



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

St. Charles Borromeo breaks ground for kindergarten expansion



Student council president and eighth-grader Sara Clark assists Msgr. John N. Suelzer, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo, at the groundbreaking ceremony held on Nov. 4. The school is beginning construction on an addition that will allow space for full-day kindergarten in the 2009-2010 school year. St. Charles Principal Robert Sordelet stands beside Msgr. Suelzer.

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — While the country was in the midst of electing the new president of the United States, parishioners, faculty, staff and students at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Fort Wayne were witnessing a milestone of their own with the groundbreaking for the addition of kindergarten classrooms on the school campus. The planning for the expansion began nearly a year ago.

The addition of four classrooms for kindergarten instruction will ready St. Charles Borromeo School for full-day kindergarten. Though some have questioned the need to expand especially during these tough economic times, there are several reasons that justify the expansion.

The kindergarten for St. Charles parishioners is currently conducted at Our Lady of Good Hope School where there is no cafeteria. A cafeteria is essential for full-day kindergarten. Next, by moving the St. Charles families back to their home campus, Our Lady of Good Hope will also be able to expand their use of the classrooms once occupied by St. Charles kindergartners. The location will also be a convenience for parents meeting their children.

There are students currently enrolled in public schools that offer full-day kindergarten who would otherwise attend Catholic schools. And St. Charles would like to offer full-day kindergarten in order to

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Complimentary

This issue is sent to all registered Catholic households in the diocese

Religious educators gather for Catechetical Institute Day

BY DIANE FREEBY

SYRACUSE — “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

As we live out a year dedicated to St. Paul, considered by the church to be the greatest evangelist next to Jesus Christ, Bishop John M. D’Arcy quoted the sinner-turned-saint during his homily at a Mass for diocesan catechists. He reminded them of Paul’s fidelity to the Word, and that they are part of that same mission.

“Paul was always aware of his own sin,” said Bishop D’Arcy. “We, too, are aware of our sin, but in humility we still teach. Sin did not keep St. Paul away from his hard-charging desire to preach the Gospel. We must purify ourselves by prayer, the sacraments, eucharistic adoration and a love of the poor.”

Hundreds of religious education teachers gathered in Wawasee Middle School in Syracuse Nov. 8 for the 18th Catechetical Institute Day. After celebrating the Eucharist, educators attended various presentations and workshops designed to help strengthen their ministry.

Keynote speaker Dr. Gerard F.

Baumbach encouraged catechists and all those associated with religious education to gaze upon the mosaic of Christ featured on the cover of the National Directory for Catechesis (NDC).

“That is why we gather today,” said the theology professor from the University of Notre Dame. “We gather in, and for, Christ. Be present to the One who says to all of us, ‘I am the light of the world.’”

Baumbach is considered one of the most accomplished scholars in the area of catechetical theology in the United States. In addition to teaching at Notre Dame, Baumbach is currently the director of the Center for Catechetical Initiatives at the Institute for Church Life. His 40 years of service also include several years as a parish catechetical leader and nearly 25 years in Catholic publishing.

Discussing what it truly means to be a catechist, Baumbach drew upon the television program, “Judging Amy.” In one episode, the judge and her mother are trying to save a house for special needs children. Baumbach said his own nephew, Gabriel, was an actor in that episode. After the house was saved, Gabriel was to end the

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MAN PRAYS ROSARY DURING ELECTION VIGIL



CNS PHOTO/SAM LUCERO, COMPASS

William Mihalski of St. Casmir Parish in Krakow, Wis., prays the rosary while holding his son Adam during an all-night “Vigil for Election 2008” held Nov. 3 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Green Bay, Wis. According to organizers, the vigil was held to “pray that voters will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit when selecting candidates for public office and leadership.” Election coverage on page 3-4.

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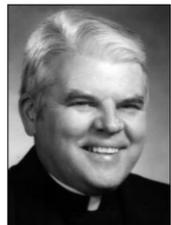
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Catechetical Institute Day affirms our catechetical mission



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A day for catechesis

It was a joy to head north on a cold
November Saturday, which seemed, alas, a
sure prediction that winter, indeed, was not
far away after so many lovely fall days.

I had an adventure on the way up, but
more about that later. My spirits were cer-
tainly lifted with our annual Catechetical
Institute Day: Affirming our Catechetical
Mission. There were over 350 people pres-
ent, catechists from all over the diocese. I
was especially encouraged that so many
parishes were represented, and there was
such a large number from small rural
parishes, which mean so much to me. In
some of those parishes, as I have
mentioned in recent weeks, the
Catholic population is very
small; and so their presence with
large numbers at such events
brings them encouragement.

These are mostly volunteers
— people who teach out of a
sense of mission. I tried, in my
homily, to speak about St. Paul,
a most eminent evangelist and
catechist, as well as a mission-
ary and apostle, and to see how
he can be called the Catechist of
the Cross. He personalized the cross. He
had a great sense of his own sin as he
wrote, "I persecuted the church of God."
But he had a much larger sense of the light
and mission that had been given him on the
road to Damascus. He went immediately to
a time of prayer, and to join a community.
He was not a lone ranger. He personalized
the cross with his words, "He delivered
himself up for me, even for me."

He knew suffering. What great evangel-
ists and pastors have not suffered? He
recounted his sufferings, but he also spoke
of a kind of inner suffering when he spoke
of the sting of the flesh, which had taunted
him. What was it? We do not know. We do
know that he prayed three times that it be
taken away, and that in prayer God told
him, "My grace is sufficient for you." Paul
understood this, and said simply, "I will
glory in my infirmity, so that the power of
God may shine at me." He also shows us in
his letters, how central was Jesus Christ to
his spirituality and to his preaching, "I
preach Christ and him crucified."

So many catechists

We hardly have to go outside the diocese
for speakers at these events. Indeed, the
keynote speaker was Jerry Baumbach, a
learned catechist. He is a member of the
theology faculty at the University of Notre
Dame, and his expertise is catechetics. He
and Professor Cavadini have shown that
there is a close link between theology and
catechetics — a continuum; he gave an
excellent keynote, and I followed with
Mass and homily.

Many priests concelebrated, and we had
beautiful music from the Irish chorus of St.
Patrick's Parish, South Bend, with Meggan
Young of our Office of Catechesis, serving
as cantor.

Because of the extraordinary program
funded by Our Sunday Visitor for the train-
ing of catechists, we have so many priests,
religious and sisters, who are able to give
excellent catechesis or instructions. I
believe almost 70 people have obtained
advanced degrees in catechesis or theology

the result of 20 years of good training of
catechists. All those who were "teaching the
teachers" were from our diocese.

Now to the adventure

Wawasee Middle School — where we
hold so many events, is south of Syracuse,
but it takes awhile to get there, down Route
30, then up Route 13. I was flying through
Larwill, when a state trooper stopped me
and said I was speeding. "Was I going
fast?" I inquired innocently. "Fifty-seven in
a 45 mile per hour area," was the reply.

Alas, not the first ticket I ever received
in Indiana, but I hope it will be the last. In
the old days, in Boston, a priest might be
let go, but told to say three Hail Marys by a
friendly Irish trooper. It reminds me of the
words of the great theologian, Karl Rahner,
in a book he wrote after the Second Vatican
Council entitled, "The Dynamic Element in
the Church." He said there was a time com-
ing when Office in the Church, priest or
bishop, would have no significance in secu-

lar society. In other words, the
end of special treatment. Well, it
is probably better; and I should
not have been going that fast
anyway.

Conversation with two priests

Two priests with whom I
spoke this week on separate
occasions told me the same thing.
Each one said they have begun
praying for our president-elect.

They also told me that they had not voted
for him. One said he began praying for him
even before the election. A good example, I
think, for all of us. I read this week a prayer
from Bishop John Carroll, of Baltimore, the
first Catholic bishop in this country. It was
a prayer for our government and president.
Let us all pray for our elected officials. It is
not necessary to agree with them to pray for
them. And the fact that we disagree on a
central issue, such as life, should prompt us
to pray for them even more.

I am off to Baltimore for the annual
bishops' meeting with the United States
Conference of Catholic Bishops, and it
looks like it will be very interesting. Back
here on Thursday.

See you all next week.

**I read this week a prayer from Bishop John Carroll, of
Baltimore, the first Catholic bishop in this country.**

It was a prayer for our government and president.

Let us all pray for our elected officials. It is not necessary

to agree with them to pray for them.

through this program. Thanks to Our
Sunday Visitor, but also to Sister Jane
Carew, who has shepherded this program
from the beginning, carefully screening
candidates, seeking out excellent theolo-
gians as teachers. In addition, she and her
staff have presented a program entitled
Education For Ministry, which over four
semesters gives instructions in theology.
Over 600 people have taken this course.

This effort, over 20 years, has deepened
our diocese. If we do not know the faith,
how can we think of a vocation to the
priesthood, or a consecrated life or to a
strong family?

I also have in my heart gratitude to
Professor John Cavadini and the theology
department of Notre Dame, for their part in
providing excellent teachers. I do not think
there is a program like this in the country,
and I am grateful to God for making it pos-
sible.

It was evident at Wawasee Middle
School, in the center of our diocese. No
shortage of catechists or theologians, and
all of them qualified and well prepared. It is

Bishops' conference opens with nod to historic presidential election

BALTIMORE (CNS) — The historic significance of the election of President-elect Barack Obama dominated the opening address of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' fall general assembly Nov. 10 in Baltimore.

The bishops also took up consideration of a liturgical service in English and Spanish for blessing children in the womb and took up another lengthy section of the English translation of the third edition of the Roman Missal.

"Symbolically, this is a moment that touches more than our history when a country that once enshrined race slavery in its very constitutional legal order should come to elect an African-American to the presidency," Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, USCCB president, said in his opening address. "In this, I truly believe, we must all rejoice."

Speaking to the bishops gathered at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Cardinal George said no political order conforms fully to the kingdom of God, but he prayed the incoming president will be able to succeed in his task, for the good of all.

Cardinal George called on the bishops to rejoice in the hard work of heroic figures such as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., the slain civil rights activist, Catholic priests, religious women, bishops and laypeople who helped bring about racial reforms in the U.S.

"We can also be truly grateful that our country's social conscience has advanced to the point that Barack Obama was not asked to renounce his racial heritage in order to be president, as, effectively, John Kennedy was asked to promise that his Catholic faith would not influence his perspective and decisions as president a generation ago," he said.

"We are, perhaps, at a moment when, with the grace of God, all races are safely within the American consensus," the cardinal said. "We are not at the point, however, when Catholics, especially in public life, can be con-



CNS PHOTO/NANCY WIECHEC

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, right, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, talks with conference vice president Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., Nov. 10 before the opening session of the U.S. bishops' general fall meeting in Baltimore.

sidered full partners in the American experience unless they are willing to put aside some fundamental Catholic teachings on a just moral and political order."

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the U.S., addressed the opening session as well and urged the bishops to "rediscover the joy of prayer."

The nuncio also encouraged the bishops to celebrate and support the Catholic laity in America, focus on ethical challenges in advances in science, promote the church's position that marriage should remain a lifelong union between one man and one woman, and reach out to those who have been sexually abused by clergy.

During a press conference after the morning session, the bishops were asked if they would support an approach backed by some Catholic backers of Obama that the focus should be on reducing the number of abortions by providing better social services to pregnant women and by addressing poverty.

Cardinal George said the bishops would support programs to improve social welfare in general.

But, he said, "it's still to be proven what the connection is between poverty and abortion."

Archbishop George H. Niederauer of San Francisco said "both/and" would be his preferred approach, working to change a legal system that cannot protect the most vulnerable in society, as well as aiding women facing an unwanted pregnancy.

Consideration of the blessing for children in the womb was the first order of business following the opening session. Written both in English and Spanish, the liturgical service would fill a gap in existing prayer books. A vote on the service was scheduled for Nov. 11.

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Divine Worship, introduced the blessing document.

He said the prayer, which had been approved both by his committee and by the Committee on Pro-Life Activities, "was prepared to support the parents awaiting the birth of their child, to encourage in the parish prayers for and recognition of the precious gift of the child in the

womb, and to foster respect for human life within society."

If approved, the blessing will be included in future editions of the Book of Blessings when that liturgical text is revised.

The bishops were to vote on a heavily amended version of the Proper of the Seasons, made up of the proper prayers for Sundays and feast days during the liturgical year, Nov. 11, five months after the 700-page translation was rejected at the June meeting of the USCCB in Orlando, Fla.

Bishop Serratelli presented the translation and outlined the steps taken since the June rejection of the document.

Of the more than 300 new modifications to the document submitted after the June meeting, Bishop Serratelli said more than 90 were related to syntax, grammar and sentence structure; 14 were made to break up long sentences; 13 corrected inaccuracies in the translation; and 180 dealt with concerns about vocabulary.

At the Orlando meeting, the majority of bishops voted not to return the translation to the International Commission on English in the Liturgy, known as ICEL, made up of representatives of episcopal conferences in 11 English-speaking countries. Many U.S. bishops expressed frustration that suggestions they had submitted to ICEL to clarify the sentence structure or revise archaic language had been ignored.

In the only votes on the meeting's first day, the bishops agreed to a revised process for submitting "varia" — new issues that an individual bishop or group of bishops would like to see considered by the full body. The new process was designed to allow for flexibility but conform to criteria established under the USCCB reorganization last year.

The bishops also decided by voice vote to review the USCCB regulations on statements and publications in light of the reorganization. Revised regulations

were expected to be submitted to the full body in June.

The bishops also took time to honor Stephanie Garza, 25, who was given the 2008 Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award for her work with immigrant parents in Chicago.

A Nov. 9 workshop for bishops prior to the opening of the fall meeting explored how domestic and international charitable organizations have found encouragement and helpful guidance in Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love").

The nearly 3-year-old encyclical emphasizes in one of its themes the role of charity as an outward expression of love.

Speakers Ken Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services, and Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, both praised the encyclical, saying it has served as a guiding force for their agencies' work.

Cardinal Paul Cordes, president of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, which promotes the church's charitable work, Nov. 10 commended the U.S. bishops for their generosity to charitable programs around the world. He also cautioned about charity work that brings complications from connections to governments, such as employment requirements.

Outside the hotel, a small group of demonstrators gathered to call upon the bishops to condemn politicians, especially those who are Catholic, who support legal abortion. Organized by Operation Rescue founder Randall Terry, participants in the midday protest carried signs urging the bishops to deny holy Communion to any Catholic politician who does not oppose abortion.

Contributing to this roundup were Chaz Muth, Nancy Frazier O'Brien and Patricia Zapor in Baltimore and Carol Zimmermann in Washington.

Church view on same-sex marriage prevails; other ballot efforts fail

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In voting on 2008 ballot questions across the country, the Catholic Church's view against same-sex marriage prevailed, but most Catholic efforts to influence voting related to abortion, assisted suicide, embryonic stem-cell research and gambling failed.

Voters approved California's Proposition 8, which would amend the state constitution to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman, by a 52 percent to 48 percent margin, although opponents said the counting of absentee ballots could change the outcome. Similar proposals were approved in Arizona (57 percent to 43 percent) and Florida (62 percent to 38 percent).

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of

Los Angeles thanked the Catholic community for the passage of Proposition 8 in a Nov. 5 statement. He said the success also was the result of "an unprecedented coalition of many faith communities and other citizens who understood the importance of maintaining the bedrock institution of marriage as has been lived out since recorded history."

California is one of three states where same-sex marriage is currently allowed, and the California bishops had said the amendment would affirm "the historic, logical and reasonable definition of marriage" without removing any benefits from other contractual arrangements such as civil unions or domestic partnerships.

On a range of other issues, however, voters turned down the church-supported position on ballot questions.

In Connecticut, where the Supreme Court ruled Oct. 10 that the state's ban on same-sex marriage was unconstitutional, 59 percent of voters turned down an effort to call for a constitutional convention, where the question could have been reconsidered. The state's Catholic bishops had urged a vote in favor of the convention.

By a 47 percent to 53 percent margin, California voters rejected a church-supported proposal to require parental notification, or a judicial bypass, 48 hours before a minor's abortion. A South Dakota measure that would have banned abortions in the state, except for victims of rape and incest, also failed, 55 percent to 45 percent.

In Colorado, Catholic leaders had taken a neutral approach to the Colorado Personhood Amendment,

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remain competitive with other Catholic schools in the area.

Two other nearby northside Catholic schools in Fort Wayne currently offer full-day kindergarten. St. Jude has offered full-day kindergarten for a few years and St. Vincent de Paul offers a progressive half-day to full-day kindergarten option after a parent-teacher conference about the desire to place a child in full-day kindergarten takes place. It has not yet been determined if St. Charles will offer a progressive kindergarten program similar to that offered at St. Vincent de Paul School.

The estimated \$1.1 million building project will be funded by SCRIP profits and the parish's Continuing Our Vision campaign, which asks parishioners to donate to the campaign as a form of stewardship. The finance committee

decided in early February of this year to earmark 50 percent of all SCRIP profits to the building expansion project.

"Parishioners have accepted that this is a worthwhile need and are supportive of the program," according to Madonna Ryan, SCRIP coordinator at St. Charles.

Ryan says that they have worked very hard to be cost effective and use design concepts that have worked well in similar environments. For example, state law requires that each kindergarten classroom have a bathroom. The current design calls for two classrooms to share a unisex bathroom between them. There will be an additional bathroom in the hallway for girls on one side, boys on the other and with a common washbasin area where a teacher can monitor all of the students from a central location.

"I would like to give Moake Parke architects credit because they did a great job of making the addition flow with the current design of the campus," says Ryan.

The addition is expected to be completed for the 2009-2010

Catholic leaders congratulate Obama, offer prayers for administration

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, president of the U.S. Catholic bishops, congratulated President-elect Barack Obama on his "historic election" Nov. 4 as the first African-American to win the White House.

"The people of our country have entrusted you with a great responsibility," the cardinal said in a letter to Obama on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "As Catholic bishops we offer our prayers that God give you strength and wisdom to meet the coming challenges."

But he also said, "We stand ready to work with you in defense and support of the life and dignity of every human person."

In Nov. 5 statements, blog postings and other comments, Catholic leaders praised Obama for his history-making victory.

Others, including Catholic bishops, said they hoped the new administration would make decisions that show a "commitment to the sanctity and dignity of all human life." Still other Catholics, including pro-life leaders, expressed profound disappointment that a candidate who supports keeping abortion legal was elected and vowed that the pro-life movement would grow in strength.

In his letter to Obama, released by the USCCB in Washington, Cardinal George said that "the country is confronting many uncertainties. We pray that you will use the powers of your office to meet them with a special concern to defend the most vulnerable among us and heal the divisions in our country and our world."

Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of Washington said in a statement: "We offer our prayers today for our nation and for our newly elected leaders, including President-elect Obama, as they take on their new responsibilities."



CNS PHOTO/GARY HERSHORN, REUTERS

U.S. President-elect Barack Obama and Vice President-elect Joseph Biden wave after Obama's speech during their election night rally in Chicago Nov. 4.

"We rejoice with the rest of our nation in the significance" of Obama's victory, Archbishop Wuerl said. "May our nation's new leaders be guided in their decisions with wisdom and compassion and at the heart of all of their decisions may there be a deep respect for and commitment to the sanctity and dignity of all human life and support for the most vulnerable among us."

"My hope and prayer is that our new president will truly treasure and advance the principles that make us who we are as a great nation," said Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh in a letter to Catholics in his diocese.

"As he spoke to the nation for the first time, our newly-elected

president offered a litany of hopes for our country. To each of those hopes, the crowd gathered responded: 'Yes we can!' May that litany also include 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,'" Bishop Zubik said.

In a letter to Obama, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles said one issue in particular must be addressed by the new administration in early 2009: immigration.

He called for implementing a plan that "covers all of our needs: safe and secure borders, a just way to permit people living here for many years to regularize their legal status, a mechanism to allow temporary foreign workers to enter (the U.S.) as our economy war-rants and ... family reunification."

VIEW

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which would have defined "any human being from the moment of fertilization" as a person under the state constitution. Voters rejected the proposed amendment, with only 27 percent for it and 73 percent against it.

The Colorado Catholic bishops said the proposal did not "provide a realistic opportunity for ending or even reducing abortions" in the state because it would be interpreted under current federal law and could have resulted in a reaffirmation of *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court's 1973 decision legalizing abortion.

Washington became the second state in the nation to allow physician-assisted suicide with a 59 percent to 41 percent vote in favor of Initiative 1000. The state's Catholic bishops had said the proposal did not have adequate safeguards and its approval would threaten "the dignity of all human life regardless of frailty or social definitions of usefulness."

In Michigan, voters agreed by a 52 percent to 48 percent margin to expand embryonic stem-cell research and "prohibit state and local laws that prevent, restrict or discourage stem-cell research, future therapies and cures."

Paul A. Long, vice president for public policy of the Michigan Catholic Conference, said the vote amounted to "the creation of a new industry structured around the unregulated destruction of human life."

"Enshrining in the state constitution a measure that prohibits the legislature from enacting any oversight or accountability measures related to the destruction of human embryos has unsettling consequences for the future," he added, pledging continued Catholic support for "the promotion of ethical and proven stem-cell research that today is benefiting those who are ill and suffering."

The results were mixed on proposals to expand opportunities for gambling in Maryland, Arkansas and Ohio.

A move to allow up to 15,000 slot machines in Maryland, with funds targeted for use in public education, had been strongly opposed by Catholic leaders but was OK'd by voters, 59 percent to 41 percent. The Catholic Conference of Ohio had opposed a proposal in that state to permit one privately owned casino in southwest Ohio, and it failed, 37 percent to 63 percent.

Bishop Anthony B. Taylor of Little Rock, whose diocese covers the entire state of Arkansas, had not announced his position on a ballot question that would have

authorized a state-run lottery to aid higher education. It was approved by a 64 percent to 36 percent margin.

Bishop Taylor also took no public stand on another, more controversial state proposal. Act 1, a legislative initiative, would ban unmarried couples from serving as adoptive or foster parents in the state. It was approved by 57 percent of state voters, with 43 percent opposed.

By a margin of 63 percent to 37 percent, voters in Ohio followed the advice of the state Catholic conference in agreeing to keep interest on "payday loans" capped at 28 percent. If the proposal had not been accepted, the rate for such loans could have risen as high as 371 percent.

California Catholic leaders had urged voters to defeat Proposition 6, the so-called "Safe Neighborhoods Act," which would have increased penalties for gang crimes and eliminated the possibility of bail for illegal immigrants. It failed, 30 percent to 70 percent.

In all, voters in 36 states considered 153 ballot propositions this year, according to the Initiative and Referendum Institute at the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law. Another 21 ballot questions in eight states were voted up or down in elections held earlier this year.

Some proposals drew support only from individual Catholic bishops or leaders of Catholic organizations.

In Missouri, for example, Bishop Robert W. Finn of Kansas City-St. Joseph criticized a proposed constitutional amendment to require all government meetings in the state be conducted in English. The proposal, which Bishop Finn called anti-immigrant and too inflexible, passed overwhelmingly, 86 percent to 14 percent.

In the Archdiocese of St. Louis, representatives of Catholic Family Services were elated with the passage of measures in two counties of the archdiocese creating what they called a "safety net for children."

In St. Louis County, the quarter-cent sales tax for children's services passed Nov. 4 with 62 percent of the vote. In Franklin County, it passed with 59 percent of the vote.

The Community Children's Service Fund will use revenue from the tax for mental health, substance abuse and child abuse prevention services for children and teens.

Contributing to this roundup were Rick DelVecchio in San Francisco and Joseph Kenny in St. Louis.



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Fund drive underway for two projects on Cathedral Square in Fort Wayne

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — Two planned projects on the south and north sides of Cathedral Square in downtown Fort Wayne have direct ties to the history of the “sacred place” known as the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The once labeled “ultramodern” MacDougal Memorial Chapel on the southwest corner of Cathedral Square is 58 years old and is in need of renovation and updating.

On the northwest corner, a statue of St. Mother Theodore Guérin will be erected in front of the 57-year-old Diocesan Chancery Office where St. Augustine Academy for Girls stood until 1949. St. Mother Guerin led the Sisters of Providence and visited the three-story brick schoolhouse occasionally.

Shortly after the exterior of the cathedral was refaced with Indiana limestone and Wisconsin Lannon stone in 1948-50, construction began on the MacDougal Chapel and a new Diocesan Chancery Office. The ultramodern designed structures were completed in 1950 and 1951, respectively, flanking the main worship facility on its south and north sides.

The circular chapel was built on the site of Library Hall — erected in 1881 for the youth of the diocese where the first rectory, constructed in 1853-54, once stood. The chancery was erected where St. Augustine’s Academy was built in 1845. It was the first Catholic school in Fort Wayne. Three Sisters of Providence came from Vigo County (Indiana) in 1845 to provide instruction.

Designed by Fort Wayne architect A.M. Strauss, the MacDougal Chapel initially offered perpetual adoration for cathedral parishioners as well as for Catholics throughout the diocese. Its unique spiritual atmosphere currently provides the setting for three weekday

Masses, daily confessions, Friday afternoon and early evening exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and several spiritual holy hours. Small weddings and other liturgies also are conducted in the chapel occasionally.

But the altar area is crowded, with little seating room on the sides of the sanctuary for concelebrating priests and servers. The marble reredos and a staircase behind the altar area will be reconfigured to create additional space. Marble shelves for vessels and other liturgical items along with a permanent pulpit for proclaiming the word of God and a freestanding tabernacle to better remind visitors of the eucharistic presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament will help simplify and enhance the altar area.

In addition, the chapel’s domed concrete roof covered in copper leaks occasionally. It needs to be repaired, the ceiling repainted, the lighting upgraded, pews repaired or replaced and new kneelers installed. The outdated confessional area with its curtain doorways also needs to be redesigned to provide better privacy for the sacrament of reconciliation.

A major portion of the renovation project will be the construction of an outside ramp and new front door for accessibility for those with disabilities. Basement restrooms will be enlarged and also made accessible with the installation of a lift from the main floor to the lower level.

If sufficient funds are available, interior stained-glass windows, along with the marble and limestone walls, will be cleaned; and a new terrazzo floor, similar to the floor in the cathedral, will be installed.

The chapel renovations are expected to cost up to \$750,000. Led by Bishop John M. D’Arcy, the project will be supported by the diocese as well as by the Cathedral Parish. But, since many other people use the chapel regu-

larly for Mass, reconciliation and other religious services, the diocesan community is invited to participate, said Father Robert Schulte, cathedral rector and vicar general of the diocese. Donations, both large and small, will help make the MacDougal Chapel renovation project an eventual reality.

Memorial naming opportunities are available for designated gifts.

Father Schulte said the St. Mother Guérin statue will be similar to the one that stands at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Fort Wayne native Teresa Clark, now residing in Terre Haute, designed the statue, which depicts St. Mother Guérin holding a crucifix. The material for the statue is still being decided, Father Schulte added. It could be bronze and is expected to cost about \$50,000.

As of the end of October, \$79,050 has been pledged toward the MacDougal renovation project and \$3,850 has been earmarked for the St. Mother Guérin statue project, Father Schulte indicated.

Please contact the cathedral office at (260) 424-1485 for details on donating to either or both projects.



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German-born pope says he still feels pain of Kristallnacht

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — German-born Pope Benedict XVI said he still feels “pain for what happened” in his homeland in 1938 when Nazi mobs went on the rampage against Jews, an event that became known as Kristallnacht. The pope was 11 years old when, on the night of Nov. 9-10, 1938, “the Nazi fury against the Jews was unleashed in Germany,” he said. Marking the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht — German for Night of the Broken Glass — the pope asked Catholics to pray for the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, and he condemned all forms of anti-Semitism. Pope Benedict spoke about the anniversary during his midday Angelus address Nov. 9 at the Vatican. During Kristallnacht throughout Germany “stores, offices, homes and synagogues were attacked and numerous people were killed, initiating the systematic and violent persecution of German Jews that concluded with the Shoah,” or Holocaust, the pope said. “I still feel pain for what happened in that tragic circumstance whose memory must serve to ensure that similar horrors are never repeated again and that we commit ourselves, at every level, to fighting anti-Semitism and discrimination, especially by educating the younger generations in respect and mutual acceptance,” the pope said.

Pope says East European youth risk losing sight of struggle for faith

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI warned that Eastern Europe's young people risk losing sight of the long struggle to preserve the faith under communism. This new generation tends to take political freedom for granted and is less tied to the long Christian tradition in European culture, the pope said. He made his remarks at a welcoming ceremony Nov. 7 for the new Lithuanian ambassador to the Vatican, Vytautas Alisauskas. The pope said Lithuania suffered domination and oppression as a Soviet republic, but the Christian faith sustained its people. “Communities that have lived under such circumstances acquire a deep conviction that true happiness is to be found in God alone. They know that any society which denies the Creator inevitably begins to lose its sense of the beauty, truth and goodness of human life,” he said.

Christians, Muslims release statement calling for religious freedom

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians and Muslims must work together to protect religious freedom, they must learn more about each other and they must witness to the world the reality of God, said members of the Catholic-Muslim Forum. The forum participants, 28 Muslim and 28 Catholic representatives, met at the Vatican Nov. 4-6 to discuss their faiths' understanding of

NEWS BRIEFS

GIRL STANDS NEXT TO REMAINS OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



CNS PHOTO/ EDUARDO MUNOZ, REUTERS

A girl stands next to the remains of an evangelical Christian school Nov. 9 on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. At least 87 people were killed when the school collapsed Nov. 7.

the obligation to love God and to love one's neighbor. The final statement said both Christians and Muslims recognize the dignity and sacredness of human life because each person is “created by a loving God.” Christianity and Islam teach that love for God and genuine faith lead to love for one's neighbor, it said, and “genuine love of neighbor implies respect of the person and her or his choices in matters of conscience and religion.” Religious minorities deserve protection, they have a right to their own places of worship and their sacred figures and symbols “should not be subject to any form of mockery or ridicule,” the leaders said. In an increasingly secularized and materialistic world, forum participants called on Catholics and Muslims to give witness to “the transcendent dimension of life.”

Sale, trafficking of organ donation must be condemned, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While organ donation is a generous act of love, the sale and trafficking of organs is abominable and must be condemned, said Pope Benedict XVI. “Tissue and organ transplants represent a great advance of medical science and are certainly a sign of hope for the many people who suffer from serious and sometimes critical medical conditions,” he said. However, the scarce number of vital organs available for transplant is “dramatically real” as seen by the long waiting lists of people whose only hope for survival is “linked to meager supplies which do not correspond to actual needs,” he said

Nov. 7 in a private audience with some 500 participants attending a Vatican-sponsored gathering on organ donation. The Nov. 6-8 congress, titled “A Gift for Life: Considerations on Organ Donation,” was sponsored by the Pontifical Academy for Life, the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations and Italy's National Transplant Center.

Catholic voters mirror general electorate in support for Obama

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholics pretty much voted the way the rest of the country did Nov. 4, even backing Democratic Sen. Barack Obama a little more strongly than the electorate overall, according to exit polls. What the exit polls don't explain, however, is whether efforts by bishops in some dioceses to direct Catholic voters to base their vote only on the abortion issue are responsible for some deviations from the general trend. Typically, the majority of Catholic voters mirrors the majority of the electorate overall. But this time, in a couple of battleground states that Obama won but where some bishops were particularly visible on the topic of how to vote, a majority of Catholics backed Republican Sen. John McCain. Nationwide, 54 percent of Catholics supported Obama and 44 percent voted for McCain. Of the total population, 52 percent voted for Obama and 46 percent for McCain. By comparison, 52 percent of Catholics in 2004 supported Republican President George W. Bush and 47 percent voted for Democratic Sen. John Kerry. The total vote in 2004

was 51 percent for Bush and 48 percent for Kerry.

McCain supporters at election night rally express disappointment

PHOENIX (CNS) — Despite the fact their candidate trailed in every major national poll, supporters of Republican presidential nominee Sen. John McCain of Arizona still guarded a quiet hope that the “maverick” would pull off a miracle on Election Day. “I still hope McCain will come back,” said Jeff Kovac, a parishioner at St. Timothy in Mesa, who watched the results pour in at McCain's election night rally in Phoenix Nov. 4. “I don't know what we're going to do if (Sen. Barack) Obama wins.” A few minutes later came the announcement that the Democratic senator from Illinois had won the presidency, becoming the first African-American to take the White House. “We have come to the end of a long journey,” McCain told supporters assembled outside the Arizona Biltmore, congratulating his opponent for his historic accomplishment. He underscored Obama's ability to “inspire millions” to take part in the democratic process. “His success alone commands my respect,” he added.

Pope sends message to President-elect Obama

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI sent a personal message to President-elect Barack Obama Nov. 5, congratulating him and offering his prayers for Obama and for all the people of

the United States. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said that because the message was addressed personally to Obama the Vatican did not plan to publish it. However, he said, the papal message opened by referring to the “historic occasion” of the election, marking the first time a black man has been elected president of the United States. The pope congratulated Obama, his wife and family, Father Lombardi said. “He assured him of his prayers that God would help him with his high responsibilities for his country and for the international community,” Father Lombardi said. The pope also prayed that “the blessing of God would sustain him and the American people so that with all people of good will they could build a world of peace, solidarity and justice,” the spokesman said.

Student center preserves Catholic identity at Lutheran-run college

VALPARAISO, Ind. (CNS) — It's not always easy to encourage growth in faith and practice among young adult Catholics, especially when they are attending a Lutheran university. That is the challenge facing St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Student Center, which serves Catholics at Valparaiso University, as well as the local community. “Our primary purpose is to make sure the needs of the students are being met at what is a Lutheran university,” said Tim Taylor, director of campus ministry at St. Teresa. “Our mission is to provide opportunities for Catholic students to live out their Christian faith and to live the Gospel as college students.” For Father Kevin McCarthy, chaplain at the student center, the key is building relationships. “At VU, many are not coming with a great sense of Catholic identity,” he said. “When they come to Mass at St. Teresa, they'll see a connection with the community and begin to develop relationships. Students get a whole different perspective of what church is.”

Kenyan bishops urge citizens to own up to sins for good of country

NAIROBI, Kenya (CNS) — Kenya's Catholic bishops urged citizens to take responsibility for their sins so the country can move toward reconciliation after nearly a year of political havoc. “We know that the word ‘reconciliation’ is much used,” the Kenya Episcopal Conference said in a statement Nov. 6. “But often the word is misused.” Catholics, especially those in leadership positions, have to “first recognize our mistakes, failures and sins,” the bishops said. “Part of this reparation ... will be the seeking of forgiveness from the person one has wronged and redressing all aspects of the evil committed,” said the bishops. They said they backed the Kriegler and Waki reports — by two commissions investigating violence after the December 2007 elections — and that reconciling personal sins is part of their implementation.

The Christ Child Society hosts holiday benefit

SOUTH BEND — The Christ Child Society's 2008 holiday benefit fashion show by Talbots will be held Thursday, Nov. 20, at the Gillespie Center behind the Hilton Garden Inn on State Road 933 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Along with the luncheon and fashion show, themed raffle baskets and silent auction items will be available. Over 400 people will be attending the luncheon this year.

The excited flurry of back-to-school or holiday shopping is not a reality for all children. However, nearly 4,000 underprivileged children in St. Joseph County have free new, warm coats, shoes and school clothes thanks to the Christ Child Society.

The Christ Child Society is a nonprofit organization whose 500 volunteer members are dedicated to clothing children and babies in the community, as well as to providing educational services. The holiday benefit luncheon is a major fundraiser and 100 percent of the profit is spent on new clothing that will be distributed from the Christ Child Center on South Scott Street each Wednesday morning and Sunday afternoon. Referrals are made through local agencies and schools.

USF announces bachelor's degree in art history for spring 2009

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis has announced a new bachelor's degree in art history beginning in spring 2009.

The curriculum of bachelor of arts in art history carefully builds the visual, analytical, research, and writing skills that students need to conduct advanced art historical research. Beginning with survey courses aimed at establishing a broad-based knowledge of major developments in the history of art, the curriculum then progresses to upper-level seminars that provide students with the opportunity to examine a specific period in-depth. These seminars introduce students to the various methods of art historical scholarship and prepare them for their senior thesis.

The bachelor of arts in art history is designed for students interested in approaching the visual arts from a broad cultural and historical perspective. It provides students with a solid intellectual foundation for pursuing graduate degrees in art history or museum studies in preparation for careers as university professors or museum curators. It also provides a strong educational foundation for students interested in pursuing a variety of other career opportunities in museums, galleries and auction houses, and visual resources management — a sub-field of library sciences.

The bachelor of arts in art history introduces students to a variety of art historical methodologies and to the latest tools for conducting art historical research. Its curriculum supports the School of

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CELEBRATING 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCHOOL FOUNDING



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH-HESSEN CASSEL SCHOOL, FORT WAYNE

Students and staff of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School launched their celebration of 140 years as one of oldest area Catholic schools with a balloon launch. One-hundred-forty red, white and blue balloons were launched from the school's soccer field after a prayer was said. The balloons, in school colors, had the school's name and address attached in hope of future responses. The celebration committee is planning monthly activities for the student body including an "old time" dress up day, logo contest and a celebration on the 140th day of school. St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel currently educates 134 students pre-kindergarten through eighth grade and was founded by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

Creative Arts' mission to provide students with a personalized education in a creative and collaborative learning environment. In keeping with the School of Creative Arts' commitment to the personal, intellectual and professional growth of its students, the art history degree provides students with opportunities to exercise their knowledge in professional and independent contexts through the internship and senior thesis requirements.

At the April 2008 meeting, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design Commission on Accreditation granted approval for the University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts to implement a bachelor of art in art history degree. The commission commended the institution on a "well reasoned program demonstrating conscientious attention to academic rigor and national standards."

For more information call the School of Creative Arts at (260) 399-7700 ext. 8001. The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) is an accredited school by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Five graduates reelected to U.S. House

NOTRE DAME — Five University of Notre Dame graduates were reelected to the U.S.

House of Representatives in Nov. 4's election.

In Indiana, Democrat Joe Donnelly, a 1977 and '81 graduate, won a second term in Congress representing the 2nd District (in which Notre Dame is located); Democrat Peter Visclosky, a 1973 Notre Dame Law School graduate, won a 12th term in the 1st District; and Republican Mark Souder, who earned an MBA from Notre Dame in 1974, was elected to an eighth term in District 3.

Republicans Peter King and Dan Lungren also were reelected to their 10th and second terms in New York and California, respectively. King earned a law degree in 1968, and Lungren earned his bachelor's degree the same year.

Republican Rep. Mike Ferguson from New Jersey's 7th District did not seek reelection.

USF students raise awareness of homeless

FORT WAYNE — Beginning Friday, Nov. 14, at 8 p.m. and continuing until 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, more than 30 University of Saint Francis students will spend the night in boxes in front of Trinity Hall in the November weather to raise awareness for the homeless.

The students are asking members of the community to drop off lightly-used blankets and coats

outside of Trinity Hall in Fort Wayne from 5 to 11 p.m. on Nov. 14. All donations will be distributed to the homeless and needy in the community through local shelters.

This is a University of Saint Francis outreach and community awareness program. The Resident Hall Association (RHA) and the Resident Assistants (RAs) of Padua Hall are heading this event under the direction of David Stamile.

For more information on the program, please contact David Stamile at (260) 434-2119.

Computer animator and USF alumnus to speak about experiences

FORT WAYNE — Adam Green, an alumnus of the School of Creative Arts Computer Art program at the University of Saint Francis and computer animator for Walt Disney Feature Animations and Twentieth Century Fox Animation, will speak about his career, the movie industry and various processes of animation on Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the North Campus Auditorium.

Green has most recently worked on the upcoming Disney animated film "Bolt," as well as Twentieth Century Fox Animation's "Horton Hears a Who," based on the Ted Geisel (Dr. Seuss) 1954 book, which

opened in theaters this past March. Green is currently working at Blue Sky Studios on "Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs." Additionally, Green has worked as an animator for LucasArts on "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed" (Xbox 360) and for Shaba Games as an animator on "Shrek the Third" (PS2, Xbox 360), "Shrek SuperSlam" (PS2, Xbox, Gamecube, PC) and "Northpoint: Shape Masters" (DVD).

All Closer Look lectures and performances are free to the public. This year's series is made possible in part by Canon Explorers of Light, the Advertising Federation of Fort Wayne, Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information, contact Amy Schreiber at (260) 399-7700 ext. 8001. The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) is an accredited school by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Christ the King closes jubilee year

SOUTH BEND — After more than a year of celebration, the diamond jubilee of Christ the King Parish in South Bend comes to a close Nov. 23 at a special Mass celebrated by Congregation of Holy Cross, Indiana Province Provincial Father David Tyson. The day commemorates the patronal feast of the community's namesake and brings to a close the church's liturgical year.

The 75th anniversary celebration started in earnest with the beatification of Congregation of Holy Cross founder, Father Basil Moreau, on Sept. 15, 2007. The parish has been under the leadership of priests of the congregation since 1933.

The yearlong commemoration officially got underway on the parish feast day, Nov. 25, 2007, when Bishop John M. D'Arcy celebrated Mass alongside many of the priests who have served the parish over the past 25 years.

The yearlong celebration included monthly gatherings with evening prayer and many of the priests of the parish who shared their remembrances of the north central South Bend parish community. Concerts, picnics, service and prayer experiences were offered as well.

In June, 80 members of the parish made a pilgrimage to the St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Quebec, Canada to pray and learn more about the Holy Cross mission to make God known, loved and served.

One of the highlights of the yearlong fete took place on Oct. 17 when parishioners gathered to celebrate 75 years of being a parish family with a dinner and presentation of Christ the King, past and present. Honored guests included a number of charter parishioners, priests and religious who served the parish and a teacher who spent her career in the parish school.

The year will conclude with the observance of 40 hours beginning Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. with a special Mass and ending with Benediction at 5 p.m. Following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Nov. 23, a reception will be held in the lower level of the church.

Ancilla College athletics to support Heminger House

DONALDSON – The Ancilla College athletic department has announced it will partner with Heminger House Shelter for Women and Children during the scheduled Dec. 6 women's and men's basketball doubleheader against Kankakee Community College.

Held at the LifePlex, games will tip-off at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. respectively, with free admission. Organizers are asking fans to bring in gift cards to donate to Heminger House. A gift card tree will also be available at the LifePlex if fans wish to purchase gift cards at the game for donation.

The Heminger House is a center that provides shelter for victims of domestic abuse.

Both the women's and men's basketball teams will wear purple T-shirts that day, and fans are encouraged to do the same. Purple is considered the official color of domestic violence awareness.

"This is the beginning of a campaign in the athletic department to reach out to our local community to help those less privileged than we are," said Gene Reese, Ancilla College athletic director. "Ancilla College athletics recognizes that because we are blessed, it is our duty to serve the underprivileged."



PROVIDED BY ANCILLA COLLEGE

Gene Reese, athletic director, of Ancilla College is shown here with Linda Mullen-Clevenger, director of Heminger House and Todd Zeltwanger, executive director of institutional advancement at Ancilla College.

Future plans are also in place to hold a similar event to support Ounce of Prevention, a breast cancer awareness group, during a Feb. 14 doubleheader.

According to Reese, the athletic department is continuously looking for other worthwhile causes to support. Interested parties may contact Reese at (574) 936-8898 ext. 348 or Todd

Zeltwanger, executive director of institutional advancement at (574) 936-8898 ext. 345.

The LifePlex is located at the intersection of Pine Road and U.S. 30 in Plymouth.

Ancilla College is a Catholic, two-year, co-educational, liberal arts college in Donaldson sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

GARMAN RECOGNIZED FOR CATECHETICAL WORK



DIANE FREEBY

Sharon Garman, the director of religious education at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Waterloo, was awarded the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Award for her work in catechesis at the Catechetical Institute Day held Nov. 8 at Wawasee Middle School in Syracuse. "I love teaching the kids. To see the joy on their faces and to know you've imparted something on them is really special," she said.

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To remember in November

BY JENNIFER KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

God, we praise you! God, we bless you! God, we name you sovereign Lord! Mighty King whom angels worship, Father, by your church adored: All creation shows your glory, Heaven and earth draw near your throne, singing "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of hosts, and God alone! — Hymn: "God, We Praise You," Worship.

Scripture

"... And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?' He is God not of the dead, but of the living." And when the crowd heard it, they were astounded at his teaching. — Mt. 22: 31-33

Commentary

"You have entered a dead zone!" is one of the catch phrases in a current television commercial. It seems that Catholics enter a "dead zone" during November. There are reminders of death everywhere. Flowers have wilted; gardens are barren; leaves have fallen; and yet not only does nature remind us of death, but so too the church. The November Gospel readings include references of Jesus talking about the final judgment. Many parishioners are given the opportunity to include the names

of deceased family members, friends or fellow parishioners in memorial books. At my parish during November, a parishioner carries in the Book of the Names of the Dead during the entrance procession, and then it is placed on a stand prepared in the sanctuary. For those of us who celebrate birthdays during November, there is a feeling of polarity between celebrating life while we are reminded of our inevitable death.

My grandfather

It is during November that I especially remember my Grandpa McCullough. My mother's parents lived in Steubenville, Ohio. My family would visit them twice a year. One of the first things I would do — after greeting my grandparents, of course — was to grab my favorite cookies from the cookie jar and a soda from the fridge and sit on the back porch with grandpa. My grandparents' house was located on a hill just above the Ohio River. I especially enjoyed watching the barges slowly sailing along the river. As we watched the barges come and go, my grandpa and older sister would work on crossword puzzles, one of grandpa's favorite hobbies. Grandpa was nearly blind in his later years so my older sister would read the clues to grandpa and write in the answers for him. I thought grandpa was very intelligent because he seemed to come up with the answers immediately. I loved my grandpa. But on the morning of my



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ninth birthday, my grandpa died, leaving a special life and death bond between us. I can never celebrate my birthday without also remembering my grandpa, and each year I ponder the mysterious connection between life and death.

Communion of saints

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and life everlasting. Amen."

These are the last few verses of the Nicene Creed that we proclaim every Sunday. Even though the Nicene Creed is overflowing with facets of our faith, the phrase, "communion of saints," is an essential part of our Catholic faith and has personal meaning for me.

"The communion of saints includes the faithful on earth, the souls in purgatory, and blessed in heaven." — "U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults," page 160.

Whenever we come together as a community for Mass, we are united as the mystical body of Christ. The body of Christ does not just consist of those who gather at a specific church and time; instead we actually

join the eternal liturgy celebrated in heaven.

In particular, the church has a very special way of remembering the dead at every Mass. During the Eucharistic Prayer, there are a series of specific petitions to call down the Holy Spirit. One of the petitions pronounces the names of certain saints in heaven.

Jeremy Driscoll, OSB, explains in "What Happens at Mass" that in pronouncing these names, "All of them are present, and naming some is designed to make us aware of the presence of all." Driscoll continues, "All those named become present to us because God remembers them ... we enter already into our future where we will be perfectly joined together as one body in Christ."

God makes it possible that the entire body of Christ, both in heaven and on earth, is united. This can be hard to grasp because our concept of time is so limited by our humanity. We view time in a chronological fashion: past, present and future. However, God's time or sacred time is eternal and infinite. When the words of consecration are proclaimed at Mass, we, as baptized members of Christ's body and of the communion of

saints, enter into God's sacred time and join the communion of saints in the eternal liturgy in heaven.

It has been several years since my grandfather's death, and it gives me great comfort to know that the Mass allows me not only to remember him, but also to share a special bond with him through the communion of saints. It is truly awesome to know that at every Mass I am actually praying with my Grandpa McCullough. As you attend Mass, especially during the month of November, remember that your beloved deceased family members and friends are in communion with you and the entire church worshipping God.

Closing prayer

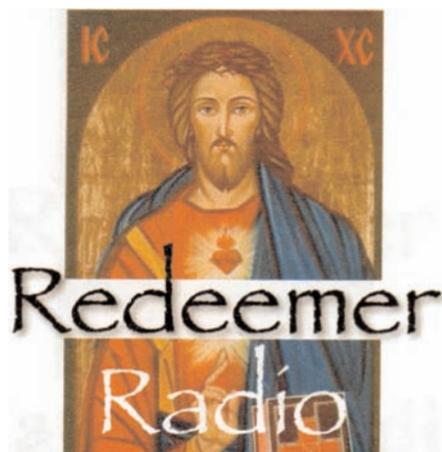
True apostles, faithful prophets, saints who set their world ablaze, martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, join one growing song of praise, while your church on earth confesses One majestic Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God, our hope eternally. — Hymn: "God, We Praise You," Worship.

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Notre Dame conference examines the contemporary family

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — For the ninth year in a row, the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture hosted top scholars and students from around this country and some from abroad for its annual conference Nov. 6-8.

This year's topic, "The Family: Searching for Fairest Love," was taken from Pope John Paul II's 1994 Letter to Families, which observed: "The contemporary family, like families in every age, is searching for fairest love."

Yet, the contemporary family is beset by some of the most difficult challenges ever, including difficulties in the areas of finances, law, politics, health and child care, demographics and culture. Even the basic concept of marriage is being challenged, as demonstrated by the various state propositions on the Nov. 4 ballot that sought to preserve the definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

Thus, the 130 presenters at the symposium — who ranged from a handful of college students to many well-known scholars — approached the topic from a variety of directions and a variety of disciplines, but with a consistent theme that the family should be esteemed and nourished as the cornerstone of society. And several speakers noted that the Catholic Church has been at the forefront in defending the family and urging a culture that nurtures and respects the family.

Since 2008 marks the 20th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's 1988 apostolic letter "Mulieris Dignitatem" ("On the Dignity and Vocation of Women") and the 40th anniversary of Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical "Humanae Vitae" ("On Human Life"), the conference also highlighted those two important church documents which relate closely to the family. Two of the invited speakers focused on "Humanae Vitae," which upheld the church's consistent teaching that contraception is immoral.



From left, Fred and Lisa Everett, co-directors of the Office of Family Life for the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were two of the invited speakers at the annual conference of Notre Dame's Center for Ethics and Culture. Center, professor Janet Smith, a leading authority on the encyclical "Humanae Vitae," spoke about the influence of Pope John Paul II on the encyclical's content. And at right, professor Helen Alvare of George Mason University and formerly the U.S. bishops' spokesperson on pro-life issues, talked about American family law.



ANN CAREY

Natural law expert John Finnis opened the conference with his keynote lecture, "On Retranslating 'Humanae Vitae.'" Finnis, who is a law professor at Notre Dame and at Oxford University, said he did his own translation of the encyclical from the official Latin text because he found all of the exist-

ing English translations lacking, with some being "prudish" and "evasive."

"Humanae Vitae" was "a momentous expression of how love should be expressed if authentic," Finnis said.

Professor Finnis further noted that in the 40 years since "Humanae Vitae," Pope Paul VI has been proven right in his prediction that severing sex from the procreation of children would cause devastating problems like breakdown of the family and depopulation, as well as bioethical horrors like abortion, freezing and experimenting on human embryos, and generations of children fathered by sperm donors the children will never know.

Professor Janet Smith, who has written extensively on "Humanae Vitae," spoke on "Conscious Parenthood," which she said is a more precise translation of the encyclical's intent than the more common translation of "responsible parenthood." Smith holds the Father Michael J. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and this semester is a scholar in residence at St. Paul's Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.

Smith explained that when "Humanae Vitae" was being written, Pope John Paul II was then Archbishop of Krakow and had a major influence on the contents of the encyclical. He had been named to the commission advising the pope on birth control, but was prohibited by the communist Polish government from attending the commission meetings. John Paul II nevertheless established his own commission in Poland to study the issue and wrote a document defending church teaching, which

Paul VI had access to when writing "Humanae Vitae."

Thus, Smith said, no other person was better able to defend and explain "Humanae Vitae," and indeed John Paul II spent a great deal of time during his pontificate doing just that in various encyclicals, exhortations, letters and of course his theology of the body series.

Other invited speakers included Elizabeth Schiltz of the University of St. Thomas School of Law, speaking on Catholic feminism; Helen Alvare of George Mason University School of Law, on American family law; Gilbert Meilaender of Valparaiso University on medicalizing childhood; Francis Beckwith of Baylor University on the family; William Saunders of the Family Research Council on international human rights law and the family; James McKenna of Notre Dame on parental care giving; Philip Bess of Notre Dame on families and neighborhoods; and David Lyle Jeffrey on courtly love.

Also, Thomas Hibbs of Baylor on the family in crisis; Michael Waldstein of Ave Maria University on the pastoral method of Pope John Paul II; Msgr. Charles Brown of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on the family and church in the first millennium; H. Tristram Engelhardt, Jr., of Rice University on rights of children and the family; Sarah Borden of Wheaton College and a 2008-09 fellow at the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture on Aristotelian feminism; and Fred and Lisa Everett, directors of the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, speaking on the church of the home.

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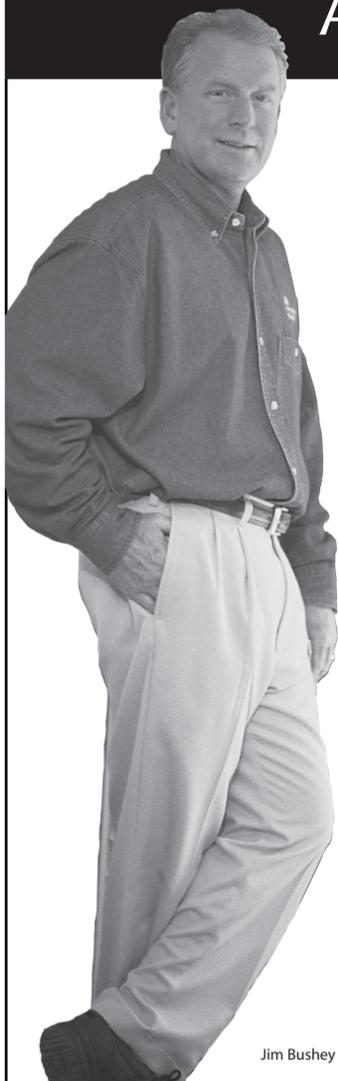
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SENIORS

Msgr. Lester reflects on past, looks to future

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — As one of the most senior priests in the diocese, Msgr. J. William Lester has seen many changes in the community in more than half a century. He has played an integral part in developing the Catholic schools of today and speaks positively about the state of the current Catholic school infrastructure.

Msgr. Lester was the principal of the former Central Catholic High School for several years.

During one of the summer breaks, he took it upon himself to conduct a statistical study of the children in the area through the 12th grade using baptismal records. He knew from the daily reminders of the growing student body that the Catholic student population was again on the rise. They had already added on to Central Catholic High School as an intermediate fix, but the predicted influx of Catholic students for the near future taunted the priest.

Msgr. Lester presented his findings from the study to then Bishop John F. Noll, who was on

his month-long retreat at Bishop's Island on Sylvan Lake, Rome City. Msgr. Lester said that Bishop's Island was only accessible by row boat.

Upon reviewing Msgr. Lester's findings, Bishop Noll simply and directly stated, "We'll have to build more schools." Soon after that proclamation, the Allen County High School Drive was launched in order to raise money to build the schools.

The plan was simple: build where the people are. The plan was to build on the south side of Fort Wayne because the railroad that separated the city to the north was not entirely raised yet. Bishop Luers High School was soon constructed. After the elevation of the railroad was completed, families began to migrate to the north side of town and Bishop Dwenger High School was built.

When asked about the chronology of his priesthood, Msgr. Lester said that the following events stood out in his mind.

Around 1944, the Diocese of Lafayette was formed and that area separated from the Fort Wayne diocese.

Likewise, the Diocese of Gary was formed in 1957.

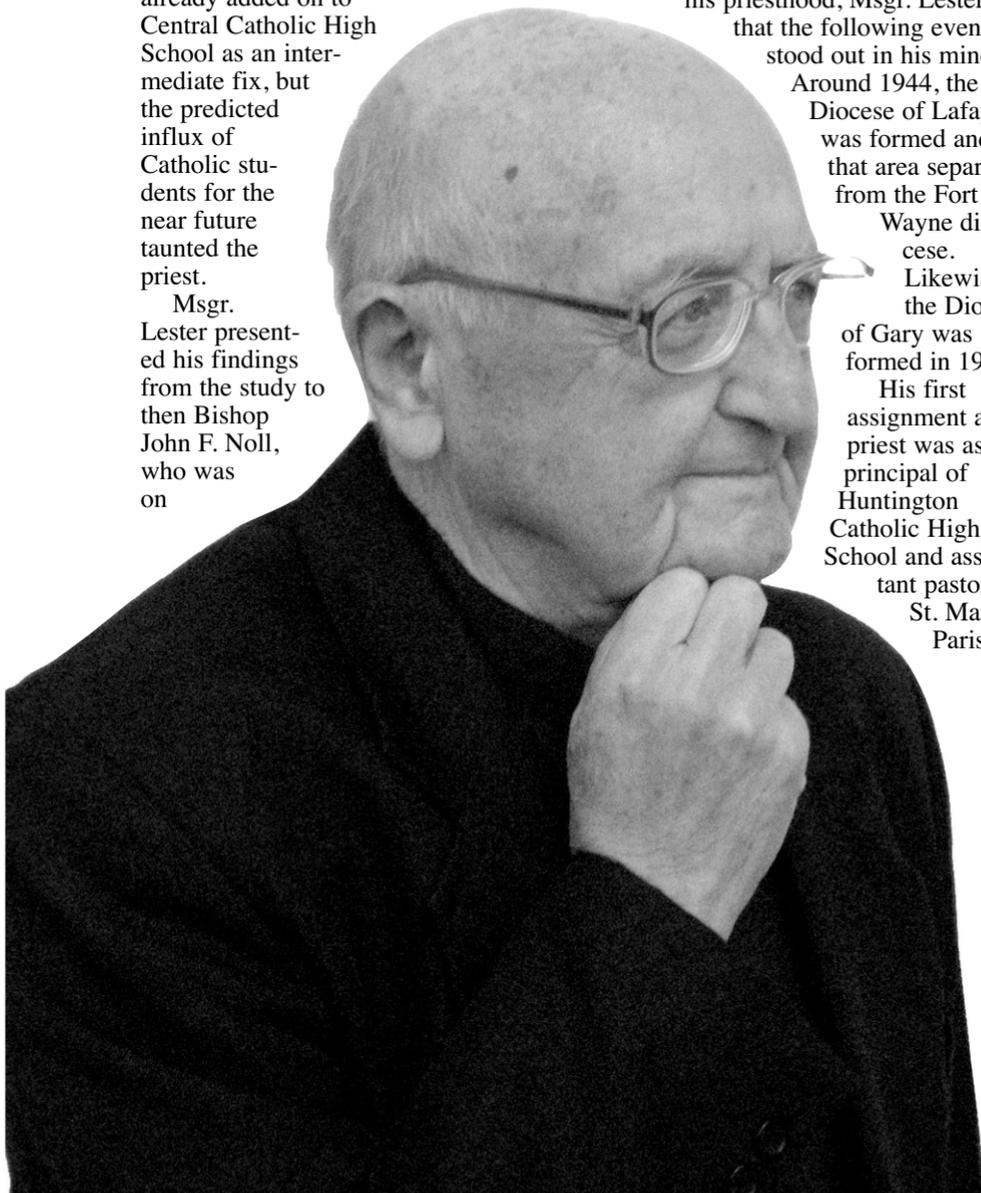
His first assignment as a priest was as principal of Huntington Catholic High School and assistant pastor at St. Mary Parish in

Huntington. After six years, Msgr. Lester was asked to become principal of Central Catholic High School and live at Saint Francis College. During his tenure at Central Catholic, he saw Marian High School in Mishawaka built. He recalls that these Catholic high schools were all built and curriculum established in a 10 to 15 year time period — no small feat back then.

Msgr. Lester has seen parish school boards and administrative committees established. The hiring of lay teachers was also a big change for a Catholic parish. Prior to the hiring of lay teachers, religious communities ran the schools often independent of parish involvement. Sisters and nuns answered to their community, not to the pastor. The religious communities brought the curriculum that was to be taught to the children with them. When so many left their religious communities after Vatican II, diocesan involvement was needed to hire laity in order to keep the Catholic schools open. Curriculum, benefits packages and uniform salary scales for the lay teachers were then established for the first time.

Reflecting upon some new challenges facing the diocese, Msgr. Lester says the amalgamation of schools and the decline of enrollment is top of mind. He says that it is interesting that Bishop Noll wanted one Catholic church in each county seat. While that dream never became a reality due to the size of families and fewer priests today, new churches are being built and others are being closed, especially in the inner cities in order to accommodate the changing demographics of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Catholic population.

When asked what good has come from all of the change over the years, Msgr. Lester chuckles and says, "Same church. Same priests." But he further points out that the development of boards and committees to meet the needs of priests, the installation of parish councils and finance committees, and the centralization of efforts thanks to computers have all been beneficial. He says that the diocese has been "blessed with forward looking bishops" and has the need to keep some things localized to the parish level while centralizing other issues. Msgr. Lester, as one who has acquired much wisdom over the years, is hoping and praying for a "healthy marriage of the two."



Longtime service to Matthew 25 awarded

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

Ted Kurek knows actions speak louder than words. That's why he has been a volunteer at Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic, 413 E. Jefferson Blvd., for 33 years.

Kurek was recently awarded the *Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly's* 2008 Health Care Heroes Award for his unwavering commitment to the clinic. The award recognizes people in the local healthcare community who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. Award winners were selected from nominations received by *Business Weekly*. Newspaper staff members and sponsors of Health Care Heroes judged the nominations, selecting a winner and runner-up in five categories: advancements in health care, community achievement, medical professional, physician and volunteer.

Kurek, who was honored Oct. 2 with a reception for his volunteer achievement, has been a pivotal figure since the clinic's inception in 1975. The idea stemmed from a prayer group at

St. Mary Church downtown, who were concerned about the underserved population in the area, many of whom frequented the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, Kurek explained.

"We talk a lot about the Gospel, but what do we do?" he said the group asked themselves.

The answer was a free medical clinic. The group committed their time, talent and energy to opening a facility May 1, 1975 on Clay Street in downtown Fort Wayne.

Like any new venture, Kurek knew it would take a long-term commitment for the clinic to succeed.

"Father Tom O'Conner had told us, 'do not start this clinic if you're gonna go home in six months,'" Kurek recalled.

With one doctor serving as many as 50 patients in an evening, the founders were praying for more help. Their prayers were answers when more doctors joined the volunteer team. Four years later, the clinic became incorporated. Kurek became president of the board in 1980 and has remained active in the organization hence force.

Still humble about his involvement, Kurek said he was in the right place at the right time.

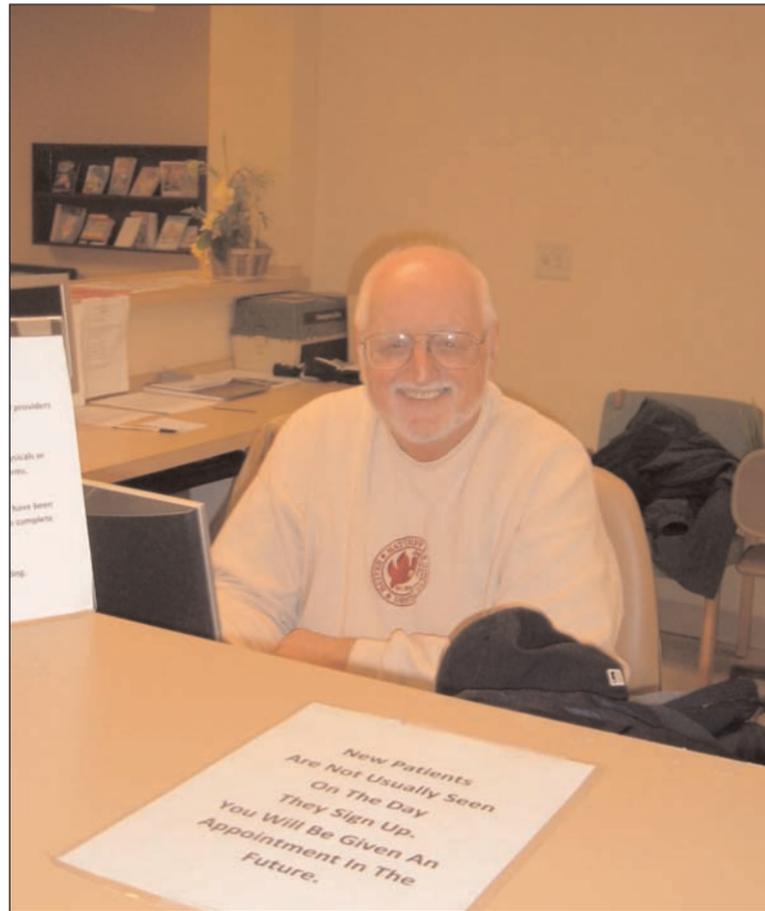
"I don't know if I'm a founder ... I just happened to be here," he said.

Today Matthew 25 is a non-profit clinic that caters to the underserved, uninsured, low-income resident in Allen County by providing free medical, dental and vision services. Donations from the community have allowed for the equipment of 13 medical exam rooms, eight dental chairs and a state-of-the-art vision machine.

Kurek has seen many milestones in the clinic's history, including the addition of dental services, a new location and an expansion. But one thing has remained consistent over the years — his commitment to the success of the clinic.

Thirty-five paid staff and 400 volunteers serve 130 patients and receive as many as 800 phone calls and 2,000 messages daily, Kurek said. As the front desk attendant, Kurek greets patients and directs them to the specific area of the clinic.

"We try to help (the needy) the



LAUREN CAGGIANO

Ted Kurek is shown at the reception desk of Matthew 25 where he greets and directs clients. He was awarded the Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly's 2008 Health Care Heroes Award for his unwavering commitment to the clinic.



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best way we can," Kurek said summing up his role.

On the job, Kurek said he has seen his share of sad situations, but it's God that helps them make do. Although not a Catholic organization per se, Matthew 25 is faith-based, Kurek said.

"Whatever happens, happens," he said. "We do whatever we can ... if there's need, we try to answer it. We've always operated out of faith. To me, the Holy Spirit has this place."

Kurek said his upbringing by working class Polish-American immigrants has shaped his faith life. He said he recalls his mother feeding the poor during the Great Depression. His father used to fix

shoes for needy people. In this way it was the poor helping each other, he said.

Just like his generous parents, Kurek said Matthew 25 is a testimony to the life of Jesus.

"It's our living out the Gospel ... it's not us trying to tell someone else," he said. "It's unbelievable how God watched over us."

Kurek said the best part of the job is working with the workers. "Watching them for what they do, how they try," he said is particularly gratifying.

In closing, Kurek said the work at Matthew 25 is more than just a job.

"It's not a job...it's a mission," he said.

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A butterfly

Can it teach us anything about our own maturing?

BY SISTER ANGELITA FENKER

Many people use this amazing creation as a sign of breaking out from previous ways of believing or behaving. (It's Al-Anon's symbol) Then, the image fades. We each have "wormy" parts of life when we feel that all we can do is crawl around, survive on what's known, and insulate ourselves against threats. When we exit our comfort zone, (whatever binds) and take risks, we feel free, and flight seems unlimited once our wings have dried. No one can free us of that temporarily needed safe environment. We must choose to break out and take necessary steps to fly. If someone would remove the butterfly's cocoon, it couldn't fly. It needs both the cocoon and the struggle to get out in order to grow into a more mature, magnificent masterpiece. We do also.

At our present age, we're a lot like this lovely creature. We've outgrown previous stages and have begun to fly. What's next? Is this where the image stops?

Both we and the butterfly are powerless over growing older. The butterfly seems delighted with its maturing and adapts to a fresh way of living in newfound freedom; it accepted what it couldn't change, and changed what it could by not giving up.

Sounds like step one in A. A., doesn't it? There is a parallel. Until we accept all stages in our life's journey as needed for maturing, and relish our present age, we'll never be able to change what we can, move on, and develop more wholly into a wise, life-giving adult.

Wisdom takes effort, merely aging doesn't. Growing older, making mistakes and learning from them builds wisdom. This lived wisdom is what we can pass on to others to enable them to discover their own. This is essential to our legacy.

The symbol of the developing butterfly offers insights. How? After the butterfly emerges it generates new life and flits around just being beautiful. As it does, it touches flowers. It picks up pollen from one and deposits it on the next causing it to become more lovely; brushing that one does the same for the next. Life picked up from one flower is shared with the next because of the butterfly's slight contact.

If the butterfly could speak, it might say: "I was powerless over changing from a caterpillar, to a protective cocoon, to the pain I felt as I gave up that refuge by pushing and wiggling out of it. I really hated to give up what I knew for the unknown. But, I'm overjoyed that I changed what I could. I kept struggling. I helped a resurrection

happen, and wow! I never could have dreamed what God had in store for me. I hate to think what would have happened if I'd stayed where I was! I would have missed the best part of my life. Think of all the flowers which would have been less beautiful, or dried up and withered, if I had not pollinated them. What a glorious gift God gave me. I'm elated that I changed what I could. I kept thriving, not just surviving.

If I, a mere butterfly, can accept things I can't change, and struggle to change things I can, how much more so you? My soul (life principle) can (1) take nutrition and give life; (2) have locomotion and move around at will; and (3) use my five senses and my instinct.

But you! Your soul, your life principle, empowers you with the three abilities I have and more!

You have two other soul-qualities I can't share: (1) the power to think and imagine; and (2) the ability to desire and decide, and then to will freely and to make choices freely based on your desiring and deciding. Further, your soul is permeated with your spirit, where God lives. The resiliency of your human spirit is incredible and magnificent if you choose to let it emerge.

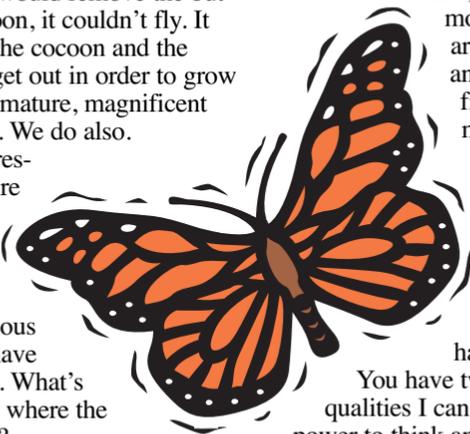
This God-energy, enables you to grow older gracefully by using all five powers to make the world a better place in which to live. Simply be your best; pollinate the world with God love through yours. Incredible potential!

Choose life, accept what you can't change, change what you can because of God's radiant life within you. God always has a life-generating dream for each new stage of life: a God-dream. I found mine; you have only to discover yours with prayer and God's grace. You'll rejoice with gratitude knowing that all apparent obstacles were and are actually disguised opportunities. Now: go fly!"

Reflect

1. What's your magnetic God-dream? How can you use it to fly and pollinate the world?
2. As you grow older, is your spotlight on grow, or older?

Sister Angelita Fenker has been involved in education at all levels for over 60 years. Her doctorate is in spirituality with a focus on holistic family spirituality.



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Hilda Farrell stands with Father Terry Fisher, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka, at the newly constructed replica of the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in the memorial gardens at St. Paul's Sanctuary in South Bend. Farrell was instrumental in the construction of the grotto.



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Lourdes grotto is a gift of love at Sanctuary

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

SOUTH BEND — “Just spread her love. That is all that matters,” says Hilda Farrell, a resident at the Sanctuary at St. Paul’s, whose dream it was to make a replica of the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in the memorial gardens there.

Farrell, a native of Puerto Rico, has had a great devotion to the Blessed Mother since early childhood. She loved to hear her mother tell the story of St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes. “She is one of my blessings. I call her ‘Mamita,’ which means little mother.”

Farrell retired after 15 years of nursing at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in South Bend and then spent the month of May for the next 16 years volunteering at the grotto in Lourdes, France, where she assisted the many sick who came to bathe in the healing waters.

“Originally I went for one year and was so taken that I kept on going. It was my yearly spiritual transfusion!”

“When I came to live at St. Paul’s I would walk around the grounds and see all the memorials in honor of various people and thought, ‘Why not a grotto for Our Lady of Lourdes whom I have loved and been devoted to since childhood?’” Eventually she shared her idea with supportive staff members, Shari Binkley,

Mike Moser and Will Braniff, and got the project rolling. She purchased a granite statue of Our Lady from the Divine Mercy store in South Bend, and then decided to send it back to be painted so “people with poor eyesight could see her.” In the meantime the landscaping company was given a picture of the original shrine in Lourdes to “try to make it as real as possible.”

The grotto was completed Sept. 23, the anniversary of Farrell’s arrival at the Sanctuary at St. Paul’s. She is quick to say that she doesn’t consider it a coincidence that the official title of the baths in Lourdes is “Sanctuaries de Notre Dame de Lourdes.”

Farrell’s heart overflowed with joy when Father Terry Fisher, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka, blessed the statue on the feast of the Holy Rosary, Oct. 7. The plaque on the statue reads, “A gift of love from James and Hilda Farrell.”

This gift of love has already touched many hearts. So far Farrell says the greatest compliment has been from a non-Catholic resident who thanked her for the grotto. She told her that she sits in front of it every day and it gives her peace.

“The thanks goes to Jesus,” she says. “I told him he better make it nice because it was for his mother.” Jesus definitely heard her prayer.

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IRA charitable rollover extended for two more tax years

On Oct. 3, 2008, President George W. Bush signed legislation, which included an extension of the IRA charitable rollover. The extension is retroactive and applies to transfers made throughout both the 2008 and 2009 tax years.

The extension allows donors who are age 70 1/2 or older to transfer funds directly from their individual retirement account (IRA) to a public charitable organization without including the transfer in gross income for federal income tax purposes. The IRA charitable rollover was originally included in the Pension Protection Act of 2006 for transfers in tax years 2006 and 2007.

Before the IRA charitable rollover, if a donor wanted to use IRA funds for a charitable contribution, he/she would have had to withdraw the funds from his/her IRA account and then contribute the money to the charity. The amount withdrawn was taxable income and reportable on the individual's income tax return. Depending on whether the donor qualified to itemize deductions, he/she could take a charitable deduction for the amount given to charity, but only up to 50 percent of adjusted gross income.

Currently, for tax years 2008 and 2009, charitable gifts from IRAs can be accomplished simply and free of federal income tax. With these tax benefits, you can make gifts from your IRA while you are living and witness the good works which your gifts can provide now to your parish, school or other diocesan agency. You can also make gifts from your IRA to satisfy pledges from the Legacy of Faith campaign and/or the Annual Bishop's Appeal campaign.

Certain limitations apply to these nontaxable IRA charitable distributions. First of all, the donor may contribute IRA funds if he/she is



ELISA SMITH

age 70 1/2 or older on the date of the distribution, the qualified charitable distribution must not exceed \$100,000 in the aggregate in the tax year, and funds are transferred directly from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA to a public charity. Funds from a SEP-IRA or Simple IRA can be transferred only if the employer is no longer making contributions to the plans.

Moreover, these gifts can only be transferred to one or more public charities but not private foundations, supporting organizations or donor advised funds. Also, the gifts must be outright; for instance, they cannot be used to establish a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. And the transfers cannot be from employer-sponsored retirement plans, such as 401(k)s, and 403(b)s.

PLANNED GIVING

Example: John, aged 80, has \$450,000 in an IRA and has pledged to give \$75,000 this year to his parish. If John transfers \$75,000 from the IRA, he will avoid paying federal income tax on that amount.

Another benefit of this legislation is that the funds transferred from your IRA to a charity count toward your mandatory withdrawal or required minimum distribution you must take each year after reaching age 70 1/2.

Example: Suppose Mary has \$700,000 in an IRA and will be required to withdraw approximately \$35,000 this year. And suppose that Mary wants to contribute \$10,000 to her parish school this year. She can authorize the trustee of her IRA to transfer \$10,000 to the parish school and \$25,000 to her. The \$10,000 distributed to charity will not be subject to federal income tax.

Donors who may find this new provision of making charitable contributions from an IRA especially appealing will be those who do not itemize deductions, would not be able to deduct all of their charitable deductions because of deduction limits, may have a phase-out of their itemized deductions because of their income level, or are required to take minimum distribution withdrawals even though they do not need them for living expenses.

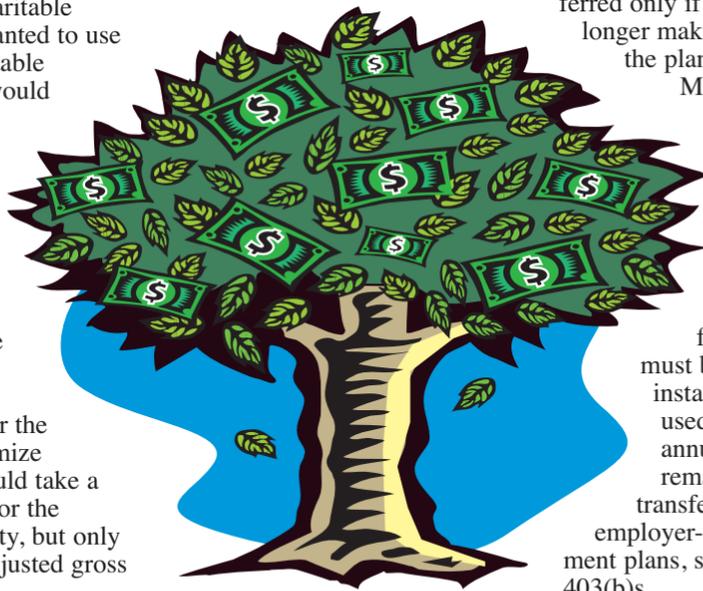
The IRA charitable rollover

can also benefit donors who receive social security and are taxed on these benefits depending on how much taxable income they receive from other sources, including withdrawals from IRAs. Accordingly, money in an IRA that is rolled over to a charity, rather than first withdrawn and then contributed to the charity, can have the effect of reducing taxes on Social Security payments.

The first step in making a charitable gift from your IRA is to contact your IRA custodian to transfer your desired gift amount directly to your parish, school or other diocesan agency. If the funds are distributed to you followed by a contribution to the charity, you will still have to report the withdrawal as income.

Note: This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended for tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor.

Elisa M. Smith, CPA/PFS, is director of Planned Giving for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and Director of Financial Planning for Haines, Isenbarger & Skiba, LLC in Fort Wayne.



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Open the door for the homebound

Caring actions can cheer up a confined person

BY LISA M. PETSCHÉ

When someone is confined to their home due to convalescence from an illness, recovery from surgery or chronic illness or disability, their world shrinks considerably. It's easy to become disconnected.

Unfortunately, in our increasingly mobile society, family support for seniors in such situations is often limited. With people marrying later and having fewer children, our elders may find themselves isolated from family. Even if adult children live nearby, they're likely to be busy juggling careers and families of their own.

I would like to share some ideas for supporting a friend or relative who is homebound and helping him or her stay engaged in life.

Accept that you may have to make most of the effort in the relationship, since the person may be preoccupied with health issues and daily living activities. Plan to call or visit when you're not in a rush. Arrange a regular time to get together.

Allow the person to express emotions freely. Illness and disability affect people physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. But although there may be similarities, no two people experience it the same way. Listen attentively, demonstrate compassion and provide encouragement.

Encourage the person to practice self-care by eating nutritiously, exercising (if appropriate), getting adequate rest and avoiding unnecessary stress. Also encourage him to keep medical appointments. Do whatever you can to help make this happen. For example, bring over a meal or offer to drive him to an appointment.

Ask what kind of practical help the person could use. Perhaps it's dusting and vacuuming, doing laundry or running errands. If your assistance is declined, continue to

express your desire to help. Meanwhile, take it upon yourself to deliver a casserole or muffins or, if you're a neighbor, sweep both walks or bring in both sets of garbage cans. Encourage the person to ask for help rather than struggle alone.

Bring a surprise gift, such as a favorite movie, magazine or food treat, fresh flowers or a plant or a gift certificate to a favorite restaurant that has takeout and delivery service. If you're on a limited income, sign out reading material, movies or music the person would enjoy from the public library.

Help a female friend feel good about her appearance. Offer to style her hair or do her nails, for example. Put together a pamper kit of items to give her a lift, such as a relaxation CD containing sounds of nature, scented candles, fragrant shower gel or body lotion and gourmet tea.

Encourage the person to cultivate some solitary pastimes — such as taking up word puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, writing or sketching — that bring pleasure or fulfillment and enable her to enjoy her own company. She may also wish to explore home-based volunteer opportunities — providing telephone reassurance or participating in a parish prayer network, for example.

Help the person maintain connections to the outside world by sharing news about family, friends and current events. Bring a newspaper or newsmagazine with you.

If the person is connected with a faith community, offer to look into available social ministries, such as eucharistic ministry to the homebound, telephone support, friendly visiting and transportation. If you attend the same church, provide a copy of the parish bulletin.

Encourage the person to get a computer and teach him how to use it. Internet access can help him stay connected to loved ones, keep up with local and world news and gather health-related information, among other things. He can also play games like chess and bridge and connect with others in a similar situation through Internet message boards and chat rooms.

If mobility issues are preventing the person from accessing the community, encourage her to rent or buy a walker, electric scooter or wheelchair and help facilitate this. Research wheelchair taxi options or help her register with the local accessible transportation service if appropriate. Then plan an outing together.

Offer to get information about community resources, such as home health care services, friendly visiting programs, shopping services, meals on wheels and accessible recreation and leisure programs. The local office on aging and the local community information service are good resources.

Lisa M. Petsché is a clinical social worker and a freelance writer specializing in spirituality, family life and elder care.

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CNS PHOTO/BRIAN PICKERING, THE TIDINGS

Gene Detmer of Arcadia, Calif., poses with his grandson Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Brad Lidge in late August. Lidge, who struck out Eric Hinske of the Tampa Bay (Fla.) Rays to clinch the 2008 World Series Oct. 29, was "a very gutsy guy" in the playoffs, said his grandfather.

Grandfather an inspiration for Phillies baseball star on and off the field

BY R.W. DELLINGER

ARCADIA, Calif. (CNS) — Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Brad Lidge, who struck out Eric Hinske of the Tampa Bay (Fla.) Rays to clinch the 2008 World Series Oct. 29 was "a very gutsy guy" in the playoffs, said his grandfather, Gene Detmer of Arcadia.

The 85-year-old retired furniture manufacturer was thinking of Lidge's two crucial saves in the Phillies' 4-1 series win.

"To get behind a hitter doesn't throw him off stride. He's very disciplined. And from that point of view, he's thinking this is not the time to panic — this is the time to bear down," Detmer told The Tidings, newspaper of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, in an interview at his suburban home.

Detmer recalled visiting his grandson in Denver, where the young man grew up in St. Thomas More Parish and served as an altar boy.

During one of those trips, the then-4-year-old ran up to him and exclaimed, "I'm gonna play baseball." He and Brad promptly proceeded to the backyard, where Grandpa rolled a ball to his beaming grandson.

Detmer also remembered how the high school outfielder's pitching career started when his coach witnessed what an arm the adolescent had throwing the ball back to the infield. He asked, "Did you ever try pitching?"

According to family folklore, Brad answered "Nope," and his amazed coach said, "Why don't you try?"

Brad did, later earning an athletic scholarship to the University of Notre Dame in Indiana. After his junior-year season, he was a first-round draft pick by the Houston Astros in 1998.

Lidge played in the minor leagues, overcoming a torn rotator cuff and broken forearm with steadfast determination, and he made his major league debut April 26, 2002, against the Atlanta Braves.

By the summer of 2004, the

Astros had moved him from setup man to closer, and he set a National League relievers' record with 157 strikeouts. But the next

PHILLIES, PAGE 19



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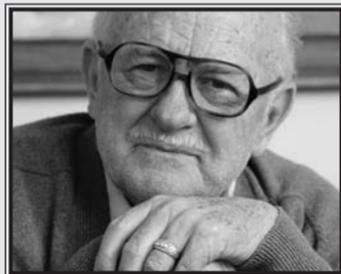
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Centenarian faithful servant and jack-of-all-trades

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Marie Helmkamp will argue the fact that she is 101, saying the first year of life isn't counted, though her birth year is 1907. But at 100 or 101 this feisty, adventurous woman has seen her share of life.

Born on a farm in Cloverdale, Ohio, to Frank and Josephine, Marie was the fifth of eight children. Parishioners of St. Barbara Parish, the faithful family attended Mass regularly, prayed the family rosary, morning and evening prayers in German and attended the Catholic school run by Precious Blood Sisters there.

Her youth revolved around church and she recalls the family's familiarity with the priests in the area. "My dad's sister was the priest's housekeeper, so we were always in the priest's life," she says. Her faith, she adds, has always been important to her.

She recalls difficult times during her youth, including having to give up her family's beloved horse to the World War I effort. As farmers, the Helmkaeps were required to provide much of their produce to the government as well.

She also recalls with reverence experiencing miracles as well, as a 10 year old during the flu epidemic when whole families with only outdoor plumbing were stricken and quarantined, she remained healthy throughout.

Helmkamp will be the first to admit she was never a straight-A student, beginning school in the first grade at age 4 and graduating at 14. She enjoyed bowling, baseball, golf and music lessons as a youth.

At the tender age of 14, she was sent to Fort Wayne where she was engaged in housekeeping. But, with the advice of her aunt there, she was soon applying to General Electric Company where

she represented herself as an 18 year old and was eventually hired to do assembly work.

"I was never without a job," says the century-old woman, who believes that each job was a blessing from God. She worked her way up to bookkeeping and accounting, and has also held positions in law offices, as a traffic manager, in retail and eventually a position with the F.B.I. in Washington, D.C., and New York City. She also volunteered her time at the local hospitals, Catholic Charities and other service programs.

Helmkamp was able to save enough money during the difficult economic times of the Depression to move her parents to Fort Wayne, where they settled into life at St. Peter Parish. She recalls adventurous times when she and friends bowled together on a competitive team of which she was the captain. "I remember competing against the Shriners. I bowled a 298," she admits proudly.

This fearless follower of Christ says she has seen her share of sorrow in her life. Two of her siblings died at young ages and in 1931, one of her dearest friends drowned in a boating accident in which Helmkamp herself was miraculously rescued just short of her own drowning following her desperate prayer to St. Anthony. Her deep grief was complicated again by her father's death in 1936.

By 1941, she had married her beloved husband Henry Fitzgerald, a member of the United States Navy and survivor of Pearl Harbor. Together they had one son, Denis. Several years later she and her son moved from New York to Fort Wayne to live closer to family. The years that followed were full.

Fast-forward to 1985 when at 78 Helmkamp retired. But that didn't stop her from continuing to embrace her deeply rooted work ethic. She found purpose as a resident agent with Senior Citizen, Inc. where she assisted seniors with a variety of services.

At 80 she spent a year in Chicago supporting her son and his four children following the untimely death of his young wife. His youngest, at age two and a half, needed additional care as she was discovered to have cancer. But Helmkamp was not disheartened in the face of this hardship.

"I prayed to St. Anne," she recalls and reports happily that her granddaughter is 25 now and a college graduate.

A parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for many years, Helmkamp has been involved in several ministries including cleaning and mending vestments, and assisting with the initial set up of the Cathedral Museum housed then in the cathedral school building. She found great joy in assisting some of the priests from foreign lands with their English language skills as well.

"Faith is part of it. Doing things is a part of my faith. I see something and I try to fix it," says the faithful caretaker who has seen so much change in this town and

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patients, their families and their caregivers, but our efforts can have more impact and we can be of even greater assistance when we have time to help all those involved."

1. "Timing of Referral to Hospice..." Journal of Pain and Symptom Management; *Med Care* 2000;38:528-41.



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MARIE HELMKAMP

at her beloved cathedral.

Throughout her long and adventurous lifetime, Helmkamp revels in her ties to the church. "I always went to Mass, even in New York and Washington, D.C. ... I pray the stations in the cathedral chapel and have sung in Latin choirs in several churches," she says matter-of-factly. Later she recalls attending Mass every day of the three years her son was stationed in Vietnam. "My faith helped bring him home," she says with confidence.

Other services she joyfully offered include making applesauce from her own apple trees for St. Mary Soup Kitchen. She enjoyed playing the piano and organ until 1998 when she offered her organ to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Warsaw. Her framed embroidery and cross-stitch works grace the walls of her apartment and she continues to crochet, even taking

to mending the worn places of the cathedral chapel altar cloths.

What does she attribute her long purpose-driven life to? "I'm just an ordinary person who likes people. ... I love my family and am proud of their individual accomplishments. ... I love my vegetables. Going to noon Mass at the cathedral is part of my diet too. And I did love to dance," she says smiling.

What does the future hold for this servant of God's people? "I like to preserve fruits and vegetables and I'd like to go to Nigeria and help the people make gardens there." This amazing centenarian sums herself up humorously by saying, "I'm a jack-of-all-trades but master of none."

"It's all a mystery," she says of life, adding, "It's not perfect but there are a lot of blessings!"

Who can argue with that?

PHILLIES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

year, when the team went to its first World Series, he gave up the winning runs in two games as the Chicago White Sox swept the Astros.

In 2006, the young reliever seemed to lose some of his confidence. He had six blown saves, his ERA soared to 5.28, and the following year he lost his closer's role. Before the 2008 season Lidge was traded to the Phillies.

After a late spring start because of a knee injury and subsequent surgery, something almost magical happened. His four-seam fastball was back up to 96 mph and his hard slider was breaking sharper than ever. Lidge was named 2008 Major League Baseball Comeback Player of the Year.

Even his baseball aficionado grandfather, who coached his own sons and other youngsters in

amateur ball, was truly awed.

"I knew he was delighted to be traded, because the good Lord was watching over him, but I didn't realize the difference coaching makes even at that level," Detmer said. "He mentioned to me that he was mentally set right by the new coaching."

For his part, Lidge credits his grandfather for much of his success on the ball field.

"One of the best memories I have growing up is being outside in his front yard in Pasadena and playing catch with him," he said during a recent interview at Dodger Stadium.

When he visited his grandparents in Los Angeles, "the Dodgers were my team," he said. "He took me to Dodger and Angel games. He also taught me how to score a game. I have a lot of great memories."

He said he was inspired by his grandfather's baseball knowledge and treasure trove of memorabilia, but he has had an impact on the player's life overall. Lidge and his wife, Lindsay, have one

daughter, Avery Grace, and a baby on the way.

"He's been a big role model for me in terms of my beliefs and shaping my values and morals," Lidge said. "He's been a big influence on me. Just to hear his wisdom and how he just goes about describing things day to day, he's classic."

He described his grandfather as "generous and accommodating."

"It's very inspiring for me to have such a great example. I hope when I'm his age I can give back the way he does, too," he said.

Detmer is somewhat amazed — and more than a little proud — that his grandson, the jock, is studying online for a degree in religious studies from Jesuit-run Regis University in Denver, and has plans to earn a doctorate in religious history so he can teach at the university level when his playing days are done.

The IRA Charitable Rollover is back for 2008 and 2009!

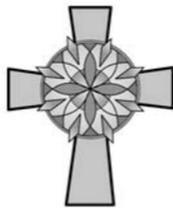
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- You must be 70 1/2 or older on the date of the transfer.
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EDITORIAL

A season of change

Perhaps it's fitting to address the topic of "seniors" during the season of autumn.

As we gaze out a window observing the maturing leaves, some blaze with color before turning brown and falling to the ground. Others keep their green for a long time. And even though eventually turning brown, many manage to hang on to the tree throughout the winter.

Similarly, seniors with the courage to glance into a mirror will notice hairs growing gray before falling to the floor. Others keep their original color well into maturity, and even manage to remain intact atop the head for long while.

As the seasons of autumn and one's life roll by year after year, the painful truth of aging begins to take its toll. Both the tree and person begin to bend with age as bark and skin lose their elasticity, and limbs are less limber to withstand the adversities of age. But should we hold a wake and lament the passing of the spring and summer of our short lives, as sadly we embrace the autumn of age? No, get away from the mirror and resume the rest of your life. Wakes are for the dead!

Are you a senior that never will be satisfied just sitting around being bored? Is retirement the last thing on your mind? If so, you are not alone.

Most seniors want to fill their day with a little excitement and feel like they are accomplishing something. If you are a senior and you feel this way, then you might as well earn a few extra dollars or fill up your free time by volunteering. Part-time jobs or volunteering your time at your parish, school or in the community are some of the best ways for seniors to avoid doing nothing and deny the onset of death.

Part-time and balance

Just because you are a senior does not mean you still do not have a lot to offer. Many people find they want to stay in the workforce instead of going into retirement. This is why part-time jobs for seniors are becoming so popular. In fact, the fastest growing labor group in the United States is represented by seniors.

Not only do part-time jobs for seniors help them earn extra income, but it also helps employers fill a void the workforce suffers. These jobs help to improve our economy by giving seniors extra money to spend for items they need. This in turn increases the demand for products. As these demands grow, they help to create even more jobs.

Why do employers like to hire or continue to work seniors? The answer is simple: they are experienced, mature individuals. Most often they already know what is expected of them and have no problem fulfilling the needs of the company that employs them. Seniors are very dependable, which is something that is needed in the work force.

As more employers begin to understand just how much seniors can contribute to their company, part-time jobs for seniors will continue to grow. Many employers will take your previous work experience plus your general knowledge and help match you to something you can enjoy and feel comfortable doing.

And again, whether you work part-time or putter with home projects and hobbies, you also can volunteer your valuable service to a variety of charities, church-school groups and not-for-profit community organizations. Look to your senior years as a "season of change" and an opportunity to experience what life offers next. Think about things you've always wanted to do but had to be put off because of full-time work. Here's a short list:

- Learn to play a musical instrument, speak another language, or take a drawing, painting or dance class.
- Help others, especially immigrants and refugees, learn to speak English, read, drive or adjust to the customs and practices of living in the U.S.
- Take an extended retreat, make a pilgrimage by visiting every parish in the diocese, seek out area shrines, monasteries, seminaries and convents to visit, or take a Bible-study class.
- Travel throughout your home state stopping at local attractions and sampling special festivals and events.
- Schedule something adventurous to which you really can look forward, such as a land or water cruise, hot-air balloon or raft ride, or experience a hiking or camping excursion.

"O ever-youthful God, make clear to me the ancient truth that like the billion-year-old universe I too grow younger each day as I grow older. Within me, that which is beyond the corroding clock of time — at the core of my being — can implode, traveling backwards to the beginning, to the inner space that's forever young." — Edward Hays, "A Psalm at Signs of Aging."

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

Retirement Fund for Religious offers thanks

Thank you for your diocesan check for \$190,792.17, which has been deposited in the Retirement Fund for Religious account. This brings your total diocesan contributions for all of the years of the collection to \$2,616,729.46. The money has been recorded as part of Appeal XXI for 2008.

Your generosity surely helps religious address the many challenges religious face as they age. Religious today, as always, continue to make an impact on our society. Even as they age, their commitment to the ministry of their community, their prayer and spiritual life are vibrant testimony to the faithfulness they promised so many years ago. Your commitment to them is a heartfelt

testimony to their faithfulness. Each religious, young and old, are grateful for your support.

Your support and the support of your Retirement Fund for Religious coordinator, pastors, parish priests and deacons are essential to the fund's continued success. We are most grateful for all you do. You can surely rely on the prayers of the over 37,000 religious now over age 70 and the ever increasing numbers of religious who will be retiring very soon. May God bless you as only he can.

**Sister Janice Bader, CPPS
Religious Retirement Office
Washington, D.C.**

Appreciation for Peter's Pence

With sincere gratitude I wish to acknowledge receipt of the check in the amount of \$55,915.12, representing the Peter's Pence contribu-

tion from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for 2008, which you had forwarded to the Apostolic Nunciature.

As I assure you that this sum will be duly transmitted to the Secretariat of State on your behalf, permit me to offer an initial word of appreciation in the name of the Holy Father for this valuable assistance. In addition to sharing in the material responsibilities facing Pope Benedict XVI, this expression of generosity by your people reveals their deep awareness of the bonds of faith, hope, and love, which they share with the universal church and God's people, especially the poor, throughout the world.

May God, who is infinitely generous, reward you and continue to bless you and the faithful under your pastoral care.

**Pietro Sambì
Apostolic Nuncio
Washington, D.C.**

Five priorities for the anti-abortion movement to save the unborn

HUNTINGTON (CNS) — Responding to editors' requests for a regular sampling of current commentary from around the Catholic press, here is a column titled "Pro-life's day after: Five priorities for the anti-abortion movement to save the unborn." It appears in the Nov. 16 issue of Our Sunday Visitor. It was written by Greg Erlandson, president and publisher.

BY GREG ERLANDSON

This election campaign, self-identified pro-lifers seemed to spend as much time fighting with each other as they did working to change the course of the nation's political discussion in a way that truly benefited the unborn.

If the Catholic pro-life movement is to continue as a vital moral force in American society, I believe it should use the months ahead to rethink and renew its strategies. I would suggest five priorities for reflection and consideration.

Priority No. 1: Retell our story. During the election, numerous Catholics seemed ready to throw in the pro-life towel because the movement "had not accomplished anything" or because its efforts to roll back abortion were judged a legislative "failure."

This is demonstrably untrue. In the face of judicial fiat allowing unrestricted access to abortion from conception virtually until birth, the pro-life movement has won a host of legal and judicial decisions.

Such successes have been incremental, but they have both encouraged and sustained a broad-

er grass-roots effort to bear prayerful witness at clinics, aid pregnant women and focus the national discussion on the unseen victim. Against all odds, the pro-life witness has not wavered, and young people are increasingly getting the message.

Part of the problem is that the pro-life movement itself is divided on the value of incremental change, and some pro-lifers — both for ideological and for fundraising reasons — can sound the most negative about what has been accomplished.

Priority No. 2: The pro-life movement must stop putting all its eggs in the Republican basket. Even with control of the White House and Congress, the party did little to restrict abortion until election time rolled around, and some of its most prominent leaders are less than wholehearted in their efforts.

But even acknowledging the many dedicated Republican politicians who are ardently pro-life, it does not serve the pro-life movement well to be the captive interest of a party with many other agendas, some less compatible with Catholic views.

Particularly as new generations are informed about life issues, it is in the best interest of the pro-life movement to have advocates in both parties. Pro-lifers need a much more aggressive strategy for promoting pro-life Democratic candidates and giving voice to the many pro-life Democrats who remain in the party.

Priority No. 3: The leaders of many of the traditional pro-life organizations have done a yeoman's work for decades, and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

But it has been more than three decades since *Roe v. Wade*, and there is a need for new pro-life leaders who can seek new strategies and new alliances as the movement moves forward.

Priority No. 4: The U.S. bishops must address their own divisions. They have been a mainstay of the pro-life movement, providing it with intellectual, financial and spiritual support for decades. Yet the past two elections have called more attention to their own divisions than to the pro-life message they seek to promote.

Executive sessions and carefully worded documents cannot paper over these divisions, particularly when one diocese virtually condemns a candidate and anyone who votes for him while another remains silent or stresses that Catholics are not "single issue." Catholics themselves can become cynical or confused in this environment, and this does not bode well for the future.

Priority No. 5: The abortion battle has not been lost, but it is unlikely to be won anytime soon either. At best it will only move to the states, and even that seems a stretch right now. The Freedom of Choice Act will be an even greater setback.

This is a multigenerational battle more similar to the abolitionist movement or to the civil rights movement than any other social cause. Education and personal witness are the keys — an ongoing abortion apologetics in word and deed that testify to our belief that abortion is one critical component of a broad spiritual and social struggle on behalf of human dignity and human rights that we will never give up.

On seeking support

Anyone who has grieved the loss of someone dear to them knows that support comes in many forms. Assistance from family, friends and professionals may lighten the burden when making the funeral arrangements while the bereaved walks numbly through the motions. Aftercare comes with cards, calls and promises of prayers. Many are blessed to have family and friends who surround them with tender loving care.

But what of the weeks, months and yes, even years following the death? Who remembers then?

Many of the bereaved I have worked with find a point in their grief process when others stop asking how they are.

Mary, whose husband of 43 years died seven months ago after an extended illness, says, "I get the feeling when my friends ask me 'How are you doing?' they just don't want to hear the same old sad story. So I just smile and say, 'I'm fine.' No one asks further than that anymore."

As creatures of habit, most of us, following the rally to assist in the short-term aftermath of the tragedy of death, seek the normal-

cy of everyday life. We slide back in to our work and family schedules, sometimes forgetting that the bereaved no longer have a "normal" life to attend to.

Some of us are fortunate to have a close family member, friend or clergy who is comfortable with the deep anguish and longevity of grief. That is the compassionate confidant you call in the middle of the night to express the overwhelming pain or torrent of tears of that moment in time.

Many times it is difficult for us to find support within our immediate family due to the high need of each individual to be understood in their grief, and the diminished ability to be understanding. Eventually those with no special friend or family member must seek the support they know they need to heal in their grief.

Charles says, though he would like to share his grief over the untimely death of his daughter with his immediate family, they too are suffering with the loss. He eventually recognized the need to seek outside support and found meeting with his parish priest periodically assisted him in understanding his feelings.

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

KAY COZAD

Mary joined a widows' support group and found relief when on the first evening as she shed so many tears there, she felt accepted rather than judged and pitied. She says, "I didn't know what to expect, but I knew I needed to do something. The group was made up of such compassionate women. I think it was so helpful to be with others who understood my loss."

An ideal support group should be small in nature and led by an experienced facilitator. The group may meet for a specified number of sessions or be open-ended. Members should feel safe and welcome to express concerns and challenges without reprisal or advice, and trust that it is a place

HOPE, PAGE 22

Jesus is the only answer



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 25:14-30

The Book of Proverbs provides this weekend's first reading. This book was composed when both the Holy Land, and the lives of its inhabitants, God's Chosen People, had undergone massive changes.

These changes had occurred as a result of the military conquest of the Holy Land, and indeed much of the Eastern Mediterranean world by Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.), the young Greek king from Macedonia.

Alexander did not live long enough to enjoy much of the success of his victorious armies, but his conquests placed Greeks, and Greek philosophy, in cultures all across the Middle East.

This Greek influence was powerful. Obviously, it was contrary to traditional Hebrew theology.

Committed Jews had to struggle to keep their theology alive, and they especially sought to relay their tradition to coming generations.

Proverbs was written as a part of this effort. Along with other books of the Hebrew Scriptures, Proverbs attempts to blend human logic with Hebrew theology, to say that ancient Hebrew beliefs are not illogical. In the Greek culture, human logic was supreme.

The reading from Proverbs pro-

claimed by the church on this weekend obliquely makes reference to the fact that marriages under the Greek arrangement usually were contrived.

Quite disturbing for Jews was the fact that wives were not much better than servants, even slaves. The concept of love, freely and gladly exchanged between spouses, was not always evident by any means in Greek life.

Proverbs tries to elevate the Jewish notion of human dignity, a dignity including women as well as men.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Thessalonians supplies the second reading. In the early days of the church, the general presumption was that momentarily Jesus would return to earth to vanquish the evil and vindicate the good. Paul had to remind the Christians of Thessalonica that following the Gospel might be a long, tiring and difficult process, as Christ might not appear as quickly as they would like.

For its third and last reading, the church this weekend presents St. Matthew's Gospel. The story in essence also appears in Mark.

The story builds on the same theme as that given in First Thessalonians. The present order will end one day. Each human will die. No one can predict exactly when natural death will come.

Life suddenly and unexpectedly can change for societies, as Americans realized after Dec. 7, 1941, when Japan bombed Hawaii, and on Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists destroyed so many lives.

The reading from Matthew calls upon Christians to remember the uncertainty of life, and also to remember the certainty of the end of life.

God has given each Christian skills and talents. He has revealed to them the way to live. He has sent Jesus to them as Redeemer.

They possess many advantages. They must not waste time or ignore the fact of life and its uncertainty. They must live as good disciples.

Reflection

Soon, the church will conclude its year of 2008. Its great celebration, and final message, will be the feast of Christ the King. Jesus is the only answer, the answer to every question, worry and need.

One day, at a time unknown, life will change for each of us individually. Our societies also will change.

Jesus has promised one day to return in glory. How and when this return will occur is not known. But, the Lord will return.

In the meantime, we possess God's gifts. God strengthens, guides and redeems us, as Paul assures us in First Thessalonians. In Jesus we have the lesson of how to live. In Jesus, we truly have life. We are heirs to heaven. But we must respond by Christian living. We must commit ourselves, without hesitation, to the Lord Jesus, Christ the King.

READINGS

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 Ps 128:1-5 1 Thes 5:1-6 Mt 25:14-30

Monday: Rv 1:1-4;2:1-5 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22 Ps 15:2-5 Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11 Ps 150:1b-6 Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: Rv 5:1-10 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 19:41-44

Friday: Rv 10:8-11 Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: Rv 11:4-12 Ps 144:1-2, 9-10 Lk 20:27-40

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In November, we remember the war dead. The church has a lot to say about war (and peace) in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC).

1. The first goal of Catholics should be to

- a. win wars
- b. avoid war
- c. ensure enemies are made to pay dearly for war

2. This obligations applies especially to these, even if they are non-Catholic

- a. Muslims
- b. pacifists
- c. governments

3. What is the basic thing that makes wars likely?

- a. mankind's inherently sinful nature
- b. the existence of racism
- c. the Reformation

4. In discussing peace the CCC recalls this title of Christ

- a. Warrior of the Son
- b. Prince of Peace
- c. Word to War

5. The CCC refers to this doctrine, long a mainstay of Catholic thinking on war

- a. the True Man Doctrine
- b. Manifest Destiny
- c. the Just War doctrine

6. This doctrine includes various criteria for judging a war. Which of these is not one:

- a. There must be no alternative means of defense.
- b. There must be some hope of victory.
- c. The enemy must be totally destroyed so as never to pose a threat again.

7. Who is supposed to determine if these criteria exist in a potential conflict?

- a. the political leaders
- b. the pope
- c. the enlisted soldiers

8. What does the CCC say about an international body banning war?

- a. The U.N. could and should ban war
- b. There is (currently) no international authority with the necessary competence and power
- c. The church has the right to forbid Catholic countries from warring on each other.

9. During wars this remains in full force:

- a. the moral law
- b. the tax rules of an occupier
- c. the prohibition against attending Mass with a hat (includes helmets in wartime)

10. And the CCC notes that this is clear to all because it is determinable by:

- a. the League of Nations Charter on warfare
- b. human reason
- c. the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights

11. The church questions the following as means of ensuring peace:

- a. the maintenance of armies
- b. the usage of weapons
- c. the arms race

12. During a war this is declared a crime against God:

- a. the indiscriminate destruction of whole cities or vast areas with inhabitants
- b. the use of technology which can overwhelm a less sophisticated society
- c. the use of professional troops against irregulars

13. While urging Catholics to search for peace the CCC notes that peace is not

- a. possible in a world which relies on oil
- b. merely the absence of war
- c. flowing like a river

14. In fact, true peace requires this:

- a. the actual imprisonment of enemy combatants
- b. the liquidation of enemy governments
- c. the stability and security of a just order

15. Peace on earth is regarded by the church as

- a. the image and fruit of the peace of Christ
- b. the impossible dream
- b. the reason Catholics should support the UN

ANSWERS:

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

Exploring the biblical towns of Nain and Cyrene

In the Gospel Jesus raised the son of the widow of Nain from the dead.

Where is the town of Nain?

Anonymous

Nain or Naim probably comes from the Hebrew word for "lovely." Father John McKenzie says Nain is a village of Galilee probably identified with the modern village of Nein, five miles southeast of Nazareth.

G. Freeman says, in 1880, the Franciscans built a chapel there on the foundations of an ancient church. Nain lies on the road between the small town of Afula and Mount Tabor. Afula was a traditional crossroads of the trade routes to the heart of the Valley of Jezreel and was nicknamed "the bean" by the Crusaders because it was perched on a small patch of rugged land. Here lies the ruins of a fort of the Knights Templar conquered by Saladin in 1187. Mount Tabor is the traditional site of the Transfiguration of Jesus.

As Jesus approached the gate of Nain, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of a widowed mother. This was a tragedy because this son was the woman's only supporter. She may have to live a life of poverty. Jesus took pity on the woman, touched the litter, and the bearers halted. Jesus

said: "Young man, I bid you get up." The dead man sat up and began to speak. Then Jesus gave the son back to his mother.

The New American Bible says this raising of the son of the widow of Nain prepares for Jesus' response to the inquiring disciples of St. John the Baptist who were wondering if Jesus was truly the Messiah. Jesus tells the messengers: "Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: dead men are raised to life."

On the Way of the Cross, Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross.

Where is Cyrene? Anonymous.

Cyrene is a city in what is now the country of Libya in northern Africa that borders the Mediterranean Sea.

Father John McKenzie says Cyrene was the chief city of Cyrenaica. It was settled from Greece and was the seat of a colony from the Greek island of Thera or Santorini in 630 B.C. At the time of Jesus, Cyrene had a large Jewish population. It was the home of Simon who carried the cross of Jesus to Calvary. Simon's sons, Alexander and Rufus, may have been early Christians. Cyrene was also the home of Lucius, one of the prophets and teachers of

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Antioch in Syria, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. The members of the synagogue of the Cyrenians were active in securing the condemnation and stoning of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. Famous ancient persons who hailed from Cyrene were the poet Callimachus, the philosopher Carneades and the geographer Eratosthenes.

Cyrene was situated a little inland from the Mediterranean Sea to help it be safe from pirates, but it was still in fertile area to avoid the harsh desert.

M. Grant says the city of Cyrene was established on two spurs of an elevated limestone plateau south of a perennial spring. The city derived rich profits from grain, wool, oil, horses and medicinal plants. Cyrene became one of the major intellectual centers of the

world with its renowned medical school. The Jewish revolt of A.D. 115 devastated Cyrene, but the Roman Emperor Hadrian undertook a large-scale reconstruction. Excavations at Cyrene have recovered a temple of Apollo, a massive shrine of Zeus, a marketplace surrounded by public buildings, a great rectangular porticoed enclosure, a sanctuary of Demeter and Persephone and many cemeteries.

The athletes of Cyrene participated in the Olympic games at Greece and were champions of chariot racing. Maybe that is why Simon of Cyrene, because of his

athletic prowess, was chosen to carry the cross for Jesus.

J. Comay says, since the Roman routine of interrogation included a preliminary flogging and, once the prisoner was condemned, inevitably a scourging followed, it was not surprising that, despite the encouragement of the lash, many criminals collapsed on their way to execution.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for November 16, 2008

Matthew 25:14-30

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading, Cycle A, about the parable of the talents and the servants. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JOURNEY	TALENTS	ABILITY
AWAY	DUG A HOLE	GROUND
LONG TIME	MASTER	ACCOUNTS
FIVE MORE	WELL DONE	GOOD
GATHERING	SCATTER	WICKED
KNEW	TEN	MORE
TAKEN AWAY	THROW	TEETH

TALENTED PEOPLE

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

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The Christian story and the world's story

I can't remember precisely when I fell in love with history, but it was surely in the first innings of my reading life.

Granted, this was easier in the days when history was written and taught as, well, history — meaning drama, heroes and villains, great arguments, wars and revolutions, and all that other dead white male stuff. I was fortunate in my third grade teacher, the estimable Sister Miriam Jude, SSND (then a postulant known as Sister Florence); she had sold World Book encyclopedias on the side during her days as a Philadelphia public school teacher, and talked my parents into buying a set. Thanks to the World Book, I was off to the historical races. Then there were Random House's "Landmark Books," wonderful history-for-young-readers, written by real historians, not overly dumbed-down, and costing something like \$.95 or \$1.25 for a hardback. I owned dozens, and read more than a few of them several times. Thus prepared, high school and college history were fun, not drudgery, and to this day, reading good narrative history is a never-failing pleasure.

History, that is, like Robert Bruce Mullin's "A Short World History of Christianity," recently published by Westminster John Knox Press. It is no easy business, getting two millennia of Christian history into 283 readable pages. But Professor Mullin has done the job, in a readable style that makes the fruits of his impressive ample scholarship available to a general audience.

Mullin is a master at sketching brief portraits of key figures in the Christian story. He neatly disentangles the great — and often

daunting — trinitarian, christological and mariological controversies of the first centuries in a thoroughly accessible way. Unlike many, perhaps most, historians of Christianity, he understands that the Christian contest with Islam has been a defining experience of Christian history, ever since the armies of Islam broke out of the Arabian peninsula and swept across what was, in the 7th century, one of the vital centers of the Christian world — North Africa. His description of the accomplishments of the often-deplored Middle Ages is both just and enlightening, as are his depictions of the Reformation, the Catholic Counter-Reformation, and the European wars of religion. His attention to the tremendous missionary expansion of Christianity in the 19th and 20th centuries is a useful reminder, in this Pauline year, that great Christian missions didn't stop with St. Paul — or St. Francis Xavier, for that matter.

What's the relationship between the story told so well by Robert Bruce Mullin and the history I inhaled with those World Books? When history was taught properly, the sequence was usually organized by chapter headings that read something like "Ancient Civilizations," "Greece and Rome," "the Dark Ages," the Middle Ages," "Renaissance and Reformation," "the Age of Reason," "the Age of Revolution," "the Age of Science," "the Space Age," or some such. From a Christian perspective, however, that is history read on its surface.

For there is another way to schematize the human story. Its chapter headings would run something like this: "Creation," "Fall,"



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

"Promise," "Prophecy," "Incarnation," "Redemption," "Sanctification," "Proclamation," "the Kingdom of God." That story — the biblical story, if you will — does not, however, run parallel to the "real" story as taught in the history textbooks. The story that begins with "Creation" and culminates in "the Kingdom of God" is the human story, read in its proper depth and against its most ample horizon. For the central truth of history is that history is His-story: the story of God's coming into time and our learning to take the same path that God takes toward the future.

In "A Short World History of Christianity," Robert Bruce Mullin offers us, not a theological interpretation of history but a concise narrative of the church's life in the world — the church's life between "Redemption" and "the Kingdom of God." To know that story is to see how, in specific personalities and communities, both the Spirit promised to the church and the ancient enemy have been at work, shaping what the world regards as "history." It's a story every literate Catholic should know.

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

HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

of hope and healing. There is power in the nature of a group who share the sacred, common bond of loss.

Professional counseling is another powerful support option and is offered within several venues, including Christian counseling centers, private therapists, churches and the local hospital or hospice. One-to-one counseling affords an opportunity to acknowledge and investigate feelings and challenges that some may not feel able to express to others in everyday life. And hopefully it provides the bereaved with guidance and education on grief and ways to work through those many challenges.

Don't be discouraged if you don't meet the right counselor or the right group the first time around. Take referrals from others who have benefited from counseling or support groups and attend a session or two before making a

final decision. Finding the right fit is essential to the work of grief.

Following several attempts at finding the right grief counselor for the girls and me after my husband died, we were referred to a wonderful woman, who by the very nature of her wisdom and spirit, led us on the path to healing. It was well worth the time and effort to attend sessions as our new fatherless family of three began to develop its own identity and worth.

Along the way, with the compassionate companionship of others, both professional and those who have experienced their own loss, we can develop a new life where the memory of our loved one finds its rightful place. It can awaken a deepened faith and new purpose. There can eventually be joy following the loss of someone important in your life. You simply have to seek it.

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and the news editor of *Today's Catholic* newspaper. She is also the author of "Prayer Book for Widows," Our Sunday Visitor.

Mishawaka Saints prevail as diocesan playoff champions

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — By the numbers:
 0 — Number of losses for the Mishawaka Catholic Saints.
 1 — Number of touchdowns given up by the first unit of the Mishawaka Catholic defense this season.
 2 — Number of games starting running back Michael Whitfield missed to start the 3 — Number of diocesan championships Mishawaka Catholic has won.
 8 — Number of ICCL championships that Mishawaka Catholic has won under Coach Tony Violi.
 13 — The core defensive group of Joe Walter, Chase Lintych-Hack, Dillon Gohn, Reilly Neuklis, Dominic Ravotto, Vince Ravotto, Noah Deitchley, Pat Hunsberger,

Bobby Cramer, Joe Kavanagh, Neal Eakins, Austin Deneen, and Tyler Nixon, that anchored and held the team together before the offense jelled.
 24 — Number in degrees of the wind chill factor at game time.
 25 — Years at the helm for Mishawaka Catholic Coach Tony Violi.
 32 — Points Mishawaka Catholic scored in the ICCL/CYO diocese championship game.
 119 — The miles the CYO Fort Wayne diocese teams traveled to play the ICCL champions from St. Joseph and Elkhart counties.
 145 — Number in pounds for the newly acquired weight limit in the ICCL to carry the football (old weight was 140 lbs).
 208 — Yards running back Michael Whitfield ran on 26 carries in the champi-



DELLA DEWALD

Vince Ravotto hands off the football to Michael Whitfield in the diocesan championship CYO-ICCL game.

set the stage for touchdown runs of 2 yards, 3 yards and a patented 67-yard cutback scamper by Whitfield.

The stingy defense of the Saints also added a 26-yard interception for a touchdown by Joe Walter. Four extra points were tacked on by the competent holding of Deitchley and the right leg of Lentych-Hack to make the final, 32-0.

“Our team went through a year of struggles with Michael Whitfield, last year’s leading rusher, injured early, the deaths of my mother and a father of a player,” explained Violi. “I think that Michael being injured early gave the team the confidence that they could count on each other and become something special.”

“My assistant coaches, Keith Baldini, Jim Dewald, Jason Hickle, and Steve Ravotto were unbelievable this year, every bit of our success is because of their ability to keep the team together,” added Violi. “The season will always be bittersweet, but I think that this season, this team helped me through my loss.”

“The Sts. JAT Knights had some adversity handed them with the extension of their season, traveling all this way and then having to play in the bitter cold,” remarked Violi. “I just wanted to say, the kids represented the CYO with class, respect and dignity.”

The St. Anthony/St. Joseph Panther game against St. John the Baptist, New Haven will be featured next week.

onship game.

The numbers speak for themselves as the host Saints entertained Sts. JAT (St. Joseph-Elizabeth, St. Aloysius, St. Therese) at Otolski Field at Marian High School this weekend.

With the winds howling the Knights were greeted with a confident offensive line that

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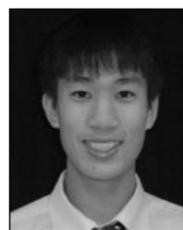
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All Diocese Team

Today's Catholic joins the Serra Club in sponsoring a new feature, the All-Diocese Team, highlighting athletes from Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. These student-athletes are recognized in character, sportsmanship, leadership, athletics and Catholic values. The athletes are selected by their coaches. The All Diocese Teams will be featured three times during the year: for fall, winter and spring sports.

BISHOP DWENGER

Boys Soccer



James Dinh Senior, Defense St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Billy Khorshid Junior, Forward St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Sean Weigand Senior, Goalkeeper St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Girls Soccer

Jena Levy Senior, Defender St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Lindsay McKenna Senior, Defender St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Sarah VanAntwerp Senior, Defender St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne

Football



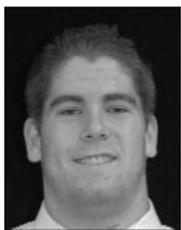
Tyler Eifert Senior, Tight End St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Stephen Fiacable Senior, Center St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Brian Folger Senior, Defensive End St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Steve Seculoff Senior, Defensive Line Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne



Gus Springmann Senior, Tackle St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Matt Tippmann Senior, Linebacker St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Austen Rang Junior, No. 1 Doubles St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne



Danny Schenkel Junior, No. 1 Doubles St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Bethany Fogler Senior, Middle Blocker St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Wayne Erika Moss Junior, Setter St. Jude, Fort Wayne



Lauren Rosswurm Senior, Libero St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Jill Snyder Senior, Outside Hitter St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Patrick Brunner Senior, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Dane Okleshen Senior, St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Natalie Kocks Sophomore, St. Charles, Fort Wayne



Staci Roberts Junior, Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne

Girls Golf



Alexandria Leonard Senior, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne



Anna Thelen Junior, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne

MARIAN

Football



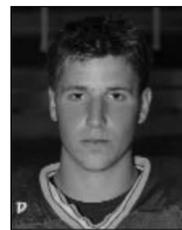
Paul Ogren Senior, RB/WR St. Joseph, Mishawaka



Nick Fitzpatrick Senior, K/WR/DB Christ the King, South Bend



Andrew Bozymowski Senior, OL/DL St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart



Stephen Rykovich Senior, Punter/DE St. Monica, Mishawaka



Michael Barnard Senior, WR St. Pius X, Granger

Girls Golf



BreAnna Zilm Senior, St. Pius X, Granger



Caroline Trippel Senior, St. Joseph, Mishawaka

Volleyball

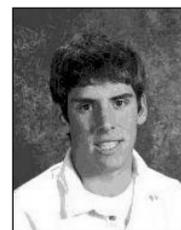


Claire Farkas Senior, Middle Hitter St. Anthony, South Bend



Maggie Pajakowski Senior, Outside Hitter St. Anthony, South Bend

Boys Cross Country



Greg McMillion Junior, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend



Stefan Sokolowski Senior, St. Mary, South Bend

Girls Cross Country



Caitlyn Koscielski Senior, St. Anthony, South Bend



Elizabeth Majewski Senior, St. Bavo, Mishawaka

Boys Soccer



Kevin Killingsworth Senior, Midfield St. Anthony, South Bend



Killian Probst Senior, Midfield Christ the King, South Bend



Manuel Garcia Junior, Midfield St. Adalbert, South Bend

Girls soccer



Andrea Wade Junior, Forward River Valley Community



Tom Bagiackas Junior, DL, Corpus Christi, South Bend



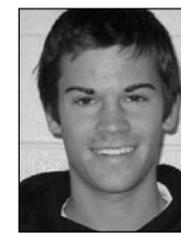
Tim Bishop Junior, Midfielder Christ the King, South Bend

Girls Soccer



Gabby Denning Junior, Midfielder St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne

Boys Soccer



Jacob Crouch Junior, Goalkeeper St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



Hannah Brammer Junior, Defense St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend

Girls Golf



Anne Ormson Senior



Frank Busch Sophomore, Defensive Midfielder St. Joseph, South Bend



Kara Baumgartner Senior, Midfielder St. Joseph, Fort Wayne



Kris Andorfer Junior, Midfielder St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne



Lindsey Gilbert Sophomore, Goalie St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend

Volleyball



Claire McClain Senior, Libero Holy Cross, South Bend



Morgan Hiler Senior, Sacred Heart, Notre Dame



Emma Charais Senior, Defender St. Jude, Fort Wayne



Eric Sensibaugh Senior, Forward St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne

Boys Tennis



Jack Chartier Senior, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend



Mary Kearney Senior, Opposite/Setter Christ the King, South Bend

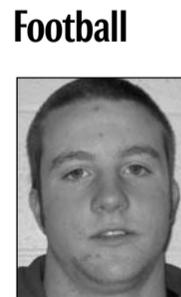


Tayler Turner Junior, St. Pius X, Granger

Volleyball



Cassie Davis Senior, Outside Hitter St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



Joe Goodwin Junior, Linebacker Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne



Michael Fowler Senior, St. Dominic, Bremen



Michael Zientara Senior, Corpus Christi, South Bend



Sarah Hall Sophomore



Andrea Kleber Senior, Setter St. Therese, Fort Wayne



Matt Dimit Senior, Off. Guard St. Therese, Fort Wayne

SAINT JOSEPH'S

Football



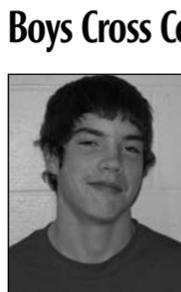
Adam Arsenault Senior, LB Christ the King, South Bend



Michael Bradley Junior, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend



Will Corrigan Sophomore, #1 Doubles, St. Joseph, South Bend



Billy McManus Sophomore, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



Ryan Eifrid Senior, Running Back St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



Zach Matthews Senior, WR/DB Christ the King, South Bend



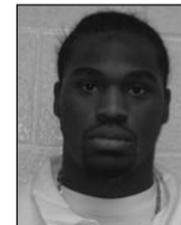
Katherine Manion Senior, Christ the King, South Bend



Anthony Lupresto Sophomore, #1 Doubles St. Anthony, South Bend



Cameron Miser Senior, Most Precious Blood, Fort Wayne



Tyquan Hammock Senior, Linebacker St. Henry, Fort Wayne



John Black Senior, OL St Pius X, Granger



Darby Mountford Freshman, St. Joseph, South Bend



Paul Johnson Junior, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



Kyren Shaughnessey Junior, St. John the Baptist, New Haven



Tony Kebede Senior, Placekicker St. Jude, Fort Wayne



Ben Hinz Senior, WR Christ the King, South Bend



Austin Veldman Junior, Forward Christ the King, South Bend



Brett Schuhler Senior, St. Aloysius, Yoder



Chelsea Pritchard Senior, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne



Nichole Wellman Senior, St. John the Baptist, New Haven



Morgan Carroll Sophomore, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



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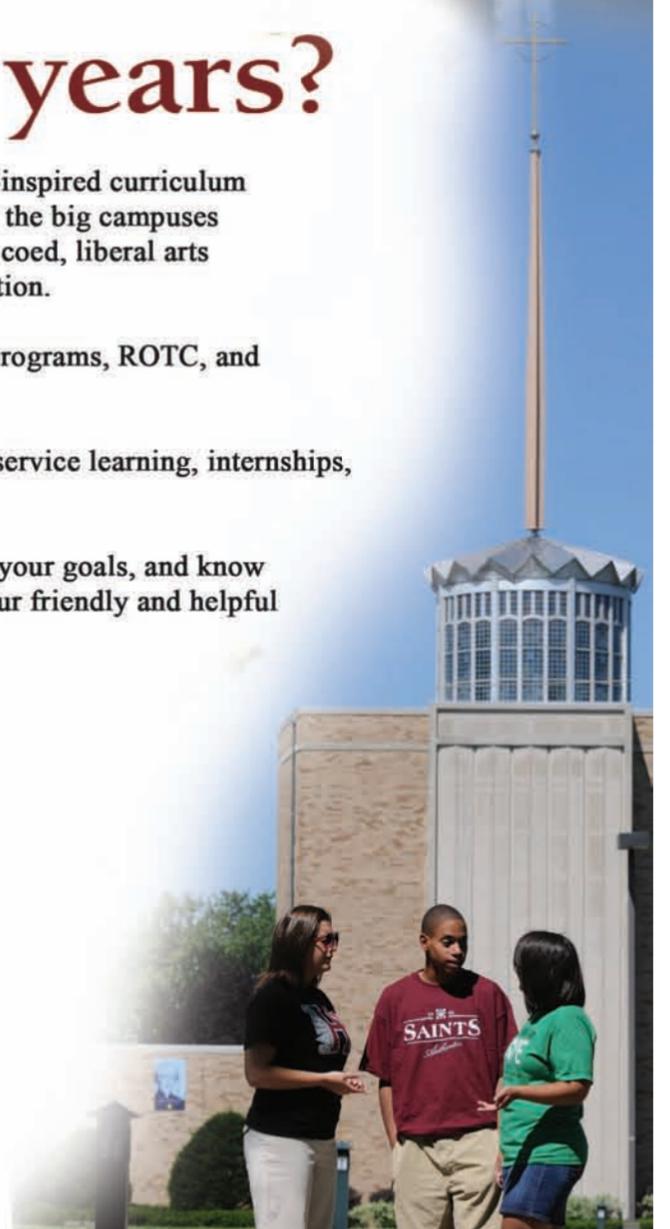
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CRAFT FAIR/BAZAARS

Rosary Altar bazaar

South Bend — Holy Cross Parish's Rosary Altar will have a bazaar Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school gym, 1020 Wilber St.

Craft Fair

South Bend — Sanctuary at St. Paul's will have a craft fair Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 3602 S. Ironwood Dr. Call (574) 299-2250 for information.

St. Mary Parish offers Winter Wonderland bazaar

Bristol — St. Mary Parish, 411 W. Vistula, will have a holiday bazaar Saturday, Dec. 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will also be a bake sale and raffle. Breakfast and lunch available.

Christmas boutique

Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish will have a Christmas boutique Saturday, Nov. 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 100 tables of crafts. Food available.

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.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Catholic/Lutheran Advent Vespers Service

Fort Wayne — An Advent Vespers Service will be held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 2305 Goshen Rd., Sunday, Nov. 30, at 5 p.m. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

Matthew Kelly to speak in Huntington

Huntington — Matthew Kelly, world renown speaker and author, will present his Christmas message on Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Ss. Peter and Paul Church, 860 Cherry St. The presentation is open to the public, with babysitting provided in Gollner Hall.

St. Augustine offers greenery

South Bend — St. Augustine Parish will have a greenery sale Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9-10 a.m. Order wreaths, \$17; swags, \$13; Advent centerpieces, \$26 or garland, \$16, by Nov. 30 to Mary Filbert at (574) 234-7992.

Holiday benefit and fashion show

South Bend — The Christ Child

Society will have a holiday benefit and fashion show by Talbots Thursday, Nov. 20, at the Gillespie Center behind the Hilton Garden Inn on SR 933 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Presentation on end of life issues offered by Office of Family Life

Fort Wayne — An End of Life Issues presentation will be Thursday, Nov. 19, from 7-9 p.m. at St. Jude Church, across from Parkview Hospital. Topics discussed include advance directives, organ donation, nutrition and hydration, death with dignity, and proportionate care. Fred Everett will be the moderator. A DVD by Father Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D, entitled "Beginning and End of Life Issues" will be shown, followed by a question and answer period, facilitated by Fred Everett. Light snacks will be provided.

Parish mission announced

Bremen — St. Dominic Church will begin a parish mission with the theme "Open Our Eyes, Lord." with other themes throughout the liturgical year. On Wednesday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. Father Jose Gerardo Alberto, M.Sp.S, will speak on "Open

REST IN PEACE

Bristol

Gregory A. Martin, 57, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Fort Wayne

Patrick D. Campbell, 69, Most Precious Blood

Glen H. Clemens, 90, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Lillian M. Biesiada, 79, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Judy M. Kleber, 48, St. Vincent de Paul

Eleanor T. Harris, 86, St. Charles Borromeo

Joseph Carr, 24, Queen of Angels

Josefina Medina, 64, St. Peter

Granger

Rebecca Ann Bacon, 43, St. Pius X

New Haven

Ronald E. Schleinkofer, 66, St. Louis-Besancon

Barbara L. Reynolds, 77, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Sister Margaret M. Duggan, 88, Church of Loretto

Plymouth

Mary L. Deckard, 93, St. Michael

South Bend

Irene H. Lubelski, 86, St. Adalbert

Josefa G. Villarreal, 92, St. Adalbert

Jose L. Torres, 44, St. Adalbert

Martha Kajzer, 96, St. Adalbert

Robert N. DeGraff, 77, St. Anthony

Joshephine L. Michalos, 86, Christ the King

Dora A. Boggs, 88, Christ the King

Lucille M. Benson, 91, St. Matthew Cathedral

Jack B. Norris, 78, Little Flower

George M. Barbara, 62, Holy Family

Irma F. Weisser, 96, Our Lady of Hungary

Our Eyes, Lord, to the Babe in the Manger." Future mission dates are March 4 and 18.

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.

Athletic department hosts trivia night

South Bend — The St. Adalbert School athletic department will host a trivia night Friday, Nov. 21. Ten person teams are \$100. Teams can bring their own tailgate style food and a cash bar will be available. Doors open at 6 p.m. Game is from 7-10 p.m. Call (574) 288-6645 for reservations by Nov. 18.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

show by giving actress Tyne Daly some flowers. The little boy with Down syndrome handed them over, then leapt into her arms. The actress had to reach out to catch him before hugging him close.

"He wasn't just handing over the roses," explained Baumbach, "but he also handed over himself. The role of a catechist is both the one taking the leap, like Gabriel, and the one reaching out."

Baumbach went on to remind catechists how they must reach out to everyone ... the young, the old, the foreigner and those with special needs.

The NDC provides fundamental guidelines and principles for catechists. Baumbach assisted with consultation on the previous directory, published in the 1970s. He referred to chapters in the most recent edition.

"Chapter 1 addresses proclaiming the Gospel in the United States, where we value freedom, and chapter 2 looks at catechesis within our mission of evangelization," said Baumbach. "Although some in our culture may seem to tell us that faith is a private matter, for us faith is not private. Christ is at our center, and the Holy Spirit is our primary agent of evangelization. ... We are motivated by the ongoing transformation of catechetical opportunities within the church for all of life."

In addition to the National



DIANE FREEBY

Dr. Gerard F. Baumbach was the keynote speaker at the 18th Catechetical Institute Day at Wawasee Middle School, Syracuse, on Nov. 8.

Directory, there exists a General Directory for Catechesis. Baumbach's own dog-eared copy was blessed by Pope John Paul II, and illustrates six tasks of catechesis.

The six tasks are:

- Promoting knowledge of the faith;
- Teaching the meaning of liturgy and sacraments;
- Moral formation in Jesus Christ;
- Praying with and in Christ;
- Preparing to live in community;
- Promoting a missionary spirit.

Referring to the task of moral formation, Baumbach said, "We

need to be stewards of truth. We don't shy away from teaching the whole tradition, the whole Gospel. As Catholics, we need to be diligent about who we are, what we believe and what we proclaim."

Educators from all walks of life attended the various workshops and talks offered throughout the day. Sister Alodia Carney, who belongs to the congregation of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, has been a catechist for 50 years. She is currently the RCIA coordinator and teaches seventh grade religious education at St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne.

"It excites me to share my faith and to help people learn how to express their faith," she said. "Coming to a conference like this helps me to evaluate my own relationship with God and deepen it."

Miguel Malagon teaches fifth graders at Iglesia Guadalupe in Warsaw. Several of the talks were given in Spanish, and Malagon attended *Libros de Instruccion de Dios para el Amor y el Sexto*.

"I come to this conference regularly," said Malagon. "It helps me ... it's good!"

As he wrapped up his talk, Dr. Baumbach linked catechesis to three words of the prayer Hail, Holy Queen.

"Catechesis is our life, our sweetness and our hope," he concluded, stressing the importance of reaching out to everyone. "Never say you are 'just' a catechist. You might just end up in Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, walking with Jesus himself."

'We all have special needs'

Workshop explores religious formation for those with autism

BY DIANE FREEBY

SYRACUSE — Are special needs of children being met when it comes to the religious formation of those with autism? Depending on who you ask, yes, and no.

"There is a lot going on in the churches," says Nicole Gebadlo, a behavior therapist who is also a member of St. Pius X in Granger. "Some welcome children with open arms, some don't. I know of a family who was told their child couldn't participate in the special needs class that parish offered because they weren't parishioners."

Gebadlo directed the workshop, "Helping Children With Autism Encounter God's Love" at the recent Catechetical Institute Day held in Wawasee Middle School in Syracuse. Catechists chose to attend her class in order to learn how they could better address the needs of their students with autism.

June O'Hara teaches children from ages 3-6 at South Bend's Christ the King Parish, and she says she might be one of the first to notice a child has special needs.

"Children with autism can't conform," she noted, adding these children are often misun-

derstood. "You cannot expect them to follow everything. We've had two children go through our program get labeled as 'bad' when they're not."

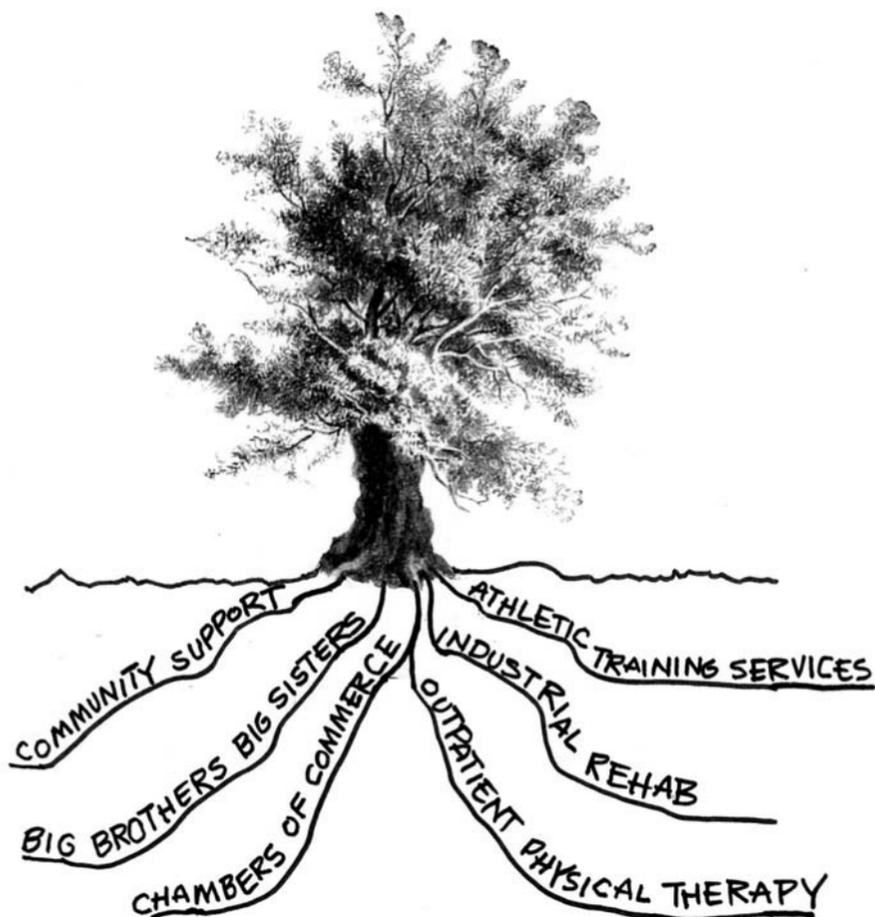
So how can catechists help? According to Gebadlo, there are several simple strategies. First, establish communication with the child's parents, she says. She also suggests involving the class without singling anyone out, and relying on frequent "hands-on" instruction.

Veteran catechist Anita Senesac of Queen of Angels Parish in Fort Wayne teaches second grade. She has encountered many children with autism during her career, including her first "special child" some 17 years ago.

"The director of religious education came to me about a second grader with disabilities. He was in a wheelchair, mentally and physically challenged, and couldn't speak," she recalled. "But he did have emotions and every time I'd talk to him, he had such a beautiful smile."

Senesac's eyes welled with tears as she told the other catechists how this young man passed away just the other day in his sleep, at the age of about 22.

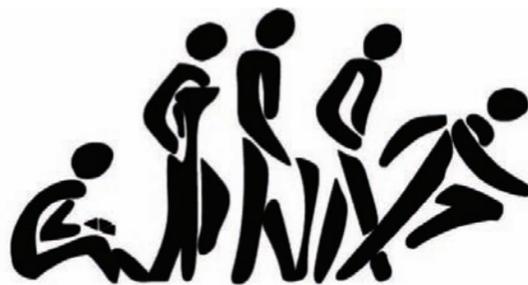
"But he had received the sacraments," she exclaimed.



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