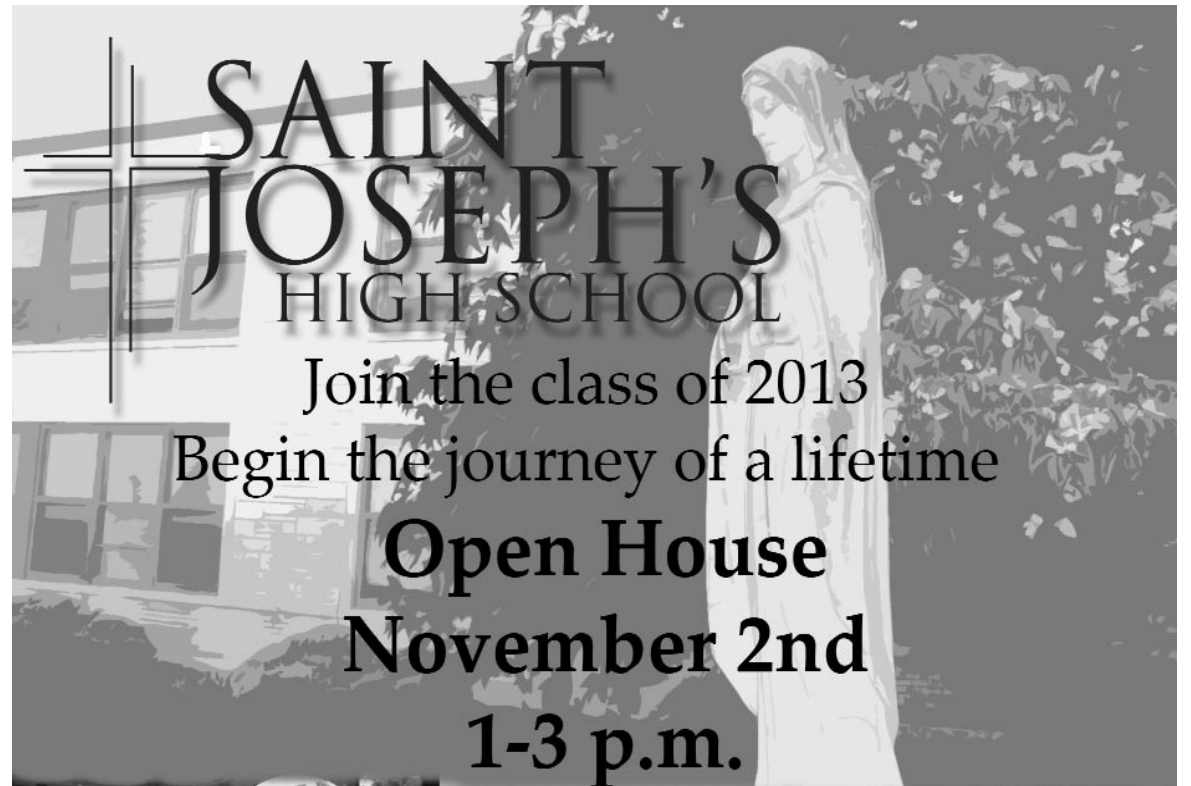


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Bishop says church must be generous, prudent in uncertain economy

WORCESTER, Mass. (CNS) — In these uncertain economic times “the church has to set an example of what it means to be generous but also be very deliberate about how we spend the temporal goods the people have given to us,” said Bishop Robert J. McManus of Worcester. He said he sent a letter to pastors recently urging them to be vigilant with the finances of the parishes. “In times like this the wisest thing is not expansion,” he said in a late October interview with *The Catholic Free Press*, Worcester diocesan newspaper. “We have to be very prudent” not to embark on any parish improvement projects that involve significant funds, he added. The economic crisis also has a dimension that can lead people to seek spiritual comfort from the church. “Sometimes challenging times help people to put things into perspective. And if we are honest in our evaluation of what’s gone on for the last number of years, in some ways some people have been living over their heads,” the bishop said. In an Oct. 24 pastoral letter the people of the diocese, Bishop McManus said, “For many, the opportunity exists to rediscover a life of trust in God, of simpler choices, or the blessing of family life.”

Pope to visit Africa in March to help prepare for October synod

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI announced that he plans to make his first trip to Africa next March, visiting Cameroon and Angola. The pope will make the trip to help prepare for the Synod of Bishops on Africa, scheduled for October 2009, and to mark the 500th anniversary of the evangelization of Angola. He announced the trip Oct. 26 at a closing Mass for the Synod of Bishops on the Bible. When he repeated the announcement shortly afterward to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square, a wave of applause swept through the crowd. Sub-Saharan Africa has not hosted a pope since 1998, when Pope John Paul II visited Nigeria. Pope Benedict said his intention was to meet with representatives from African bishops’ conferences in Cameroon and hand-deliver the African synod’s “instrumentum laboris,” or working document. The Synod of Bishops will be the second for Africa and is scheduled to take place in Rome. The theme is “The Church in Africa at the Service of Reconciliation, Justice and Peace.”

Torture violates basic human rights, Bishop Wenski tells forum

ORLANDO, Fla. (CNS) — Torture is a violation of fundamental human rights and has proven to be ineffective in obtaining worthwhile intelligence from foreign detainees, the chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Justice and Peace

RECEIVES HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES IN BAGHDAD



CNS PHOTO/MOHAMMED AMEEN, REUTERS

A displaced Christian woman receives humanitarian supplies from the Red Crescent at a church in Baghdad, Iraq, Oct. 23. The organization distributed relief goods to about 45 Christian families displaced by violence in the northern city of Mosul. Pope Benedict XVI called on government and religious leaders to help end acts of “cruel violence” and intolerance many minority Christians are facing in some parts of the world, especially in Iraq and India. The pope made his appeal from his apartment window to pilgrims gathered below in St. Peter’s Square before praying the Angelus Oct. 26

said. “Intelligence experts themselves say that the individual being tortured will say whatever those torturing him want to hear, and in no way advances the goal of having reliable and timely intelligence,” Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., said during an Oct. 16 program sponsored by the Center for Victims of Torture at the main branch of the Orlando Public Library. The bishop joined other interfaith leaders and retired military officials at the forum in calling for a presidential ban on torture and cruelty. Bishop Wenski’s comments about torture were his most recent on the topic. In February in his column in the *Florida Catholic* diocesan newspaper, he wrote that the U.S. “should hold itself to the highest ethical standards and fully comply with earlier commitments to observe international law in its treatment of detainees.”

Do plethora of voter guides confuse or clarify issues for Catholics?

WASHINGTON (CNS) — If a group of Catholics were to sit down to read four or five of the “Catholic voter guides” in circulation before Election Day, it wouldn’t be surprising if they ended the

session more confused than when they began. Various Catholic organizations, religious communities, bishops individually and collectively, and even some individual Catholics have put into writing their best advice on how Catholic social teaching should guide decisions in the voting booth. “Catholics must strive to put in place candidates, laws and political programs that are in full accord with nonnegotiable moral values,” says the California-based Catholic Answers Action, the cultural and political action arm of the apologetics and evangelization organization Catholic Answers. In its “Voter’s Guide for Serious Catholics,” the group names five issues as nonnegotiable — abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research, human cloning and same-sex marriage. The Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, on the other hand, sees the election in much broader terms in its voter guide, called “Loving Our Neighbors in a Shrinking World.” “Peace. Security. Racial equity. Economic well-being. A healthy environment. Human dignity. These are the basic needs of every human being and of the earth,” it says. “We encourage candidates to make explicit their commitment to the global common good.”

CCHD ends funding to ACORN over financial irregularities

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Catholic Campaign for Human Development suspended funding a nationwide community organizing group after it was disclosed June 2 that nearly \$1 million had been embezzled. Funding was suspended for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, popularly known as ACORN, because of the financial irregularities, said Ralph McCloud, executive director of CCHD, the U.S. bishops’ domestic anti-poverty and social justice program. “We’re not funding them at any level,” McCloud told Catholic News Service Oct. 15. The suspension covers all 40 ACORN affiliates nationwide that had been approved for \$1.13 million in grants for the funding cycle that started July 1, 2008. McCloud said the suspension came soon after his office learned that ACORN disclosed that Dale Rathke, the brother of ACORN founder Wade Rathke, had embezzled nearly \$1 million from the organization and its affiliates in 1999 and 2000. Dale Rathke stepped down from his position with the organization in June

when the matter became public; no charges were filed against him. Wade Rathke stepped down as the group’s lead organizer at the same time but remains chief organizer for ACORN International LLC. CCHD has hired specialists in forensic accounting to investigate whether any of its grant funding has been misappropriated, McCloud added.

White House report aims to keep inner-city Catholic schools open

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the waning days of the Bush administration, the White House is sounding the alarm on a six-year loss of about 1,200 faith-based schools in the U.S. and has issued a report it believes will help stop the closures. The report — “Preserving a Critical National Asset: America’s Disadvantaged Students and the Crisis in Faith-Based Urban Schools” — shows about half of the faith-based schools that have closed since 2002 have been Catholic institutions and most are located in poor urban neighborhoods. “The president is very concerned and upset that these institutions are closing,” said Karl Zinsmeister, assistant to President George W. Bush and domestic policy adviser. “Statistics show that students from poor urban neighborhoods who attend faith-based schools perform better academically than those who attend the public schools. We can’t afford to lose any more of these schools.”

Unclear if pope will support women officially in lector ministry

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Probably the most newsy — and somewhat unexpected — item in the final propositions of the Synod of Bishops on the Bible was a proposal to allow women to be installed officially in the ministry of lector. The issue was raised in Proposition 17 on “the ministry of the word and women,” and it passed Oct. 26 with 191 votes in favor, 45 opposed and three abstentions, according to informed sources. “It is hoped that the ministry of lector be opened also to women, so that their role as proclaimers of the word may be recognized in the Christian community,” the proposition states in its final sentence. What Pope Benedict XVI will do with that proposal is unclear, according to Vatican officials contacted shortly after the synod vote. The issue is not whether women can act as lectors, or Scripture readers, in Catholic liturgies. They already do so at Masses all over the world, including papal Masses. The question is whether women can be installed officially in such a ministry. Until now, the Vatican has said no: Canon law states that only qualified laymen can be “installed on a stable basis in the ministries of lector and acolyte.” At the same time, canon law does allow for “temporary deputation” as lector to both men and women, which is why women routinely appear as lectors.

The Christ Child Society awarded grant

SOUTH BEND — The American Association of the Order of Malta recently awarded the Christ Child Society of South Bend a \$15,000 grant to refurbish their clothing distribution center. The South Bend Chapter is a not-for-profit association of volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.

The new facility will meet many of the center's growing needs but its configuration as a former Catholic school require renovation to ensure clients are comfortable and to maintain workflow efficiency by volunteers.

The Order of Malta is a 900-year-old worldwide, lay, religious order of the Roman Catholic Church, which seeks to glorify God by promoting the sanctification of each member through his or her work with the sick and the poor and witness of the Catholic faith.

St. Vincent de Paul Society holds blanket drive

SOUTH BEND — The St. Vincent de Paul Society is planning its 17th annual blanket drive in Michiana that will run Oct. 27 through Nov. 9. New and gently used blankets and bedding will be collected and given to needy families.

Matthew J. Vigneault, executive director of the society, said many poor families keep their heat turned down low and are forced to wear winter coats inside to stay warm.

"Some of them can't even afford heat at all, or have to use the heat from their stoves, which is dangerous," he said. "Many are underemployed, working for minimum wage or just above it. They must choose food over warmth, or medicine over warmth or fixing the car over warmth."

Most of the donated blankets will be distributed through the society's Christmas program, which serves approximately 1,200 families. Many of these families have small children.

Blanket drives can be organized at a school, church, office or any other organization. To have blankets picked up from your drive, call (574) 234-6000 and ask for home pickup.

Drop individual blanket donations at any St. Vincent de Paul drop box or at the Thrift Store located at 3408 Ardmore Trail in South Bend.

Ancilla students receive gift cards to BP Amoco

DONALDSON — Ten Ancilla College students were the lucky recipients of BP Amoco gift cards worth \$100 each in a recent drawing at the Donaldson-based campus.

Mike Brown, executive director of finance and administration, described the drawing as a way to

AROUND THE DIOCESE

WARSAW PARISH HOSTS ROSARY RALLY



PROVIDED BY IDA LIST

Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, hosted a rosary rally in conjunction with other rallies across the country Oct. 11 to pray for the nation. The rally was in commemoration of the 91st anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady at Fatima and is held annually on the Saturday in October closest to the Oct. 13 date. In the photo from left, are Edythe Sands, Christopher Rawlings, Bill Landrigan, Ida List, Diana Whitehead, Dorothy Clemmer, Carol Kloser, Cindy Demster, Dennis Alberts, Jerry Kloser, Jeff Neumann, Bob List, Carole Jaroch and Jane Serovy. Missing from the picture is Shirley Waldschmidt.

thank students for choosing to attend Ancilla.

"Every student has to drive to get here," said Brown. "Even though gasoline prices have fallen significantly over the last month, we wanted to do something to help out some of our students."

The drawing, recommended by the retention committee, was approved by Ancilla College President Dr. Ron May, and \$1,000 was set aside from the operating budget to fund the drawing.

Ancilla student Jenna Tadros, who was one of the 10 winners selected, was ecstatic upon learning she would receive the gift card.

"It means a lot because I'm a broke college student," said Tadros. "Finding out that I won \$100 of gas was great, and I never win anything, so I was really excited."

Students deliver cans, packages to Catholic Charities

NOTRE DAME — In a student versus faculty and staff contest at Holy Cross College, students showed that they could give the most food to the Catholic Charities Annual Food Drive. And it wasn't even close. This year faculty and staff brought in 466 food

items, while students gave 2,616.

Student groups and dormitory floors also competed against each other with the winning group representing Anselm Hall, which collected a total of 1,900 cans

"In this time of rising unemployment, we were just happy we could help Michiana families in need," said Nichole Molnar the student leader of the Social Concerns Committee.

Bishop Luers offers eighth-grade scholarship placement exam

FORT WAYNE — All eighth-grade students interested in attending Bishop Luers High School are invited to take the scholarship placement exam on Nov. 8 at Bishop Luers High School. Cost of the test is \$10. Scholarships will be awarded by the Henry-Keefer Scholarship Fund.

Bishop Luers High School hosts open house

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School is hosting an open house on Nov. 16, from 2-4 p.m. All interested families are welcome to attend this event. Opportunities will be available to gather information about clubs,

sports, financial aid and more. Tours will be conducted and all teachers and staff will be available. For more information, call the Bishop Luers Admissions Office (260) 456-1261.

St. Vincent to offer series Catholicism Revealed

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, will once again offer its Monday night series, Catholicism Revealed, beginning Nov. 10, from 7-8:30 p.m. An optional rosary begins each night at 6:30 p.m.

On Nov. 10, University of Notre Dame Professor David Fagerberg will be the speaker on the topic, "Marriage: Sacramental Theology."

This session will consider a liturgical theology of marriage by looking at the official church documents on marriage and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Seeing marriage as Christian mystery (sacrament) and covenant discovers that two people are supported by divine grace in a relationship that frees them and enables them to find their human happiness.

Fagerberg has published articles on liturgy, sacraments and liturgical theology in various journals, both academic and pastoral. His books include "Theologia

Prima" and "The Size of Chesterton's Catholicism."

Other upcoming sessions include speaker Marilyn Fech on "Satan: Do You Recognize Him?" on Nov. 17, and Father Gary Sigler and Rabbi Mitch Kornspan, speakers on "A Priest, A Rabbi and You," on Nov. 24.

Rally concludes 40 Days for Life

SOUTH BEND — The 40 Days for Life to End Abortion in the Michiana area will conclude with a victory rally on Nov. 2 at Little Flower Parish in South Bend from 7-8 p.m. Participants are asked to bring along a snack or dessert to share. Well-known pro-life author Francis Beckwith will be speaking and people will be sharing stories of the many blessings received during these past 40 days.

Corpus Christi students pray pro-life rosary

SOUTH BEND — If you're looking for witness to hope, look no further than the Catholic youth. Considered by many to be the most pro-life generation, thanks in large part to the teachings of Pope John Paul II, young people across the diocese and across the nation are refusing to give up on protection for the unborn.

The eighth graders at Corpus Christi School in South Bend recently learned more about abortion and the chilling effects it has on both mother and child. Following a presentation by Kathy Black, who showed the students models of babies at various degrees of development before explaining how their lives are allowed to be taken by legalized abortion, the eighth graders were left wanting to "do something."

That "something" happened Friday, Oct. 24, when a group of students dedicated themselves to prayer and fasting, taking part in the 40 Days for Life campaign.

After meeting for an early breakfast and prayer before school, the eighth graders agreed to fast the rest of the day and reconvene when school was dismissed at noon. Joined by their religion teacher, Marilyn Ahearn and wearing special t-shirts supporting their pro-life views, the students prepared donations for the Women's Care Center before heading out to join in prayer outside the abortion clinic next door.

The day was not without its challenges. Besides the cold temperatures, wind and pouring rain, some people questioned the student's decision to pray outside the clinic. None of that deterred the group, who took turns leading a rosary with another group of adults who were already at the site. The students took turns leading special meditations. They not only prayed for the unborn babies at risk that day, but for their mothers and also for the conversion of those who provide and support abortion.

Following the rosary, the students dropped off supplies at the Women's Care Center, then carpooled to the Magee's home where they dried off and settled in to watch the pro-life movie, "Bella." They were riveted to the story of how faith and works of mercy helped one woman choose life for her baby.

— Diane Freeby

St. Louis Academy boasts junior broadcaster

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

NEW HAVEN — St. Louis Academy fifth-grader Jake VanHorn was recently honored by DeDe Hausmann, program coordinator and sponsor for the American Dairy Association of Indiana-Dairy and Nutrition Council at an all-school assembly for his top-10 finish in a 2008 Colts Junior Broadcaster contest.

Shortly after school started this year, Jacob learned of the contest that is open to students ages 10-14. His mother, Jennie, admitted, "Jake went online and submitted his essay at the very last second." But of the 159 applicants, Jake's was one of the 30 lucky enough to be chosen for the trip to Indianapolis.

Over the weekend of Sept. 27, Jake and his family visited the state's capital and were treated to a memorable event. In the process, Jake was selected as one of the 10 finalist and received two tickets to the Dec. 14 game against the Detroit Lions as a grand prize.

A cooler, t-shirt, Superbowl chip-n-dip set, DVD and iTunes card were among several of the other "freebies" Jake was awarded.

Jake was also able to descend on the Colts field and "run around on the turf," meet the cheerleaders, go in the locker room, participate in a punt-pass



DeDe Hausmann, program coordinator and sponsor for the American Dairy Association of Indiana-Dairy and Nutrition Council is shown with St. Louis Academy student Jake VanHorn and Principal Cheryl Layton at a school presentation that awarded Jake a top-10 finish in a 2008 Colts Junior Broadcaster contest.

MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

"It was really cool to see what the players keep in their lockers."

JAKE VAN HORN

and kick competition and have his picture taken with the Vince Lombardi trophy.

"It was really cool to see what the players keep in their lockers," said the impressed 11 year old. Part of the day included the opportunity

to watch a real-life play from the Colts' 2007 season on a big screen then "broadcast" it.

One of Jake's plays was a 59-yard touchdown pass, which he chose to "ad-lib" rather than read from the script provided. "It was

really fun, but I was nervous in front of so many people," explained Jake.

At the assembly, Hausmann gifted St. Louis Academy with jump ropes, a dodge ball, exercise bands and cones to be used for recess and gym class all while encouraging the students to exercise one hour each day and eat nutritious foods — including "Refueling with Chocolate Milk."

Jake, a left tackle for the St. John, New Haven Raiders, is the son of Brent and Jennie VanHorn and has a younger sister, Jessica. The family belongs to St. Louis Besancon Parish. Jake enjoys tracking storms and hopes to pursue a weather-related career some day.



PROVIDED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 4511

Bill Landrigan, state district deputy, left, presents the engraved plaque of the Father McGivney award to Grand Knight Brad Durcholz, right, of the Knights of Columbus Council 4511 of Warsaw at a special ceremony held on Oct. 9.

Warsaw Knights receive international recognition

WARSAW — Knights of Columbus Council 4511 of Warsaw is a winner of the Columbian and Father McGivney awards for the 2007-2008 fraternal year. The Father McGivney award, named for the founder of the organization, is given in recognition of outstanding membership recruitment and retention efforts. The Columbian award is presented for excellence in the sponsorship of programs that serve the church, community, families and youth — as well as council members.

The announcement was made by the Knights of Columbus international headquarters located in New Haven, Conn. Bill Landrigan, state district deputy, presented the engraved plaque to the council at a special ceremony held on Oct. 9.

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, president of the international organization, in recognizing the local winner, said, "Please accept my sincere congratulations on attaining this prestigious award. The dedication to the order shown by your council is seen in the high standard of excellence you have achieved. At the same time, I encourage you to

carry forward this enthusiasm to meeting the challenges that will face the Knights of Columbus in the years ahead. May this award be a reminder and an inspiration to the members of your council to continue to promote the ideals of Columbianism for the good of the church, your community and the order."

In accepting the award, Grand Knight Brad Durcholz, head of the local council, said "Receiving this award is quite an honor. We're very pleased with these accomplishments and wish to congratulate all the members for an outstanding year."

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people. With more than 1.7 million members in more than 13,000 councils around the world, the Knights of Columbus annually donate over \$144 million and 68 million hours of service to charitable causes. Please visit www.kofc.org for more information.

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Ecumenical 40 Days rally marks midpoint

BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — “These 40 days and 40 nights, will you walk the path of sacrifice or will you turn away?” That was the question in song that opened the midway rally in South Bend for the 40 Days for Life campaign to end abortion. Participants gathered Oct. 12 at Grace African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in South Bend to be encouraged and strengthened in their effort. Pastor Lornce Applewhite began the gathering with prayer.

Main speaker Bryan Kemper began his presentation by describing his life as a teen drug addict from a broken family. He sported a Mohawk haircut and wore a safety pin through his nose. His massive drug overdose the day he went to a Grateful Dead concert led to his going to a Christian drug addiction rehabilitation center.

As he was going through withdrawal sweats, people laid hands on him in prayer and he experienced deliverance from addiction. After reading the Gospel of John he “fell in love with Jesus Christ” and experienced his saving love. Later on he became a strong pro-life advocate.

Kemper explained how “the issue is not about a procedure, it’s about personhood.” He then described how three times in modern history a class of people have been declared non-persons:

- The enslavement of Africans

in the United States as property of their owners;

- The annihilation of the Jews under Adolf Hitler who declared them to be not fully human;

- In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the baby in the womb to not be fully a person.

Kemper pointed to apathy in the church as the reason for so many years of legal abortion. He said “if everyone who calls upon the name of Jesus Christ got involved abortion would be over.”

Kemper discounted the notion that only certain people are called to be pro-life advocates. “Love your neighbor as yourself” precludes that. He said when the Good Samaritan came upon the bloodied victim in the ditch, he did not stop to pray “Lord, do you want me to start a ditch ministry?”

Kemper challenged the participants to “wake up the church” on this tragedy. “It’s up to us, it’s up to the church. You guys have an opportunity to set this town on fire for Christ and close down that abortion clinic.”

He said that if you go to pray at the clinic and there are abortions, “You have just given that child dignity” because you were there praying.

On one occasion a woman came up to him at the abortion clinic with her baby and said because he was there praying — unbeknownst to him — she turned around and did not show up for her appointment at the abortion clinic.

Kris Opper shared, how as an



PHOTOS BY TOM UEBBING

Keynote speaker Bryan Kemper.

18-year-old student bound for college, she got pregnant. She was determined not to have an abortion, but overwhelmed with fear and the uncertainty of what she was going to do, she gave into the pressure of those telling her to abort. She cried her way through the whole procedure and it devastated her. She became a born-again Christian six years ago.

Opper asked the Lord many times for forgiveness, but it was not until she went to a Bible study for post-abortive women that she really was able to fully face what she had done but also to fully receive the saving love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. She later felt the Lord leading her to open up about this and share her experience in the churches as one in four



Silent No More witness Kris Opper shares about the devastating effects of her abortion.

women have had an abortion. They do not talk about it and suffer much interiorly.

Mitch Ellisen described how he paid for his girl friend to have an abortion. He felt deep guilt and shame as he realized he should have been that knight in shining armor coming to rescue her but instead failed in his duty to love and protect his own child. Following a serious soccer injury to his brain he fell into a suicidal depression, but then was saved in 1987. He struggled very much trying to give his sin to Jesus Christ. He was not sure that God forgave that sin. Finally he went through a guided Bible meditation and was able to surrender that sin to the



Silent No More witness Mitch Ellisen describes the guilt and shame of having paid for his girlfriend's abortion.

Lord and experienced cleansing and forgiveness. Echoing the two previous speakers, Ellisen said “it is about what Jesus Christ has done for us.” He said it is not: “1 dead, 1 wounded,” as the bumper sticker says, but that many other people starting with the father, but also relatives and friends, are deeply wounded by abortion.

Bishop Shedrick Madison of Prophetic Utterance Ministry in South Bend concluded the evening with a prayer in song.

The 40 Days for Life campaign continues through Nov. 2. For more information visit www.40daysfor-life.com.

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For registration information and a complete program for the conference, please visit <http://ethicscenter.nd.edu>

GRIEVING

In the arms of an angel: *Remembering the last moments with my father*

BY KATHY HOOT

BLUFFTON — My father had been looking for my mother ever since she passed away. His search increased in intensity during the week prior to his death. He hunted feverishly up and down the halls of the nursing home looking for his wife, my mother, Betty.

He missed her desperately as her death had never registered with him. "Where is she?" he would ask. "Have you seen Betty? When is she coming home?"

During the afternoon of July 3 my father began to say that he did not feel well inside — that his head hurt. His fingers had turned a tinge of blue and so the nursing staff put him to bed in hopes of increasing his oxygen levels.

He spent that afternoon with a visit from his brother Jim. He and his brother had wonderful conversations, the most the two of them had conversed in years. Since they both suffer from dementia their conversations were usually very short and not very involved.

His brother was so loving and caring as he held his hand and kept reminding my father who he was. He also kept telling dad "you're a good man." Of course this conversation was repeated several times, but each time it was exchanged it was done so with such a deep expression of love for his brother. I'm sure his brother's voice and touch brought dad great comfort.

All of dad's children had been there to visit with him. We

had all expressed our love for him as we held his hand and comforted him when he was anxious and coughed. None of us knew what to expect. We knew that God would take him when he was ready. But were we ready for that moment? Was I ready to let him go? To return home?

I spent the night by my father's side. I didn't want him to ever be alone. I prayed several rosaries with the same rosary that had brought me such comfort when my mother had passed just 37 days earlier. My father-in-law made this special rosary. Since his passing, I have found great comfort praying the rosary and began a special alliance with our guardian angels. I found that when I prayed to the angels for guidance I usually felt a sense a peace.

I prayed that God would allow me to accept his will. I asked the angels to please surround my father with warmth and love; to light his way to heaven, let it be swift and painless and that he not be alone and frightened.

Very early the next morning, the Fourth of July, my father spoke his last words. After sleeping peacefully but with frequent shallow breathing he awoke with a startle. His eyes opened wide and focused on

something directly in his line of vision. He began to speak, "Oh, she's so beautiful. She's so sweet. The pretty little girl, she's so sweet."

I asked him who she was. His response was only a repeat of the same words, "She's so beautiful. She's so sweet. The pretty little girl, she's so sweet."

I told him we should call her "Angel." I told him that she was there to show him the way home. He repeated these words as his head moved slowly from left to right as if he was watching something moving around. I waved my hand in front of him

and placed my face directly in line with his focus, but he continued with his words and the movement of his head.

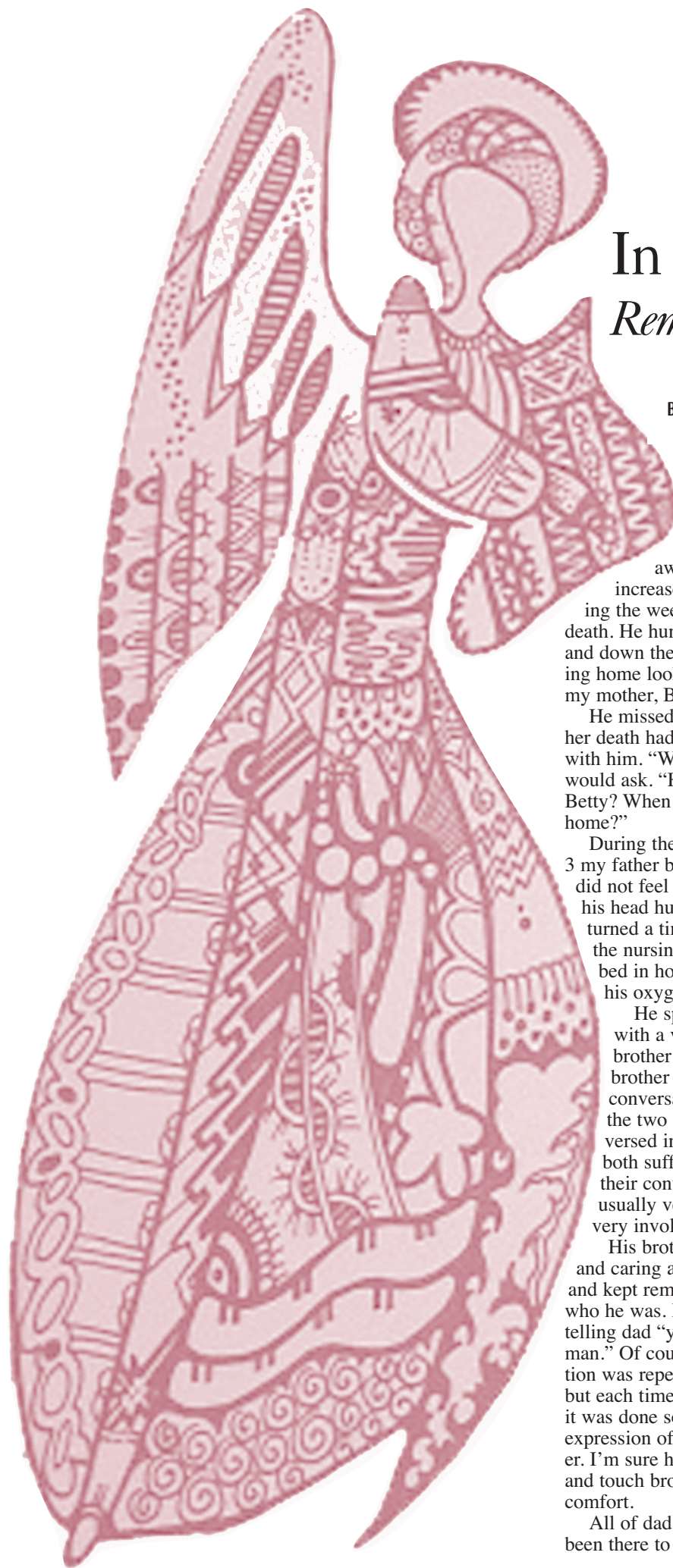
Finally he stopped. He never spoke another coherent word.

In my heart I know that God had answered my prayers. That he had sent an angel to help escort my father to heaven, a trip that would also include finding Betty.

My father passed around 8 p.m. that evening. He left us peacefully without a struggle.

With his children by his side, we all knew that he had found Betty and his way home in the arms of an angel.

"I asked the angels to please surround my father with warmth and love; to light his way to heaven, let it be swift and painless and that he not be alone and frightened."



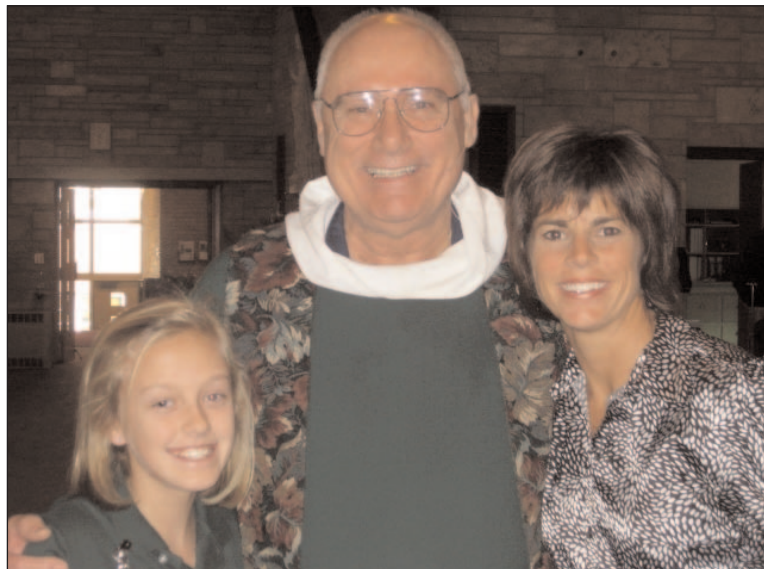
Erin's House benefits from local school children's focus on stewardship

FORT WAYNE — Fifth through eighth graders at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Catholic School have made a commitment to increase their stewardship for this school year. The money collected from children during the weekly Mass will be given to a variety of charities throughout the community.

Annie Childers, a sixth grade student council member, shared with the students at Mass that "our job as Catholics is to be good stewards." The students set a goal to raise \$100 each month.

Nancy Potchka, assistant principal, eighth-grade teacher and student council coordinator, thought that if someone from each charity came to speak to the children about their organization that it would help the children understand how they might be able to help. Each month they will select a different charity to help and ask a representative to speak to the students.

Erin's House for Grieving Children was recommended by Father Tim Wrozek, pastor of St. Joseph Church, Fort Wayne, as



Father Tim Wrozek, center, pastor of St. Joseph Church, Fort Wayne, is shown at the presentation of the check by the fifth through eighth graders at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School to Erin's House for Grieving Children. On behalf of all of the students, Annie Childers of the student council presented Katie Burns, development director at Erin's House for Grieving Children, a check for \$415.22 on Oct. 10.

the first organization for this increased focus on stewardship. Erin's House provides support

services for children, teens and their families who anticipate or have suffered the death of a loved

one.

Father Wrozek was a priest at St. Charles Parish, Fort Wayne, when Erin Farragh died. He knew her and her family, and witnessed firsthand the grief that the entire family suffered, including her younger brother and sister. Erin's House was founded in honor and memory of Erin and all grieving children.

On behalf of all of the generous students at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Catholic School, the student council presented Katie Burns, development director at Erin's House for Grieving Children, a check for \$415.22 on Oct. 10. Not only did the students surpass their goal, the parishioners at St. Joseph Catholic Church also held a collection for Erin's House and raised over \$600.

"Erin's House is really all about children helping other children through their grief, this is a beautiful example of children helping children by means of their stewardship. These children raised enough money to provide

the cake for the birthday celebrations we have at Erin's House for two months. It was great to see these children feel good about how they are making a difference," Burns said.

This increased focus on stewardship not only helps these fine organizations, who, in these challenging economic times truly welcome this assistance, but it also aids in the increased awareness of the different needs and services throughout our community. During the months of October and November, Vincent Village will be the recipient of the stewardship of these outstanding young citizens and Barbara Jones recently spoke with them.

For more information, contact Erin's House for Grieving Children at (260) 423-2466 or visit the Web site at www.erinshouse.org.

Trauma results in reconciliation

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

GRANGER — In the fall and winter of 1971, Darlene Bates encountered a crossroad of events that would change her life. A horrific car accident killing her first husband and leaving her in a coma, a vision of a bright light with outstretched hands and reconciliation with her estranged parents would alter Darlene's earthly journey forever.

In the ensuing years Darlene would marry Emory Gerschoffer, join the Catholic Church and become a member of St. Pius X Church in Granger. But the date of Sept. 6, 1971 is still etched in Darlene's memory as if it happened yesterday.

On that fateful day newlyweds Darlene and Paul Bates were on their way to visit Paul's parents in Edwardsburg, Mich. They had only been married a month and six days when an oncoming car driven by a drunk driver came into their lane and crashed head on into the Bates' car. Paul was thrown into the backseat, and he and the drunk driver were killed instantly. The Bates' car engine was pushed into Darlene's lap and the hood of the car came through the windshield. Darlene sustained a fractured skull, broken pelvis, dislocated hip, broken jaw, facial lacerations and multiple cuts and bruises over her entire body.

Darlene recalls that just prior to the accident she was eating chicken in the car.

"The impact of the windshield coming into the car caused the bone to be pushed down my



Darlene Gerschoffer holds the framed newspaper story of the Sept. 6, 1971 automobile accident that nearly claimed her life.

throat, cutting the roof of my mouth wide open," she says.

Darlene's aunt learned about the accident from television reports and informed the parents. After discovering Darlene was taken to Elkhart General Hospital, they called the hospital and were told Darlene was not expected to live. When her parents first arrived at the hospital, Darlene had just come out of surgery and they could not identify her because of her severe injuries. When she was finally identified, they received more devastating news; Darlene

was in a coma.

Darlene says, "The doctors told my parents that I would most likely be in a vegetative state and never be able to walk, have children or have a normal life."

Prior to the accident, Darlene's relationship with her parents was estranged due to her marriage to Paul. Paul and Darlene met while they were in high school and during their second year of courtship, Paul asked Darlene to marry him. While Darlene was ecstatic about the proposal, her parents were not. Darlene was the youngest of 20

children as both of her parents were widowers and had children from prior marriages and five children from their union.

Her father was ill, and Darlene's parents wanted her to stay home and help her mother take care of him. Because of her decision to marry Paul, her parents refused to let Darlene live at home and she resided with Paul's parents until they were married. Despite repeated attempts by Darlene for reconciliation, her parents refused to attend her wedding and remained alienated from her.

Following her accident, Darlene was in a coma for three months. Just prior to coming out of the coma Darlene remembers seeing a bright and beautiful light.

"The light I saw was gorgeous. Someone in front of me was holding out their hands wanting me to go with them. I am positive it was God," she recalls.

At that same moment, Darlene remembers hearing her mother's voice.

"I heard my mom crying and saying 'Please, Darlene don't leave me.' I wanted to go with the hands, but I also wanted to be reconciled with my mom." It was at

that point the hands she saw rescinded and disappeared, and she awakened.

Through the next two years, with the help of Darlene's parents, she began her physical and emotional healing process. Darlene did not have the luxury of outpatient rehabilitation and it was through her parents' devotion that she was able to relearn basic skills such as walking and talking.

By 1974, Darlene and her second husband Emory Gerschoffer were married with the blessing and attendance of her parents at their wedding. Despite the forecast from doctors that she would never bear children, she and Emory have been blessed with two offspring; John, 34, and Leslie, 28.

Because of her life-changing experience, Darlene gives speeches to middle school students on the

consequences of drinking and driving. She emphasizes the importance of living each day to its fullest.

"When these things are taken away from you, you appreciate what you have. God gave me a second chance at life."

"The light I saw was gorgeous. Someone in front of me was holding out their hands wanting me to go with them. I am positive it was God."

DARLENE GERSCHOFFER

Couple offers hope to others after stillbirth

BY KAY COZAD

LIGONIER — Krystal and Corey Veach were joyfully anticipating the birth of their first child together this past summer. But at 37 weeks, after a normal pregnancy something inexplicable occurred.

The constant movement of the fetus, vigorous enough to wake Krystal during the night, ceased. Under the care of a New Eden Care Center midwife, she underwent testing at Goshen Hospital that confirmed that their precious baby had died. Corey, a materials handler and volunteer firefighter, rushed to her bedside and as family and friends arrived to support the young couple, the shock set in.

"At 37 weeks, we lost him. There was no warning," says Krystal sadly. "It's surreal."

Following testing, labor was induced and the Veaches' son, Wyatt, was stillborn in the early morning of June 22.

The nursing staff was very compassionate says the Veaches, who received a bereavement package with a memory box containing a lock of hair, Wyatt's hand and foot prints and other mementos. The couple was able to hold their son in love and grief for almost two hours following his birth. After her release from the hospital, rather than facing the empty nursery they had prepared at home Krystal and Corey spent several days at her parents' home.

"Without them we couldn't have made it. Our family and friends have been wonderful," says Krystal. The young couple was humbled by the outpouring of support with hundreds of cards, meals and visits during their time of grief.

After choosing a plot, the family met at the country cemetery in Milford where Wyatt would be buried on the hill three short days after his birth and a private graveside service was held. Corey, his father and grandfather had dug the grave for the precious baby. Deacon Jake Runyon presided over the ceremony and offered heartfelt consolation to the family.

A cradle Catholic, Krystal easily admits that she struggles with her faith in the midst of her grief. Counseling with Deacon Runyon has helped she says, but she still wonders "why?" She continues to attend Mass and finds that reading books on grief and loss consoles her.

Corey has drawn closer to God more than ever before, reading the Bible he had yet to open. The book of Job brings him comfort. "If he can do it, I can too," he says.

Now as the couple returns to work, and tries to make sense of this tragedy, Krystal explains, "Each day is a little different. It's like a roller coaster, you never know how you're going to feel." Corey agrees, saying, "You just take it one day at a time."

The couple faces the additional stress of conflicting work



PROVIDED BY KRISTAL VEACH

Krystal Veach, seven months into her pregnancy, poses with her 5-year-old son, Braydon, and husband, Corey, at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, less than two months before the Veaches lost their son Wyatt in stillbirth. The couple finds comfort in reaching out to others in loss.

schedules as Corey was forced to take a night shift position due to cutbacks.

"We try to be there for each other," says Krystal. "It affects every aspect of your life."

But the most difficult challenge, says the grieving couple, is educating the community about death and grief. Krystal battles deep emotions when community members see her and turn away or offer hollow adages such as, "You can have another child."

"We want people to acknowledge our son," she says. To that end, as Krystal researched infant loss, she discovered that not only is October Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month, but that a national campaign was underway to heighten awareness of infant loss offering a communal candle lighting ceremony on Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.

So in short order, with renewed purpose, Krystal developed a packet containing her story, statistics on infant death and a small candle with a blue ribbon attached in memory of her

son.

"It became my mission to hand them out," she says of the 100 packets that went to friends, family, church and community members. She also created bulletin announcements for her home parish of Blessed Sacrament in Albion.

For her part, Krystal crafted pillar candles with Wyatt's initial embossed on them for herself and family members, who lit the candles on that designated day.

"Knowing all the people were lighting candles for the lost babies was very gratifying," says Krystal. "I accomplished what I wanted to — to heighten awareness — because even if they didn't light a candle, at least maybe they read my information."

Though Corey was working his late shift during the candle lighting ceremony he believes it will raise awareness. "It was a good idea. It will educate people. It's something we need to do ... it's all about helping someone else."

Krystal has since joined a support group for infant loss and

finds it helpful, saying, "I realize that others have been through it, and I don't feel so alone."

As she moves forward in her grief other outreach efforts have included writing notes of sympathy and encouragement to parents who are newly bereaved.

Of reaching out to others the couple says hopefully, "It makes us feel better. If we can just help one person, then maybe that's why God chose us."

As for the future, Krystal says she doesn't know what is in store for them, but hopes to continue to be an advocate of support to others in loss. With milestones marking what would have been Wyatt's life, she has already begun to gather ideas for a first-year memorial in his name. She believes they will never be done grieving the loss of their child, and says, "We'll never forget him."

For more information on the candle lighting ceremony visit october15.com.



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Ways to help a grieving friend

BY LISA M. PETSCHÉ

When someone you know loses a loved one to death, you want to reach out to him or her (the latter will be used from here on) but may feel unsure of what to say or do. The following are some suggestions:

- Don't agonize over what to say. Keep it simple and heartfelt — for example, "I'm so sorry," "My heart goes out to you," "I'm here for you" or perhaps even "I'm at a loss for words." Avoid platitudes such as "It's for the best" or "You still have a lot to be thankful for."

- Let your friend do the talking. Resist the urge to give advice or recount your own experiences. Be prepared for repetition — this is part of working through grief.

- Accept silence. Sometimes a bereaved person may not feel like talking but would nonetheless appreciate companionship. Remember, too, that body language — a touch of your hand, pat on the shoulder or hug — can also express support and caring, often better than words.

- Keep in mind that grief affects people emotionally, spiritually, mentally and physically, and that, although there may be similarities, no two people grieve alike.

- Don't underestimate the pain your friend is experiencing and don't discourage tears or urge her to "Be strong." Don't try to withhold your own tears, either; they're merely a sign that you care.

- Share memories of her loved one — kind or funny things he did or words of wisdom he shared

with you.

- Find a favorite photo of the deceased person, frame it and give it to your friend.

- Let her know you are praying for her and her departed loved one. Offer to pray together with her.

- Encourage her to practice self-care, getting adequate nutrition, exercise and sleep and scheduling regular medical checkups, as well as avoiding unnecessary stress. Discourage the use of alcohol or medication as a coping mechanism.

- Offer to help in practical ways, such as fielding phone calls, preparing meals, shopping for groceries or running errands. Don't merely let her know you're available if she needs help; make concrete offers. For example, "I'm going to the grocery store — what can I get you?" or simply go ahead and do things like deliver a casserole or mow her lawn.

- Assure her that her feelings are normal and she's not going crazy, if she expresses concern. Listen patiently and empathetically to her doubts and fears.

After the funeral

- Continue to stay in touch after the funeral is over. That's when the reality of the loss sets in, and bereaved people need support more than ever.

- Don't act as if everything is okay. This makes it hard for your friend to open up if she feels the need.

- Don't avoid the subject of the deceased person or mention of his name. It's comforting to the bereaved to know that others still remember their loved one as time

goes by.

- Be patient with your friend. Since grief saps energy, take the initiative in the relationship for now, calling and arranging visits.

- Encourage her to take one day at a time and to trust that she will eventually heal enough to be able to move forward with her life.

- Don't pressure your friend into doing things she doesn't feel ready for, such as sorting through and disposing of her loved one's belongings.

- Discourage her from making major life changes for a while.

- Encourage your friend to seek professional help if she's unable to function in her day-to-day life (suggestive of clinical depression).

- Remember special occasions throughout the year that are likely to be difficult: birthdays, wedding anniversaries and holidays, as well as the anniversary of the death. Consider a memorial Mass card to mark the latter. If you live close by, offer to accompany your friend to the cemetery or a place her loved one enjoyed, such as a park or a favorite restaurant.

Above all, keep in mind that bereaved people don't expect friends to provide answers to difficult, often philosophical questions, such as "Why did this happen?" or to take away their pain. What they do want and need is the comfort of knowing they are not alone.

Lisa M. Petsché is a clinical social worker and a freelance writer specializing in health and spiritual matters.

Hospital ministry brings hope, peace to patients

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — Two priests aid in the reconciliation of souls with God through the administration of sacraments at Parkview and Lutheran Hospitals in Fort Wayne. The priests visit all of the Catholic patients who have indicated a desire for visitation at registration into the hospitals to offer the sacraments to them as well as pray with non-Catholics. The purpose of the visits is to bring hope and peace to patients and others.

Father George Gabet and Father Bob D'Souza came from different paths to answer the call to hospital ministry.

A few years ago, Bishop John M. D'Arcy graciously invited the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter the Apostolate to the diocese. Father Gabet, who belongs to the apostolate, celebrates Mass in Latin daily and on Sundays at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Community, as well as assisting in hospital ministry. He fills in for Lutheran Hospital's Catholic chaplain, Roseanne Bloomfield, on Mondays and Tuesdays each week. On those two days, Father Gabet is on call at the hospital to hear confessions and administer the sacrament of the sick. On other days of the week, Lutheran Hospital has Bloomfield to distribute holy Communion and student chaplains to make visitations. Area priests are also on call if other sacraments are requested.

Father D'Souza, associate pastor of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, has been making daily hospital visitations to Parkview Hospital for the past 12 years. Father D'Souza has a long history in bringing spiritual comfort to the ill and dying. He once worked with the dying of Calcutta beside Blessed Mother Teresa and a parish priest in India, who invited him to visit the sick with him. The experience of visiting the sick became part of his vocational journey and led him to forego a career in engineering to pursue a calling to the priesthood.

There is great satisfaction in hospital ministry.

Father Gabet says that the administration of last rites "is not a sacrament for the dead but for healing."

As a priest, he is often able to ascertain the comfort level of the patient pertaining to the sacrament and reassures the patient that "there is no requirement that you die after you receive the sacrament" to lighten the conver-

sation. Rather, the sacrament of anointing of the sick should be seen as a source of spiritual healing and an opportunity to draw closer to the Creator if it is God's will.

The holy oil consecrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy as a successor of St. Peter is a sign of strength. The bishop had all of the sick in mind when the oil was consecrated at the chrism Mass during Holy Week.

Father Gabet refers to the sacrament of anointing of the sick as "a calling card from God" because someday God will be calling each of us home.

"We need the strength of the oil because the devil will try to say that we are not worthy," says Father Gabet.

He adds, "The sign of the cross on the head or senses says, 'Be gone, Satan.' This gives great hope to those who are seriously sick."

In his 11 years as a priest, Father Gabet says that he has seen some miraculous physical healing after the sacraments were administered.

Through the sacraments, says Father Gabet, God is saying that "we need to know each other better so that when that day comes, it will be a joyful day, not a frightful day."

Patients who want to receive the sacrament often ask to go to confession first. Through the sacrament of reconciliation, a person can say that he or she has offended God, but the desire is there to make it right. Through God's grace and mercy there is a renewed hope in spiritual as well as physical healing.

Healing can take many forms. Patients at Parkview Hospital look forward to Father D'Souza's daily visit especially if no one else comes to see them. In addition to making the sacraments of reconciliation, the holy Eucharist and the sacrament of anointing of the sick available to Catholics, Father D'Souza often spends time with family members of loved ones who have died to offer them support in their grief.

He encourages those who have left the church because they are not living in a sacramental marriage to take the appropriate steps and the divorced to apply for an annulment. For Father D'Souza, "the greatest joy is to bring someone back to the church."

If someone is in need of the sacrament of anointing of the sick, please contact the nearest parish office.

Human body disposal process raises alarms

BY PETER FINNEY JR.

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — It doesn't make for polite dinner-table conversation, but the national Catholic Cemetery Conference is raising alarms about a potential option for disposing of human bodies in which a lye solution dissolves tissues into a sterile, syrupy substance that can be safely flushed down a drain.

Although no funeral home in the U.S. currently is using the process, known as alkaline hydrolysis, two research medical centers — the University of Florida at Gainesville and the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. — make use of it to dispose of cadavers.

The process, which proponents claim is safe for the environment and potentially cheaper than cremation, was developed in the U.S. in 1992 to dispose of animal carcasses. The two medical centers dispose of the liquid residue from the human cadavers by pouring it down the drain.

Minnesota and New Hampshire allow alkaline hydrolysis for animal remains. A funeral director in Manchester, N.H., is trying to get the necessary permits to operate an alkaline hydrolysis tank, but delays have put his plans on hold temporarily. In the process, water and

potassium hydroxide are mixed, heated and pressurized in a steel tank to dissolve the body tissues.

Deacon Glenn Tylutki, outreach coordinator of cemetery services for the Archdiocese of Chicago, said he issued the warning about chemical digestion of human remains at the recently concluded meeting of the Catholic Cemetery Conference in Orlando, Fla., because of concerns that the practice violates the Catholic Church's reverence for the sacredness of the human body.

"I guess I don't know how to say it any better than it's a desecration," Deacon Tylutki said. "The process has no dignity and respect for the human body. In our faith, the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit."

In May, Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Doctrine, wrote Archbishop John G. Vlazny of Portland, Ore., that the hydrolysis process produces bone residue that "can easily be crushed into a powder" and returned to the family "just as the ashes are returned to the family after cremation."

"The many gallons of liquid, however, which contain the matter that was the rest of the body, are to be poured down the drain (or perhaps spread on a field as fertiliz-

er)," Bishop Lori wrote.

"Dissolving bodies in a vat of chemicals and pouring the resultant liquid down the drain is not a respectful way to dispose of human remains."

Deacon Tylutki said the church accepted the practice of cremation in 1963 but taught clearly that it was not a sign denying the sacredness of the human body. The cremated remains are to be treated with reverence and interred, not kept in an urn in the house, scattered on the seas or kept in a lock-et.

Sometimes well-meaning Catholics who have not been properly catechized will keep the ashes of a loved one rather than properly inter them. Also, children may want to save on funeral expenses.

"Sometimes it's a dollars-and-cents thing," Deacon Tylutki said. "The kids are looking at the bottom line. ... We need to do more catechesis."

Chemically dissolving the body brings another level of potential abuses to the human body, he said.

"It can be flushed right down the drain," Deacon Tylutki said. "I think we need to tell people about this so that if it's slipped into a bill, they will know it's not right and say, 'This is not what we want.'"



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EDITORIAL

Community support in times of need

November is a month of rising passions as our country anticipates with fervor the election of our new president. Faithful citizens stand together in community to pray for guidance in the upcoming election. That community solidarity brings a single-mindedness to the crusade for life in all its forms, affordable health care and economic growth. It is a time of hope.

That same community can be seen as the church celebrates the feasts of All Saints Day on Nov. 1 and All Souls Day on Nov. 2. The days appear consecutively on the church calendar so that all in the communion of saints may be celebrated together. The feasts are traditionally celebrated with special Masses and festivities to remember and honor not only the saints in heaven, but our own dearly departed loved ones and friends.

Few in our communities have been left untouched by the loss of a loved one. Grief becomes a journey of the heart as we experience losses from parent to family member in the military to the precious unborn child. In these times of grief we, as community of Christ, must recognize the call to join together in support of those in need.

Many churches in the diocese offer a "book of remembrance" in November, in which parishioners may record the names of loved ones who have died. The book is left open in a prominent place of honor in the church and all who are entered in it are lifted in communal prayer during Mass.

Another Catholic tradition that lends itself to community support is the candle lighting ceremony. Memory services for those who have died include the lighting of a candle and a spoken name. There is a shift in the heart when a loved one's name is spoken in a circle of light. Some parishes even offer grief workshops where participants come together to share their experience of grief and to learn from others.

In this issue of *Today's Catholic* there are several features that illuminate the presence of God even in devastating loss. One young couple, who in their grief following the heartwrenching loss of their stillborn son, has reached out to others not only to offer solace but to raise awareness of the need for community support efforts.

What can we do as Catholic community? Acknowledging the loss goes a long way in supporting the bereaved. There are so few words that provide true consolation, yet silent presence can mean so much. Share stories of the deceased and allow their loved ones to speak freely about them. Join the bereaved in a community service where your presence will lighten their burden of grief. More suggestions to support those in grief are offered elsewhere in this issue.

Losing a loved one changes so many lives and is an inevitable reality for all of us. As community we can stand together in support of those whose hearts are broken and prayerfully walk with them in their grief. We were not created to travel this road alone. Community sometimes makes all the difference.

During this month of November, when we are called as community to remember our beloved dead, take time to reach out to another in grief. Stay present to them through the year and you will see hope rise up from the ashes. We are all called to community as the body of Christ.

Let us pray for more vocations

Just as the burning incense symbolizes our prayers rising to the heavens, the ordination of a priest, especially two men, is a day of celebration. Even the fire alarms, set off by the incense, could not overwhelm the joyful and regal music of Oct. 25 as Fathers Andrew (Drew) Curry and Kevin Bauman were ordained to the priesthood.

In his remarks after the rite, Father Drew Curry thanked the congregation for their prayers, but asked for continued support for both himself and Father Kevin Bauman. And all the priests received a standing ovation and applause when Bishop John M. D'Arcy made his closing comments.

Bishop D'Arcy asked the congregation to take seriously the command of the Lord to pray for more men of quality. "The harvest is great," the bishop quoted from Our Lord, "the laborers are few. Therefore, pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborers of the harvest."

Bishop D'Arcy has asked that this be done in our parishes and in our private prayer. With the ordination of Fathers Bauman and Curry, we now have 16 men studying for the priesthood as seminarians. The good news is Father Bernard Galic, director of the Office of Vocation, continues to interview and meet with more inquiries.

Next year, God willing, there will be three men ordained. Now that should be a celebration that should ring the heavens, as well as set off the fire alarms, as we praise God with our gratitude.

Today's Catholic editorial board consists of Ann Carey, Kay Cozad, 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 250 words or less, 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

Moral duty and civic duty to vote for life

In the Oct. 17, 2008 issue of *Today's Catholic*, page 5, Ann Carey reported on two Notre Dame law professors' discussing the political aspects of abortion. I would have to take umbrage with Professor Rougeau's opinions. He stated he was a committed Catholic and supported church teachings on abortion. When his obligation in a pluralistic society come into play his convictions change.

Granted we should not feel obligated to vote for a particular party, but in my understanding of church teachings, if a candidate, Democrat or Republican, is pro-abortion, we cannot in good conscience vote for that candidate. Bishops Robert Hermann of St. Louis, Robert W. Finn of Kansas City and Edwin O'Brian have all penned strongly-worded columns on abortion in the last few days, calling on their flocks to vote pro-life and to support the pro-life cause more generally, describing the November election as one that comes down to "saving our children or killing our children." This," says Bishop Hermann in the *St. Louis Review*, "is the overriding issue facing each of us ... can you really believe that voting for a pro-abortion candidate when there is a clear alternative and therefore no justifiable reason for doing so, is

really not voting to have children killed? All other issues have to take second place to the issue of life." Special attention to the weakest among us, the poor and the sick are fine and complementary but life comes first.

I question that most Americans support Roe v. Wade. Where does he get that statistic? Lets face it, Professor Rougeau. Abortion kills a child, and that is a fact.

James Momper
Fort Wayne

Support marriage amendment

This November Californians will vote on whether to amend their constitution to define marriage as being only between one man and one woman. Like Indiana and Iowa they had a state law defining it so. Like Iowa, their state supreme court ruled the definition unconstitutional and threw out the law, opening the way for homosexual marriages and other heterosexual arrangements. Massachusetts did not have a state law and its supreme court ruled against the traditional definition of marriage.

So why are not Hoosiers going to be able to vote on it this November? Any amendment to the Indiana Constitution must pass two consecutive General Assemblies

before it is put to the public for a vote. Whenever the party whose leadership opposes the amendment has controlled the speakership of the House, the amendment has not gotten out of committee for a vote of the full House and so the two consecutive years requirement has never been met. This process started in 2004, and four years later Hoosiers still cannot vote on it. The Indiana Conference of Catholic Bishops does support the amendment.

The 2003 teaching document by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops entitled "Between Man and Woman: Questions and Answers About Marriage and Same-Sex Unions," provides an excellent analysis of the question of same-sex marriage.

The answers to these questions affirms the straightforward wording of the Indiana Marriage Amendment. The amendment provides that marriage in Indiana consists only of the union of one man and one woman and that Indiana law may not be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents of marriage be conferred upon unmarried couples or groups.

I urge you to do your homework and find out and to vote for those who pledge to actively support the passage of the Indiana Marriage Amendment.

Tom Uebbing
South Bend

Catechetical Institute Day: An experience of joy and faith

BY SISTER JANE CAREW

In the midst of the world wide financial uncertainty, there is a special gift that material concerns cannot shake. That gift comes from God, his very own gift of self through the person of Jesus Christ. Growing in intimacy with Jesus Christ is the ultimate goal of the ministry of catechesis, the good news of our salvation.

Pope Benedict XVI had great wisdom in proclaiming this the Year of St. Paul — a time to really encounter Christ through the treasure of his letters to the Jews and gentiles.

There is a popular saying: "The best things in life are free!" One cannot buy peace of mind, forgiveness, the riches of the sacramental life which Catholicism has to offer, most especially through the holy Eucharist. These gifts are available for everybody who has the wisdom to choose them.

Yet in these times statistics indicate that church attendance is low, many parents are not engaged in nurturing the faith of their children and the weaknesses of the culture have a strong claim on the hearts of many, many people.

In a recent article on the year of

St. Paul, a very gifted priest, Father Alfred McBride, is challenging us to make a "declaration of independence from the culture" and a "declaration of dependence on Christ." What a powerful call to choose the life of faith.

On Nov. 8, the diocese is sponsoring its 18th annual Catechetical Day — a day of pure treasure, feeding minds and hearts with all the wisdom of how to continue to make a "declaration of dependence" on Christ.

Focusing on the person of Christ, the first event of the day will be a keynote talk by Dr. Gerard Baumbach from the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Baumbach is one of the most accomplished scholars in the area of catechetical theology, a recent recipient of the highest honor of the National Conference of Catechetical Leaders. Speaking on the gift of catechesis in the church, Dr. Baumbach will give insights on the most recent resource for catechetical ministry, the "2005 National Directory of Catechesis." This gem is the result of 43 years of renewal and provides accessibility of the "how" and "what" in resourcing the Good News of Christ.

Following the keynote, Bishop John M. D'Arcy will celebrate

Mass. Our praise and thanksgiving will be of a Celtic origin with the accompaniment of Loricans, musicians from St. Patrick Parish, South Bend. This group of six was formed in 2000 and are becoming well known in the South Bend area of the diocese.

Lunch will be served and three sessions of workshops will be available. A total of 45 sessions in English and 10 in Spanish will be presented. The topics cover Scripture, morality, liturgy and methods of teaching adults, youth, and children.

Although the official date of registrations is past, Bishop D'Arcy is encouraging people to come, even up to the last minute.

Visit the www.diocesefwsb.org and under departments, open up the Office of Catechesis, access the acronym CID (Catechetical Institute Day).

For information call Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411, Megan Young in South Bend at (574) 259-9994, or e-mail Janice Martin at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Sister Jane Carew is the director of the Office of Catechesis, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Paul and baptism

We remarked last time that Paul understood the church as the mystical body. It started with his understanding that the Risen Christ shared his spirit with us, and now he is in us, and we are in him. Indeed, Paul uses "in Christ" (en Christo) 164 times in his letters. You can hardly turn a page without finding it. Here is a sampling:

• Rom 6:11 "So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus."

• Rom 12:5 "so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

• 2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."

• Gal 3:26 "for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith."

• Phil 2:5 "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus ..."

To be a Christian is to be in Christ. However, this union is more than an historical union with a figure from the past. It is more than a philosophical union with an important teacher. It is more than an idealistic union, like what binds



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The Year of St. Paul

together fellow members of a club.

Our union with Christ is a mystical and sacramental union. Both the Christian and the church must be understood mystically and sacramentally. And that places us squarely before baptism, because it is the fountain of this life. In the baptistery of the Lateran in Rome there is this poem, perhaps written by Pope Leo III:

*Here is born in Spirit-soaked fertility
a brood destined for another city,
begotten by God's blowing
and borne upon this torrent
by the church their virgin
mother. ...*

*This spring is life that floods
the world,
the wounds of Christ its awesome source.*

Christianity is Christ's life being lived in us. The result of baptism is to live in Christ. He is in us, and we are in him. The relationship Christ had with the Father is shared with all who become his brothers and sisters in the waters of the font. Baptism is how we are grafted into his life.

Probably the most famous passage about baptism in Paul is from Romans 6, but it seems we sometimes only remember the half of it. We remember death, mortification, burial:

"Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death ..."

PAUL, PAGE 16

No one lost with God's forgiveness



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

All Soul's Day Jn 6:37-40

Almost 1,000 years ago, the feast of commemorating all the departed souls was initiated at the great Benedictine abbey of Cluny in France, situated roughly two-thirds of the way from Paris to Geneva. Once Cluny was a major center of learning and of missionary outreach.

It is no wonder that a feast celebrated at Cluny would be observed throughout Europe.

Eventually, the feast of All Souls became an important date on the Catholic calendar.

On this weekend, instead of celebrating the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, the church is observing the feast of All Souls. The church has a lesson to teach.

Whenever the church replaces the liturgy of a Sunday in the normal sequence of Ordinary Time with a feast, it intends to teach an important lesson to be learned.

The church's message is simple. Only the just may enter heaven, as the Scriptures teach. However, everyone has sinned. While forgiven, believers suffer the ill effects of their sins, while not bringing upon eternal death.

Purgatory is the church's theological explanation of how sinners overcome these ill effects. The lesson is about us as humans,

and about God's great love for us, even if we have sinned.

The first reading is from the Book of Wisdom. The purpose of this book is expressed in its name. It sees religious faith and devotion as the highest of human reasoning. Belief in God, and obedience to God, are only logical.

The reading is reassuring. It states that God will never forsake the righteous. But, God will test the righteous, as fire tests gold. (Fire removes impurities from gold).

For the next reading, the church presents a passage from the Epistle to the Romans. For two millennia Christians have regarded Romans to be one of the genuine masterpieces of Revelation.

This reading consoles us that while we have sinned, God still loves us. Indeed, the Son of God died for sinners that they might have eternal life.

John's Gospel supplies the last reading. In this reading, Jesus declares that no one who earnestly seeks God will be scorned. Each person is priceless. In God's love, the plan is that no one shall be lost.

Reflection

Death and penance, and of course the drabness of the vestments and the subdued tone of the liturgy on All Souls, all easily bring before us the image of gloom and unease.

However, in each of these readings, the church forthrightly calls us not to despair but rather to great hope. We are sinners. Nevertheless, God loves us. Actually, it was for us in our sins that the Son of God came as Redeemer, dying in sacrifice on Calvary.

So, God loves us, the church

insists.

However, just as the ancient prophets and the Christian mystics knew quite well, sin injures humans. Even if we beg to be forgiven, and have been forgiven, we bear the effects of the injuries of sin. As sinners, we are wounded. Our selfishness has been strengthened, our vision further blurred. We are confused and uncertain.

Forgiveness gives us life again, but it does not eradicate the wounds, does not cover the scars. Purgatory is the opportunity to be purified, for the wounds to be erased. It is a state of longing. The souls in purgatory understand the folly of their sins and also realize the beauty of God. They yearn to see God.

On this feast, we pray that God will hurry the process of purification so that the souls in purgatory soon will fully live with God.

We also must think of ourselves, recommitting ourselves to God. We know that sin has wounded us, but we also know that God will forgive us if we ask for mercy. He loves us.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 3:1-9 Ps 23:1-6
Rom 5:5-11 Jn 6:37-40

Monday: Phil 2:1-4 Ps 131:1b-3 Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday: Phil 2:5-11 Ps 22:26b-32 Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Lk 14:25-33

Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7 Lk 15:1-10

Friday: Phil 3:17-4:1 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 16:1-8

Saturday: Phil 4:10-19 Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a, 9 Lk 16:9-15

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Campion

Around All Souls day, it is a good idea to what the church says about this most ethereal topic.

- 1. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church the soul can only have its origin in**
a. philosophy b. religion c. God
- 2. The very fact that humans can do these things points to the existence of a soul:**
a. be aware of truth and beauty, have a sense of moral goodness, possess freedom and a conscience
b. love and hate, hunt and gather, reap and sow
c. manipulate his environment, interact with other creatures
- 3. The Catechism of the Catholic Church warns teachers to not "... imagine that a single kind of soul has been entrusted to them." What does this mean?**
a. There are two types of soul, those of the average Catholic and those of the "perfecti" like saints.
b. Clearly humans have more than one soul each.
c. Teaching methods must be adapted to the student's situation vis-à-vis the topics taught.
- 4. Who produces a child's soul?**
a. The parents
b. God
c. The U.S. Department of Soul Security
- 5. What characteristic is basic to every human soul?**
a. It is white b. It is immortal c. It is corporeal
- 6. What, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, is the treasure of a person's soul?**
a. the creed
b. their earthly treasure or accumulated wealth, minus debts
c. the esteem of the community
- 7. The church teaches that the soul is the essence of the person, and because of the soul**
a. the physical body can live
b. man is doomed to fail
c. everyone must be saved since the soul's destiny is to be with God
- 8. Christ took on this type of soul when he was incarnated as a human:**
a. the soul of an angel as a human soul would not suffice
b. a fully human soul
c. a phantom soul, as he needed a soul on earth
- 9. In an analogy, the Catechism of the Catholic Church indicates that "What the soul is to the human body, the Holy Spirit is to**
a. human mind"
b. the human body of Jesus"
c. the body of Christ, which is the church"
- 10. A person cannot receive some sacraments more than once because they do this to the soul:**
a. destroy it
b. imprint a spiritual mark or indelible character on it
c. make it divine like the soul of God
- 11. This type of sin impedes the soul's progress in the exercise of the virtues but does not sever the covenant with God:**
a. Serious b. Venial c. Mortal
- 12. What happens when a person dies?**
a. Their body dies but their soul continues to exist.
b. Their body goes on to be reincarnated but they get a new soul.
c. The soul is sent to the next human child conceived.
- 13. What ultimately happens to the soul in the Last Day?**
a. Each body and soul is reunited.
b. Each soul becomes a god.
c. Each soul finds a soul mate.
- 14. Who was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven?**
a. Isaiah b. Mary, Mother of God c. Judas
- 15. The church teaches that these three things always work together to save souls**
a. the clergy, dissidents and conservatives
b. Scripture, faith and tithing
c. sacred tradition, sacred Scripture and the magisterium of the church

ANSWERS:

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

Exploring the tomb of Lazarus

What are the sites you see in Bethany where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead?

The village of Bethany lies two miles from Jerusalem as the bird flies. If you are walking, you have to start from the plateau on which Jerusalem is built, down the side of the mountain, across the Kidron Valley, and up the Mount of Olives.

Father Jerome Murphy-O'Connor says, in the first century when Jesus lived, the area of Bethany was a cemetery. Tombs of this period have been found a short distance north of the present church. Because of the famous Tomb of Lazarus at Bethany, many houses grew up around this tomb. The same thing happened at Hebron in Israel where the Old Testament patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are buried in the famous Cave of Machpelah.

Tourists today can descend into the underground Tomb of Lazarus.

J. Finegan says inside this doorway of the tomb, 22 steps, lead down into the vestibule.

From here two steps descend into a narrow passage and the passage leads five feet into the vaulted inner burial chamber, about 7-1/2 feet long and 8 feet wide, of the tomb. On three sides of this chamber are niches in the rock which widen out at the bottom to make slightly raised shelves for three burials.

The Gospel of John says the Tomb of Lazarus was a cave and a stone lay upon it. The stone to cover the entrance into this tomb would have been laid horizontally over the entrance steps. Going down the steps underground to the burial chamber of the Tomb of Lazarus is the opposite of what happens at the pyramids of Egypt. Here you go inside the pyramid and walk up the steps to the burial chamber.

St. Jerome mentions the existence of a church at Bethany in A.D. 390. The pilgrim Egeria in A.D. 384 visited this first church for the Easter vigil service and says there were so many people present that they filled not only the church, but all the fields around.



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

Father Murphy-O'Connor says this first church was destroyed by an earthquake and a second church was built in the fifth century with the same width, but longer.

The Crusaders in the Middle Ages shored up this second church by adding buttresses and doubling the size of the pillars. The Crusaders also built a new church over the Tomb of Lazarus and it served as a chapel for the Benedictine convent in 1138. But by the end of the 14th century, both churches were in ruins.

Then the Franciscans erected a new church and a monastery in 1954. This church is built on the

plan of a Greek cross. There are beautiful frescoes on the walls depicting the raising of Lazarus from the dead. On the wall above the altar in Latin are Jesus' words, "I am the resurrection and the life." In this new church you can see some of the mosaic pavement of the second church. Then in the courtyard of the new church you can see a portion of the mosaic pavement of the first church. A bust of Pope Paul VI records his visit to the new church in 1964.

Baedeker also mentions a modern Greek Orthodox church (1965) at Bethany, recognizable by its light blue dome and four-story tower with a light lantern. This church, on the other side of the Tomb of Lazarus, incorporates part of the north wall of the medieval Benedictine chapel. Near this Greek church is a medieval watchtower.

G. Freeman says, in a field to the west of the church, is the traditional site of the House of Simon The Leper. Here Jesus attended a supper, during which Mary of Bethany anointed Jesus'

head and feet with Spikenard, wiping them with her own hair, imitating the penitent woman in the Pharisee's house in Galilee. Franciscan excavations here in 1952 only uncovered pits, caves, cisterns and graves.

The Muslims also played a part at Bethany. By the end of the 14th century, the original entrance to the Tomb of Lazarus had been turned into a mosque. The Muslims also venerated the raising of Lazarus from the dead and at first permitted Christians to continue their liturgical visits.

Father Murphy-O'Connor says, when this Christian visitation became more difficult, the Franciscans cut the present entrance to the tomb from 1566-1575. From the Mosque el-Ozir at Bethany you can look down into the atrium of the early churches. In the mosque the original entrance to the tomb is clearly visible.

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

Life in these United States

According to the conventional wisdom, American elections are usually determined by pocketbook economic issues. This may give too little credit to the American people's concern for how a superpower exercises leadership in the world; it certainly doesn't take sufficient account of how "culture war" issues can be decisive (as they were in settling the electoral college vote in 2004). Still, Ronald Reagan's famous question in a 1980 debate with Jimmy Carter—"Are you better off than you were four years ago?"—plays a considerable role in shaping voters' choices.

Catholics seeking to bring themes from the church's social doctrine into American public life will thus have many domestic policy questions for the major presidential candidates:

1. Is the much-deplored "partisanship" in Washington an expression of unprecedented nastiness on the part of legislators, or does it reflect genuine, deep-set, and significant differences of opinion on serious issues?

2. How will you help save inner-city Catholic schools, which are crucial lifelines for at-risk children?

3. How can U.S. immigration policy combine respect for the rule of law and concern for national security, on the one hand, with generosity toward those who wish to contribute to our national life and improve their own condition? Will you tell Mexico that a lot of the immigration problem in the American Southwest is due to Mexico's own public policy-driven economic incapacities?

4. Do you believe that "global warming"—in the sense of dramatic, man-caused climate change with predictable, deleterious and potentially catastrophic effects—is an established fact? If so, how

should we address this issue without wrecking our economy and those of developing and transitioning nations? Are you at all concerned that today's environmental movement displays some of the features of a cult?

5. Let's forget the mantra of "energy independence," which is a pipedream. Can we significantly decrease our dependence on foreign oil without a major national investment in nuclear power? What can the federal government do to encourage the development of plug-in hybrids and other more energy-efficient cars? What do you make of the resistance to oil-drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve, which some argue puts the migratory patterns and amorous interests of caribou above national security and economic rationality?

6. How would you reform American health care without making doctors de facto employees of the federal government?

7. How would you rationalize homeland security, so that legitimate concerns about terrorism are addressed without wasting vast amounts of travelers' time and taxpayers' money?

8. What role, if any, does the federal government have in fixing the broken mess that is the American air transportation system? The Interstate highway system, once a marvel, now suffers from age and neglect; what's the solution there? And while we're on the subject of transportation, why isn't high-speed rail the answer to both transport and energy issues in our major urban corridors?

9. How would your administration's policies encourage a culture of saving and personal financial responsibility?

10. Everyone who can read a balance sheet knows that the Social Security system is heading



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

over the fiscal cliff. What does "Social Security reform" mean to you? What role, if any, do individual retirement accounts play in pension security in America?

11. What can be done to address the well-documented link between abortion-on-demand and higher rates of divorce and extramarital pregnancy?

12. What role should Washington play in elevating our national cultural life? How will you use the presidential bully pulpit to address the cultural sewer of the popular entertainment industry? Pornography is a highly profitable American export; does that concern you morally and in terms of our public diplomacy?

13. What is the relationship between tax rates and economic growth?

14. To listen to some candidates and commentators during this campaign, you'd think we were all living in a dysfunctional hellhole like Equatorial Guinea. Take a deep breath, avoid hyperbole, and give us your honest judgment of the present state of the U.S. economy. Is it fundamentally sound or not? Would you swap the U.S. economy, even-up, for any other major national economy in the world? If so, with whom would you trade?

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for November 2, 2008

Matthew 11:25-30

Following is a word search based on a Gospel reading, appropriate for remembering the dead: Jesus' promise to the small and weak who trust in him. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THAT TIME	FATHER	EARTH
HIDDEN	THE WISE	REVEALED
ALL THINGS	HANDED OVER	KNOWS
THE SON	ANYONE	COME TO ME
REST	MY YOKE	LEARN
HUMBLE	HEART	FIND REST
EASY	BURDEN	LIGHT

HUMBLE YOKE

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

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PAUL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

If we stop there, then Christianity seems a gloomy cloud that hangs over our lives, quashing any fun we might think to have. But, the verse continues:

"We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we

too might live in newness of life."

Since the cross was planted in human history, death no longer has the last word. Resurrection rescues us from the grave. This new kind of life is called "eternal." But there is more. The life-power that can do this is already at work within us. Eternal life is already building up within us. The Old Adam is drowned in baptism for only one purpose: that a New Adam may be created in us, patterned after Christ's own life. Indeed, it is fed by Christ's own life.

Sports

SJRM'S AQUATIC THERAPY BENEFITING ALL AGES Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRM) has offered aquatic therapy for over 15 years and it is not just for kids. "We have a lot of adults who are taking advantage of our aquatic therapy for a lot of different situations," said Nancy Rupe-Cressy, an occupational therapist with SJRM's pediatric rehabilitation. "The buoyancy just allows you to do a lot more without as much stress on the body." Anyone interested should call the facility directly at (574) 252-0333. The Four West Medical Facility is located at 420 West Fourth St. in Mishawaka.

Mishawaka Saints, Panthers advance

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — The 2008 Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) football playoffs kicked off at Marian's Otolowski Field with a bang as all five games ended with shutouts.

In varsity action the Mishawaka Catholic Saints turned the first play of the game into an 82-yard kickoff return for a touchdown courtesy of Tyler Nixon. The scoring didn't stop there as the Saints' Michael Whitfield added 25-yard touchdown run and a 38-yard interception return for a score. The Holy Cross-Christ the King Crusaders came up empty as Vince Ravotto and Chase Lentych-Hack scored touchdowns for the undefeated Saints. Lentych-Hack converted on three extra point kicks to complete the 36-0 barrage.

The second game in varsity play pitted the 3-1 St. Anthony-St. Joseph Panthers against the 2-2 St. Matthew Blazers.

Thanks to a 42-yard and 31-yard touchdown run by Connor Hodges and Kevin McFadden, the Panthers held off the upstart Blazers, 12-0, to set up a rematch in the title game against the Saints.

B-team action had the St. Matthew Blazers squaring off against the Holy Cross-Christ the King Crusaders. The Crusaders were led on scoring runs of 15 and 6 yards by Peter Rymysza. Lou DeTrempe and Liam O'Connor also ran their way into the end zone. Matt Potter booted a two-point kick for a final score of 26-0.

Game two started with another bang for the Mishawaka Catholic Saints as Jacob Whitfield ran the opening kickoff back 68 yards for

a score. It would get worst for the Granger Catholic Titans as Saints' runners Ryan Schafer and Jackson Powell hit pay dirt with gallops of 82 and 6 yards respectively. The scoring didn't stop as Jay Eggman returned a fumble for a touchdown and Alex Ganser booted a two-point conversion to make the final score, 26-0.

The closest contest of the day saw a double overtime victory by the Corpus Christi Cougars over the Holy Family Trojans. With the score knotted at zero in the second overtime, Garret Lukens broke the plane with a 7-yard burst to send the fans crazy and the Cougars on to the next round with the score of 6-0.

This weekend will see the Cougars and Panthers square off at 1 p.m., and the Saints and Crusaders at 2 p.m. at Otolowski Field.

Knights end memorable CYO football run

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger field was the site of the 2008 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football championship game Sunday, Oct. 26. The Holy Cross Crusaders were crowned this year's winner when they defeated the Knights from Sts. JAT (Sts. Joseph-Elizabeth/Aloysius/Therese), 20-0.

The Crusaders, the second-place seed in the tournament, finished with an impressive 9-1 record. Their only loss came at the hands of the St. John, Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel Eagles in the season opener back on Aug. 24 by a narrow margin of 6-0. From there

they went on a nine-game winning streak, which culminated with their first-ever CYO championship.

After many seasons of practice games against the multi-school Lutheran team, the CYO approved Holy Cross joining the league in May of 2003 according to Ava Meyer's official records. This came on the heels of the joint effort of Concordia and Bishop Dwenger high schools sharing Zollner Stadium, now a game site for many Sunday afternoon CYO varsity matchups. However, as part of the original agreement, Holy Cross would not be allowed to participate in the annual diocesan games with South Bend after the league tournament should they be declared the winners or runners-up who are typically bestowed the honor. Therefore, for 2008, the CYO league will be represented in the games against the South Bend teams on Nov. 9 by the second-place Sts. JAT Knights and the St. John, New Haven, Raiders who Holy Cross knocked out in the semi-final round of the tournament.

In the win, Coach Steve Bennett's "Big Uglies" did everything right. Their star quarterback, Marq Rogers and leading rusher, Tim Russell led the attack for the high-powered offense. For the Knights' workhorse, Nick Deiser, had 65 yards on 25 carries in the ground game loss.

Sts. JAT Coach Mike Deiser extended his heartiest congratulations to the fundamentally sound, big, strong Crusaders and summarized, "Holy Cross played a great game and controlled the line of scrimmage all day."

Deiser added how proud he was of his team's effort during their memorable run this season and road to the championship game. Earlier in the day, the St. Charles Cardinals took the top spot winning the fifth- and sixth-grade tournament championship.

Volleyball update

CYO President Kelly Henline reported weekend champions on the volleyball court. Six different parishes had teams represented in the three tournament finals at St. Charles. Results were as follows: St. Jude beat St. Charles, Decatur downed St. Vincent and St. Aloysius topped St. Joseph Hessen Cassel.

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ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL DIVIDENDS



MARK WEBER

At the Sunday afternoon Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, checks totaling \$45,000 were distributed to various charities covered by the Annual Bishop's Appeal. In the photo, from left, are Ann Helmke, representing Vincent House accepted \$9,000; Bishop John M. D'Arcy; Debbie Schmidt, \$23,000 for Catholic Charities; and Anne Koehl, \$10,000 for Women's Care Center. Not pictured, but also receiving funds were Karen Gregerson, \$8,000 for Matthew 25; Laurel Walsh, \$2,000 for Fort Wayne Christ Child Society; Carolyn Ransom, \$1,000 for St. Mary's Soup Kitchen; Donna Brooke, \$1,000 for St. Vincent de Paul Society; and Tammy Safford, RN, \$1,000 for St. Martin's Health Care, Inc.

MOVIE CAPSULES

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

"Changeling" (Universal)

Gripping true-life drama set in 1928 Los Angeles recounting how the young son of a single telephone operator (a fine Angelina Jolie) goes missing, and how the corrupt Los Angeles police department tries to silence her when she protests that the child they subsequently return to her is not her son, while a crusading Presbyterian minister (John Malkovich) takes up her cause. Clint Eastwood directs with trademark austerity. Though the subject matter is often grim, with some necessarily unpleasant scenes, the story has historical significance as the case led to reform. There's also inspiration in the mother's stubborn determination to continue the search for the boy against all odds. Strong if non-graphic scenes of violence, murder, nonsexual child abuse, patient abuse in a mental institution, an execution, some rough language and profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"I've Loved You So Long" (Sony Classics)

Moving drama about a broken woman (Kristin Scott Thomas) who has been released from prison after many years for having inexplicably murdered her 6-year-old child. She is taken in by her younger sister (Elsa Zylberstein) and wary brother-in-law (Serge Hazanavicius), where gradually, embraced by the loving atmosphere of the household, including two adopted Vietnamese nieces and a stroke-victim grandfather, she has a rebirth, coming to terms with her past and slowly learning to reconnect with the outside world. Novelist turned director Philippe Claudel's compassionate story demonstrates profound respect for human dignity, anchored by Thomas' extraordinary performance, beautifully matched by that of Zylberstein, as the pair re-establish a sisterly bond thought lost. In French. Subtitles. An implied non-marital encounter, suicide and a couple of crude expressions. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

"Stranded: I've Come From a Plane That Crashed on the Mountains" (Zeitgeist)

Unsettling but ultimately moving documentary recounting the ordeal of 16 Uruguayan rugby players who survived a 1972 air crash in the Andes Mountains, their harrowing 10-week struggle against the elements and their resort to cannibalism as the only alternative to starvation. Director Gonzalo Arijon uses interviews with the survivors, archival footage and re-enactments to evoke the group's desperate

heroism and profound spirit of unity and to explore the moral and religious implications of their experience. In Spanish. Subtitles. Mature themes, one use of the F-word and a few crass expressions. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

"Synecdoche, New York" (Sony Classics)

Surreal, pessimistic drama in which a theater director (Philip Seymour Hoffman), deserted by his artist wife (Catherine Keener), endlessly rehearses a constantly expanding autobiographical play while battling bizarre illnesses and seeking emotional fulfillment from his second spouse (Michelle Williams) and an on-again-off-again lover (Samantha Morton). Writer Charlie Kaufman's directorial debut, an ambitious meditation on life, love, creativity and death, though impressively acted — especially by Hoffman — makes only sporadic references to faith and presents both artistic and personal failure as inevitable. Strong sexual content, including brief graphic sexual activity, adultery, rear and upper female nudity, frequent rough and some crude language, a few uses of profanity and a suicide. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

CRAFT SALES AND BAZAARS

Craft bazaar at St. Mary's
Avilla — St. Mary School, 232 N. Main St., will have a craft bazaar Sunday, Nov. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Booths are still available for \$20 by calling (260) 897-4287.

Craft bazaar and bake sale
South Bend — Holy Cross Parish, 1020 Wilber St., will have a bazaar with baked goods, craft booths, raffles and lunch on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fall festival planned
South Bend — St. Casimir Parish, 1308 W. Dunham St., will have a fall festival Sunday, Nov. 9, at the parish. A chicken dinner will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Advance ticket sales only. No carry out available. Adults \$8, children (5-10) \$4, and children under 5 (accompanied by an adult) free. Contact (574) 287-9551 for tickets. Music from 2-5 p.m. by the Jim Deka Trio. Games of chance, raffles, prizes and a pastry booth.

Fall rummage sale
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, will have a fall rummage sale in the school gym on Friday, Nov. 7, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 8, from 8 a.m. to noon. Saturday will be \$3 per bag. Hessen Cassel is located just south of the 469 and U.S. 27 interchange.

Craft fair time
South Bend — The St. Jude HASA will have a craft fair on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring homemade crafts and refreshments.

Holiday craft bazaar
South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua will have a holiday craft bazaar Saturday, Nov. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school auditorium. Lunch available.

Snowflake bazaar
Huntington — St. Mary Parish, 903 N. Jefferson St., will host a snowflake bazaar, Saturday, Nov. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the parish gym, and on Sunday, Nov. 2, after the Masses. Crafts, bake sale, raffle and lunch.

FUND RAISERS
Fish fry
Warsaw — The Knights of Columbus Council #4511 will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 7, from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Knights Hall on Bell Drive. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children age 6-12. Fish, baked beans, green beans, cole slaw, apple-sauce and beverage included.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 7, from 5-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7.50, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$7.50 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

Fish fry
South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary will have a fish fry, Friday, Nov. 7, from 5-7 p.m. in the school, 735 W. Calvert. Tickets are \$7 day of sale or \$6.50 presale, \$4.50 for children 6-12 and children under 6 free. Tickets may be purchased before or after Sunday Masses or at the rectory (574) 287-1700. Carry-out available.

MISC. HAPPENINGS
High school youth ministry to host Father Glen Kohrman
New Haven — The KLS youth ministry will bring Father Glenn Kohrman to speak Sunday, Nov. 16, from 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Louis Besancon Parish. Mass at 6 p.m. will be followed by dinner and speaker on the topic "The Church and Real Love in a Politically Correct World." Admission is free.

Fifty percent off sale
South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society, 3408 Ardmore Tr., will have a half price sale Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sale does not include large appliances, automobiles and electronics.

Bishop Luers hosts eighth grade day
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School is hosting an eighth-grade day on Friday, Nov. 7, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. All eighth-grade students interested in attending Bishop Luers High School are welcome. Call the admissions office to R.S.V.P. (260) 456-1261.

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Horst R. Weinhold, 84, St. Joseph

Margaret Ann Heiny, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Granger
Bonnie J. Peters, 65, St. Pius X

Ruth M. Rupley, St. Pius X

Mishawaka
Cecilia M. Metzner, 83, St. Bavo

New Haven
Paul V. Nau, 83, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame
Sister M. Deborah Murphy, CSC, Church of Loretto

Kathryn K. Faccenda, 73, Sacred Heart Basilica

Rome City
Lejeune Morrison, 87, St. Gaspar del Bufalo

South Bend
Edmund A. Rzepnicki, 87, Holy Cross

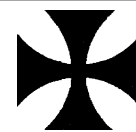
Grace H. Scharmach, 81, St. Adalbert

Adeline M. Nemeth, 87, St. Matthew Cathedral

Jeanine Gadacz-Woolverton, 66, St. Casimir

Fall extravaganza
South Bend — St. John the Baptist School will have a fall extravaganza dinner-auction Saturday, Nov. 8. Doors open at 6 p.m. to the Holy Family Parish Center, 56405 Mayflower Rd., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets

are \$17.50 per person and include auction and Polish style dinner. Live auction starts at 7:30 p.m., silent auction starts at 6 p.m. and closes at 8:45 p.m. Cash bar. Tickets and information by calling (574) 232-9849.



All Souls Day Mass In the Resurrection Mausoleum Chapel of the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne

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Celebrant



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FATHER KEVIN BAUMAN CELEBRATES FIRST MASS



TRISH LINNER

Newly-ordained Father Kevin Bauman presided over his first Mass on Sunday, Oct. 26, at his home parish, St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. Over 40 priests, deacons and seminarians were in attendance, along with members of the Knights of Columbus. Father Michael Hientz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, congratulated Father Bauman and welcomed him to St. Matthew again. A reception was held afterward to celebrate. Father Bauman has been assigned to St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart. In the photo, Father Kevin Bauman says the closing prayers at this first Mass as a priest.

ORDAIN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ent in the world the Good Shepherd, who offered himself for our salvation.”

Bishop D’Arcy explained the care of the faithful, “They are to give of themselves of the sanctification of the people committed to their care in their parish, in their diocese.”

And he added, “We are all called to be attentive in this service, to open our ears, our minds and our hearts so we may grasp more fully what it is that God is doing on this day in this beautiful Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. ...”

The symbolism of the two men laying prostrate on the cathedral sanctuary floor shows their readiness to give their whole selves to God, to the work of Jesus Christ and to his people forever and without reservation, noted Bishop D’Arcy.

This gesture was called “evocative” by Pope John Paul II because, “it evokes the deepest sentiments of the human heart,” the bishop said.

The bishop added in his homily that the two priest-candidates could not even consider such a decision, such a gift, “unless God had given them his love and his strength and made it possible for them to say ‘yes.’”

He added, “So we are celebrating God’s gift of love to each one. They pray that their offering may

be pure and holy and sinless, and without reservation.”

The bishop spoke that when all the priests lay hands on them, they “signify the unity we have together.”

Their faith will be tried and tested, Bishop D’Arcy said, “for this is always the way for those who offer themselves to God.”

And Bishop D’Arcy said that the priest-candidates must accept his love and the life of sacrifice for which they are called in imitation of the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for the flock.

The rite mentions twice: “understand what you are doing, imitate what you handle.” In other words, the bishop said, “Imitate the Eucharist, the Lord’s sacrifice.”

“Finally, model your life on the Lord’s promise: service, suffering, gift,” he said. “Always remember that the fruit of such a life is gladness and joy.”

“When any of us allows us to fill our lives with the love of Jesus Christ for the world, the result is gladness. And the purest joy that can be experienced in this world, a foretaste of heaven,” Bishop D’Arcy said.

This catechetical lesson opened to all those in the cathedral as the rite of ordination unfolded.

At the end of the Mass, the new priests were invited to share a few words. Father Bauman, fluent also in Spanish, recited his thanks in English and Spanish.

“I wish to offer words of thanksgiving, appreciation to each and every person here, primarily to our Lord Jesus Christ, present to us in the Blessed Sacrament,” Father Bauman said. “And to all of

you for coming out this day and supporting us. We have several different communities here of families and friends — people I have known for years and people I have met just recently. ...”

In his words of thanks, Father Curry added, “My gratitude goes out to Jesus Christ or inviting me to his ministry, his church. ... Also my gratitude goes out to everyone here because it takes a family to make a priest. With my biological family who took the priesthood that I knew growing up, friends, other people that I met along the way at schools, retreats and different things — it took everybody to make a priest.”

With the two new ordained priests, there are now 16 seminarians studying for the priesthood.

In closing remarks, Bishop D’Arcy spoke about Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to New York City in April. The pope said “vocations are a gift,” the bishop quoted. “We think that they come from my work or your work. He said they are a gift from Christ to the church. They are not chosen by the people, but are a gift to the people. That’s why he said prayer is necessary. If we pray often and frequently for vocations, we are accepting that they are a gift. They’re not given because we are all so holy or great. But our prayer reminds us that it is a gift.”

He asked that every parish and individual make vocations a part of their prayer.

For more pictures from the ordination visit the photo gallery section of www.diocesefwsb.org

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You remain in our prayers*

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