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Volume 83, No. 9

www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY

March 1, 2009

Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



Think Green
Recycle this paper

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Only Christ can satisfy

Lenten message

BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

This year it would seem more than ever Lent offers us an opportunity. The economic situation and the call of Christ, each in its own way and taken together, calls us to hear the cry of those in need.

I know little about economics, but the commentators tell us that the lack of fiscal discipline is one of the reasons which has brought us to this difficult time. We bought homes and cars we could not afford. We purchased things we did not need. Banks made loans without due diligence. Of course, as Christians, we must question this, and remind ourselves that we are called to follow the Crucified One. We must ask why we, with the fullness of revelation in our hearts, were drawn into such a situation. Even if, by good fortune, we have escaped unemployment, and the situation has not affected us, who can say that we have not been part of a generation with greater attention to having rather than being, or taking rather than giving, devoted more time spent at the shopping malls rather than in spiritual reading or a quiet visit to prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Discipline, watchfulness over one's self, fasting and seeking out those in need, must become central to our lives once again.

In many families, teenagers grow up with the assumption that a spring break in Florida is a matter of a divine right.

But now, the church presents to us, again, the cross of Jesus Christ. No longer a source of shame, it has become a victory. For it is through the cross, that sin has been overcome, eternal life has become a sure promise, and grace has flowed into the hearts of humanity. It is placed before us for what it always is, an instrument of salvation. It calls us to a life of love for Jesus Christ, our redeemer, and for the whole human family.



TIM JOHNSON

Chris Hawkins, administrative associate for the diocesan communications office, prays in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Bishop John M. D'Arcy has asked the faithful to pray before the Blessed Sacrament during the season of Lent.

We have looked excess in the face, and find that it does not satisfy.

Only Jesus Christ, crucified, buried, and risen, Christ who awaits us at every Eucharist, Christ, whom we meet in the poor, only he can satisfy the hungers of humanity.

Let us find him this Lent, or rather, allow him to find us. Small fastings, alms for the

poor, will light our way. Above all, let Lent be a time of prayer, kneeling before the holy Eucharist reserved in the tabernacle or in solemn exposition. For it is only in prayer that we really hear Jesus Christ.

May this Lent be a time of prayer for every one. Let prayer lead us to meet the Risen One at Easter.

TELLING OUR FAITH STORY

I love the Catholic Church because she is the faithful bride of Christ. Not without scandal in her members, not without her high and low moments over the course of the centuries. But always teaching without fail, despite the storms of history, the orthodox faith committed to the apostles by Jesus himself. Glorious in her saints and martyrs and liturgy, overflowing with wisdom and clarity in her teachings and selfless generosity in her charity, she offers to all the fullness of truth and the means of salvation won by her founder Jesus Christ.



Tom Uebbing, South Bend

Rites of Election, Calling of Candidates in cathedrals

The Rites of Election of Catechumens and Calling of Candidates will be celebrated in the cathedrals in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend the next two Sundays.

On March 1, the first Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election will take place in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne at 2:30 p.m. On March 8, the second Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election will be held in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, also at 2:30 p.m.

Catechumens (those unbaptized) are preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of initiation — baptism, confirmation and Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil. Candidates (those baptized in another faith tradition) are preparing to receive confirmation and/or Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

During the liturgy, each catechumen/candidate and their sponsor will be presented for

recognition to Bishop John M. D'Arcy, ordinary of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The catechumens and candidates are from local and area parishes of the diocese. All together, 550 to 600 catechumens and candidates from throughout the diocese — along with their sponsors, families and guests — are expected to attend the liturgies.

Prior to the ceremony, many of the catechumens and candidates will take part in an optional rite in their respective parishes that same weekend called the Parish Celebration for Sending Catechumens for Election and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop. The catechumens will sign their names in a Book of the Elect that will be available for Bishop D'Arcy to sign at the end of the Rite of Election — often referred to as the enrollment of names. Each candidate also is included in this rite but, out of respect for the validity of their baptism, normally do not sign the book.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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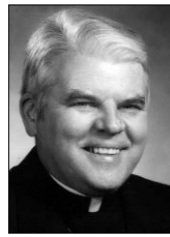
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words. All letters must be signed and
include a phone number and address
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People are drawn every day to the Catholic Church



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Still they come

Every year, first at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and one week later, at the co-cathedral of St. Matthew's in South Bend, we have the Rite of Election. Each church is filled. Some years — people are standing. We live in a time of consumerism. People seeking and buying more than they can afford; one of the causes for our present economic crisis. Also, we know the distortion that is taking place about the beautiful gift of human sexuality; and how this affects our young people.

On top of this, the family is under attack. Same-sex marriage is more and more accepted, and so are same-sex adoptions.

These things are antithetical to the life of the church and to the will of God.

Yet, even in the midst of this, people are drawn every day to the Catholic Church.

The one drawing them, of course, is Jesus Christ, "And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself. He said this indicating the kind of death he would die."
— Jn 12:32-33.

What calls people to the church is the grace of Christ, for the instrument is often other people. Another instrument is a vital parish, where the community prays together, and the poor are served, and the sick are visited, and all are welcome.

A priest, who cares and lives out the life of the Good Shepherd, is a shining instrument bringing people to the church.

A Rite of Election at Notre Dame

One of the blessed parts of the Rite of Election at St. Matthew co-Cathedral Parish every year is the presence of a large number of students who are preparing to enter the church from the colleges and universities in South Bend. Most are from Notre Dame, but there are always a few from Saint Mary's College and Holy Cross College. However, this year comes that immemorial custom, which as I told the young people this week, may well go back to the time of the apostles. I refer to spring break. Because spring break got in the way of the Rite of Election, we held a special rite at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Although it meant another long trip to South Bend, I undertook it. There is a special reason why the bishop is asked to lead these services. It shows those being

received into the church that they are a part of a community far beyond their own local parish or university. The bishop is the successor of the apostles, and they learn that they are joined to a church that is apostolic, the church of Peter and Paul and John and James — the church of the great fathers: Augustine, Polycarp and Irenaus; the church of St. Catherine of Siena; St. Theresa of Avila; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; and the early martyr and virgin — St. Agnes.

Through the bishop, they are joined to the successor of Peter, Pope Benedict XVI.

Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Father Sorin's church, is always special, and never more than this past Sunday, at which many young people — both catechumens and candidates — were joined in prayer in preparation for baptism at Easter (catechumens), and first holy Communion and confirmation for the others (candidates).

The other John D'Arcy

After a nice reception, I met another John D'Arcy. A few years ago, I had a call from a faculty member of the Notre Dame business school. There was a young man being interviewed for a teaching job at Notre Dame. His name was John D'Arcy. They said to him, "Well, that's the name of our bishop." "I know," he said, "I'm related

home thinking about that extraordinary generation that came from Ireland and made their way in this country asking nothing — but working hard and never missing Mass. I often feel unworthy of them — I probably am.

John has already been to Finland to give a talk, and he is going to South Africa in the spring, and he is a hockey player as well. When I meet him, the years roll back, and I think gentle thoughts of people long since gone to heaven.

The Council of Teachers

In my first years here, there was a relationship with an organization of teachers, which was very adversarial. Later, I formed a Council of Teachers, and promised to go to every meeting the first two years, and twice a year after that. It has been a blessing. Last week, for the second time this year, I attended a meeting with this council, representing all the teachers in our diocese. Through these meetings, I have come to admire the men and women who teach in our schools. We have worked together to strengthen salaries, and conditions and benefits. We cannot equal public schools, because they have taxation, which we do not have. However, blessed by the generosity of our people, we have improved salaries and benefits. I have come to know these teachers and the difficulties they

experience. They in turn learn about the struggles we have in keeping our schools strong.

I cannot say enough about our chief financial officer, Mr. Joe Ryan. Whenever I attend the meetings, Joe comes as well. Each teacher represents a group of teachers in their area, usually more than one school. They always present questions for both of us. We do our best to respond, and the communion of the bishop with the teachers has improved enormously over the years. I spent a whole afternoon with them this week at Warsaw, and it was a blessing.

Lent is a great time to be a priest.

There is the opportunity to be
an instrument of the forgiveness
of Christ to so many.

to him." Then a call came from the faculty member interviewing him, asking if I knew a John D'Arcy from Baltimore, who was related to me. I said I did not think I knew anyone from Baltimore, but it was possible. Notre Dame then called John, who said, "Try Philadelphia." "Oh, Philadelphia," I said, "of course." When the D'Arcys came from Galway, some came to Boston and others to Philadelphia." His grandfather, Peter D'Arcy, and my father were cousins and more like brothers. His grandfather, like my dad, was a holy and gentle man.

Pretty good country

Two men, coming from Ireland at approximately the same time, one man's son is the bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the other man's grandson is a professor at Notre Dame.

We went into the famous Huddle, and had a sandwich, and I took the long drive

Lenten memories

I will think of walking up the steep hill to Presentation Church for the 7 a.m. Mass. I will think of Friday afternoons' Stations of the Cross with the church packed and overflowing, young boys throwing a baseball back and forth across the street on the way to the stations. Lent is a great time to be a priest. There is the opportunity to be an instrument of the forgiveness of Christ to so many.

See you all next week.

Since '94, Africa has seen tremendous changes, but some issues remain

BY BRONWEN DACHS

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS) — The African continent and the Catholic Church there have undergone tremendous changes since the 1994 Synod of Bishops on Africa, yet poverty, justice and reconciliation remain major issues for this October's synod.

The 1994 synod "opened with the tremendous tragedy of Rwanda and ended with the miracle of Nelson Mandela's inauguration as president of South Africa," said Jesuit Father Peter Henriot, director of the Jesuit Center for Theological Reflection in Zambia's capital, Lusaka.

This October's special Synod of Bishops for Africa will focus on "service, peace and reconciliation and look at the challenges we need to pay attention to," he said.

Pope Benedict XVI is scheduled to present the synod's working document March 19 in Cameroon, on a trip that also includes a visit to Angola. Bishops planning the October synod have emphasized the need to find concrete ways to apply results of their 1994 meeting "to an Africa thirsting for reconciliation and seeking justice and peace."

In interviews with Catholic News Service, church leaders spoke of how Africa has changed since 1994 and the challenges that remain.

U.S.-born Father Henriot, who has lived in Zambia since the late 1980s, said poor African countries "have become more entwined with globalization" since 1994.

"We have become more influenced by the economic and military concerns of other countries," Father Henriot said. For example, a structural adjustment program imposed on Zambia by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund "might have made the economy more efficient, but it has no social face," he said.

"We have lower literacy levels, a high AIDS rate and other health concerns," Father Henriot said, noting that such programs led to "curtailed budgets that had a negative impact on hospitals and schools."

"With the global economic crisis, the poor are becoming poorer with factors such as the price of basic foods in African countries being affected by skyrocketing prices in First World countries," he said.

Some Catholic officials spoke of how African countries are taking more responsibility for helping each other.

"To gain credibility internationally as a democratic continent," African leaders need "to hold each other accountable," said Jesuit Father Anthony Egan, a member of South Africa's Jesuit Institute who specializes in history and ethics.



CNS PHOTO/FINBARR O'REILLY, REUTERS

Boys pan for gold on a riverside at Iga Barriere in the resource-rich Ituri region of eastern Congo Feb. 15.

Since 1994, "there have been strong developments in efforts to combat corruption," Father Egan said, noting that the African Peer Review Mechanism, an African self-monitoring system for member states of the African Union, was set up in 2003.

Although African leaders "have failed in terms of calling (Zimbabwean President Robert) Mugabe to order," there are signs that this reluctance "to be seen attacking a fellow African leader" is changing, he said.

South African Cardinal Wilfrid Napier of Durban, one of three papally appointed presidents of the October synod, said Catholic leaders in many African countries have been coming to South Africa for help with setting up effective justice and peace structures. Countries such as Sudan, Rwanda, Congo, Ethiopia and Malawi are looking to Catholics in South Africa to show how they recovered from the years of the strict racial segregation system of apartheid.

Cardinal Napier told CNS the Pretoria-based Denis Hurley Peace Institute was set up in 2005 to enable the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference to "respond to continental demands."

For instance, he said, in December he and Father Sean O'Leary, director of the institute, traveled to Burundi, which had emerged from years of civil war. Burundi's church leaders were seeking help setting up a truth and reconciliation commission on the lines of the South African commission that dealt with human rights abuses under apartheid.

"We also went to Sudan to share information on how the church in South Africa dealt with issues of justice" during and after apartheid, Cardinal Napier said,

noting that "we share stories to enable the church in other countries to strengthen our successes and eliminate our pitfalls in their own work."

Cardinal Napier spoke of other changes to the Catholic Church in Africa.

He said that since the last African synod, the Inter-Regional Meeting of Bishops of Southern Africa, representing Catholics in nine countries, "has held at least three successful conferences, focusing on self-reliance, strategic planning and good governance." Other regional bishops' conferences have had similar meetings.

On the continent, interreligious dialogue, especially between Christians and Muslims, "has improved enormously," the cardinal said. He noted that Archbishop John Olorunfemi Onaiyekan of Abuja, Nigeria, co-chairs the African Council of Religious Leaders that was established in 2003.

He also said social communications have improved with the setting up of Catholic radio stations in many African countries.

The political landscape in many countries has changed, too. Since the 1994 Rwandan genocide, in which an estimated 937,000 people were killed, the country has undergone a "gradual democratization," said Father Egan.

But while the country "has stabilized and its infrastructure has improved dramatically" with the rebuilding of schools and hospitals, "the hostilities and prejudices (between ethnic Tutsis and Hutus) still run deep," said Father Egan. These prejudices, which "have gone underground since the shock of the genocide," arise from "a combination of tribalism and tensions over economic resources and power," he said.

Bishop responds to the Journal Gazette editorial of Feb. 14, 2009

BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

The recent (Feb. 14, 2009) editorial in the *Journal Gazette* concerning Pope Benedict XVI shows a willful avoidance of all that has happened in recent history between the Catholic Church and our Jewish brothers and sisters.

"The relationship between the Vatican and Jewish groups in the last couple of decades has been at best formally polite and respectful but sometimes scratchy."

Have they forgotten the visit of Pope John Paul II to Israel, in the year 2000?

"My own personal memories are of all that happened when the Nazis occupied Poland during the war. I remember my Jewish friends and neighbors, some of whom perished, while others survived."

"Men, women and children cry out to us from the depths of the horror that they knew. How can we fail to heed their cry? No one can forget or ignore what happened. NO ONE CAN DIMINISH ITS SCALE."

"I have come to Yad Vashem to pay homage to the millions of Jewish people who, stripped of everything, especially of their human dignity, were murdered in the Holocaust."

The reply of the prime minister of Israel was equally moving.

"You, Your Holiness, were a young witness to the tragedy. And as you wrote to your Jewish childhood friend, you felt in some sense as if you yourself experienced the fate of Polish Jewry. When my grandparents, Elka and Shmuel Godin, mounted the death trains at Umschlagplatz near their home in Warsaw, headed toward their fate at Treblinka — the fate of 3 million Jews from our homeland — you were there, and you remembered."

Nobody who loves truth and sincerity can call the words of the pope or the response of the prime minister "formally polite" or "scratchy."

The *Journal Gazette* failed to take notice of another pope whose family knew the Nazi oppression first hand.

"Today too I wish to reaffirm that I intend to continue with great vigor on the path towards improved relations and friendship with Jewish people, following the decisive lead given by Pope John Paul II." — Visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Cologne Synagogue, June 10, 2005.

What about the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Auschwitz in 2006, which he described in his recent meeting with Jewish leaders.

"What words can adequately convey that profoundly moving experience. As I walked through the entrance to that place of horror, the scene of such untold suffering, I meditated on the countless number of prisoners, so many of them Jews, who had trodden that same path into captivity at Auschwitz and in all the other prison camps.

Why did the *Journal Gazette* not study the words of Pope John Paul II during Lent, 1999, when he made a public Act of Repentance for the sins of Catholics over 2,000 years, including the sins of Catholics against Jews, whom he called with biblical affection "the People of the Covenant."

Surely, the *Journal Gazette* would want its readers to be aware of the words of John Paul II inside the Roman synagogue.

"I would like once more to express a word of abhorrence for the genocide decreed against the Jewish people during the last war, which led to the Holocaust of millions of innocent victims.

"Precisely this people, which received from God the commandment, 'Thou shalt not kill,' has experienced in itself to a particular degree what killing means."

The *Journal Gazette* failed to report efforts surrounding the lifting of the excommunication.

1. The pope, as part of his vocation to seek unity, responded to frequent requests from the superiors of the group, which had separated themselves from the church.
2. The four bishops have no canonical function in the church and are forbidden to exercise any ministry within it. They must first accept the teaching of Vatican II, including the proper relationship between Catholics and Jews.
3. "In order to be allowed to function as a bishop within the church, Bishop Richard Williamson must distance himself in an absolutely unequivocal and public way from his positions regarding the Shoah (Holocaust), which were unknown to the Holy Father at the time of his remission of the excommunication." — Vatican Secretariate of State, Feb. 4, 2009.

In a few weeks, I will engage in a long-scheduled Catholic-Jewish dialogue in Fort Wayne. I have been inspired to do this by the teaching of my church and the example and invitation of dear Jewish friends in this diocese. It will be the ninth time I have been privileged to be so engaged during my service here. Twice, I have been assisted by a cardinal from Rome.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy
Feb. 19, 2009



Red River Lenten Menu

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Mike's Famous Clam Chowder • French Onion Soup

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Lenten menu starts Ash Wednesday, Feb 25 and is available every
Friday & Saturday until Good Friday, April 10 Hours: 4:30 - 10:00 pm (Dinner Only)

RED RIVER
STEAKHOUSE

State attempts to fix federal immigration: Increase hardships for immigrant families

INDIANAPOLIS — One family, two immigration statuses — parents are undocumented, children American citizens. This summarizes one of the primary problems in addressing the complexity of immigration law especially ones that penalize the undocumented. The pathway to legal citizenship can commonly take more than a decade to attain, and for many there is no clear or legal way to gain entry into the United States — but jobs and a better way of life are clearly an attractive and attainable reality. So immigrants arrive in droves to America.

Federal immigration law clearly is broken, but can or should states intervene to fix it? Some state lawmakers think so, but the church and many others testified at a recent Senate hearing in opposition to a proposed law that not only delves into federal territory, but could create more problems for all immigrant families (documented and undocumented), employers and the health of an already ailing Indiana economy.

Senate Bill 580, the undocumented immigrants' bill, which passed a Senate Pensions and Labor Committee Feb. 18 by a unanimous vote, would create additional penalties for undocumented immigrants who drive without a valid driver's license and create mandates and fines on businesses who employ undocumented workers.

Father Steve Gibson, pastor of St. Mary Catholic Church in East Chicago, a parish with a large Hispanic community and Franciscan Father Tom Fox, who serves as a Hispanic ministry assistant in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, know first hand the plight of the Hispanic families resulting from flawed federal immigration laws and the additional damage a law like Senate Bill 580 will have on these families if it passes.

Father Gibson said, "The truth of the matter is there have been 300,000 people who lost their driver's licenses last year in Indiana. Most of them are the family wage earner. Then you add spouses and children to that and you're talking about a half a million people who have their

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

whole security in jeopardy," he said. "What we have is a crisis here. These are the same people who were permitted to get driver's licenses as long as they had some kind of identification. Now these same wage earners are being denied a renewal of their driver's license," said Father Gibson.

"Laws like this one and others like it that target businesses who employ immigrants are doing nothing but furthering the crisis," said Father Gibson. "Because when employers release employees who are undocumented or when authorities try to step in and get undocumented people and take them out, they usually are parents. The parents are not about to leave because they have wives and children.

"Everyone agrees the immigration laws are broken. The only way to address it is to make the law clear and respectful to basic human rights. Laws that go against the immigrant only exacerbate the problem. It doesn't cure anything," he said.

"The cities up here in north-west Indiana would collapse without the immigrant community. The many service jobs these people have serve in many respects as the backbone of the community. Without them these cities would just collapse overnight. And people know that. Mayors of the cities up here know that. That's why some mayors are more kind than others to the immigrants."

Father Tom Fox who testified in opposition to SB 580 told lawmakers: "Everybody acts as if you can separate the undocumented and documented families, but this has been going on so long that there are hardly any families that are not mixed."

Father Fox said when he was questioned by the Senate panel following his testimony, he was pleased that he was able to reiterate some of the points that the U.S bishops make in the area of immigration. "The rights of the individual, the dignity of the human person override the right of nations to enforce borders."

"It is not uncommon in areas where sheriffs are more aggressive that immigrants are being picked up and are being deported without an order of deportation nor have these people committed any crime," said Father Fox. "This kind of proposal encourages sheriffs and police officers to take more personal initiative to enforce federal immigration laws, which they have no business doing."

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference, testified in opposition to the bill citing moral concerns the church has for families and the harmful impact SB 580 would have on families and children around the state.

Angela Adams, associate attorney at Lewis & Kappes, a law firm that works with immigration law said, "Our position is that immigration is a federal issue and they are the best equipped handle and enforce it. We definitely need comprehensive and meaningful immigration reform, but that needs to come from the federal government."

Also testifying in opposition to the bill were representatives from the business community who raised concerns about the negative impact the bill would have on businesses during this tough economic time and representatives from victims of domestic violence groups raised concerns the bill would further inhibit victims from getting needed help.

To explore the ICC's new, online, public policy tool and join the ICC network go to the ICC Web page at www.indianacc.org and click "Legislative Action Center."

Notice of ANNUAL CLEANUP at Catholic Cemetery

The Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne will conduct their ANNUAL CLEANUP of decorations from
March 15 thru March 31.

Please do NOT place any decorations during this entire time. If you wish to save your decoration, please have it removed **BEFORE** March 15 or call the Catholic Cemetery Office, 426-2044, by March 12, and we will hold it for you no more than 30 days.

Decorations may be placed **AFTER** March 31.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Parish Mission at SS Peter and Paul Parish Huntington

Lent: Our Baptismal Retreat

Featuring: Fr. Tom Richstatter, OFM

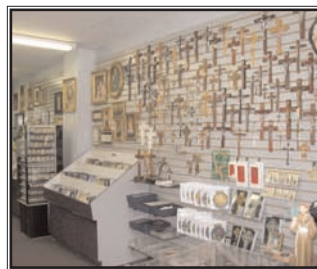
March 1, 2, 3, at 7:00 each night

Fr. Tom is a Franciscan priest and Professor of Liturgy and Sacramental Theology at St. Meinrad School of Theology.

He is a parish priest, lecturer, and author.

860 Cherry Street - Huntington

Questions: 260 358-0411



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Cardinal Egan retires; Archbishop Dolan of Milwaukee to succeed him

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of Milwaukee as archbishop of New York and accepted the resignation of Cardinal Edward M. Egan, who has headed the archdiocese since 2000.

The appointment was announced Feb. 23 in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

In a statement directed at the auxiliary bishops, priests, men and women religious, seminarians and "committed Catholics of this wonderful church," Archbishop Dolan said he was "honored, humbled and happy to serve as your pastor."

"I pledge to you my love, my life, my heart, and I can tell you already that I love you," he added.

He will be installed by Archbishop Sambi as archbishop of New York April 15 at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Cardinal Egan will continue as apostolic administrator of the archdiocese until then.

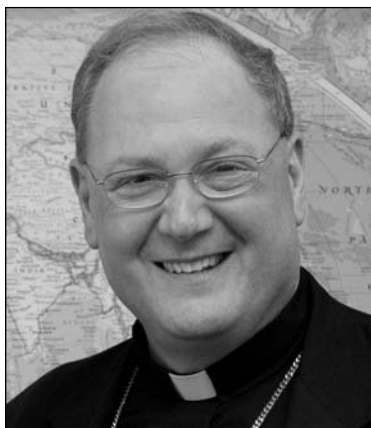
Archbishop Dolan, a St. Louis native who turned 59 Feb. 6, has been head of the Milwaukee Archdiocese since 2002 and was an auxiliary bishop of the St. Louis Archdiocese for a year before that.

Cardinal Egan, who turns 77 April 2, was ordained a priest of the Chicago Archdiocese and served as an auxiliary bishop of the New York Archdiocese, 1985-88, and bishop of Bridgeport, Conn., 1988-2000.

Both Cardinal Egan and Archbishop Dolan have backgrounds that include extensive service in Rome and/or at the Vatican.

Cardinal Egan worked for 14 years as a judge in the Roman Rota, the Vatican court of appeals for canonical cases, especially those related to marriage. He also was on the faculty of the Pontifical North American College, the U.S. seminary in Rome.

Archbishop Dolan studied for the priesthood in Rome and was rector of the North American College from 1994 to 2001. He



CNS PHOTO/JIM STIPE. CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of Milwaukee is pictured in a 2008 file photo provided by Catholic Relief Services.

also worked for five years on the staff of the apostolic nunciature in Washington.

The oldest of five children of Robert and Shirley Dolan, Timothy Michael Dolan studied at Holy Infant Grade School in Baldwin, Mo.; St. Louis Preparatory Seminary and Cardinal Glennon College in St. Louis; and the North American College.

Ordained a priest of the St. Louis Archdiocese June 19, 1976, Father Dolan served as a parish priest, earned a doctorate in church history at The Catholic University of America in Washington, worked at the apostolic nunciature, served on the faculty at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis and was rector at the North American College for seven years.

He returned to the Archdiocese of St. Louis as auxiliary bishop in June 2001 and was appointed archbishop of Milwaukee a year later.

In the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, he was a member of the Committee on Budget and Finance and the Subcommittee on the Church in Africa, as well as chairman of the board of directors of Catholic Relief Services. He also served as a consultant to the Committee on International Justice and Peace.

Theatre of the Word to perform 'Journey of St. Paul' in South Bend

BY LISA EVERETT

NOTRE DAME — In honor of the Year of St. Paul, the diocesan Office of Family Life, in cooperation with Holy Cross Parish and Holy Cross College campus ministry, is sponsoring two performances of the play, "The Journey of St. Paul" this Spring. Scheduled for March 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. in Driscoll Auditorium at Holy Cross College, the play will be staged by a four-person cast from the Theatre of the Word, a new production company based in St. Louis.

The touring dramatic troupe was founded in 2007 by Kevin O'Brien, a veteran actor, playwright and former atheist, who came into the Catholic Church in 2000, along with his wife, Karen. O'Brien's previous production company, Upstage, had been performing comedy-murder mysteries for dinner theaters around the country when he was asked to stage some scenes for an EWTN series on G.K. Chesterton. He then developed a one-man show on Hilaire Belloc and before long was putting together shows with Catholic themes and characters.

Two years ago, O'Brien founded the Theatre of the Word, whose mission is to evangelize and catechize through the dramatic arts.

"As theatrical artists, we're taking words on paper, fleshing them out on stage and trying to incarnate the Word of God in our actions in everything we say and do. I see it as a way of more intensely living out my faith. Dramatic art lends itself to religion and spirituality in general, and Christian evangelization in particular," O'Brien says.

The vision for the production company was inspired in part by Pope John Paul II's personal love

of theater and by his 1999 Letter to Artists.

"In many ways, we look to him for inspiration," O'Brien says. "He knew of using the word and bringing it to bear on stage and affecting people and moving them. As a member of an underground theater troupe, he risked his life to do good through dramatic art, which is a lot more than most actors do."

Besides serving as artistic director and actor for the Theatre of the Word, O'Brien also hosts the new series, The Theatre of the Word Incorporated, on EWTN.

As a way to celebrate the Year of St. Paul and to help Catholics and other Christians to become more familiar with the life and faith of the great "Apostle to the Gentiles," Kevin decided to develop a play drawn from the Acts of the Apostles and Paul's own letters.

"Not only are Paul's epistles inspired writings," notes O'Brien, who plays Paul in the performance, "but his dramatic stories — scourgings, shipwrecks — make for a tremendous play."

Holy Cross parishioner Jane Murphy heard about the show last spring and thought that it would be wonderful to bring it to her parish sometime during the Year of St. Paul. She approached the diocesan Office of Family Life to ask for assistance in bringing the play to South Bend and the search began for an appropriate venue. Bob Kloska, then-director of Campus Ministry at Holy Cross

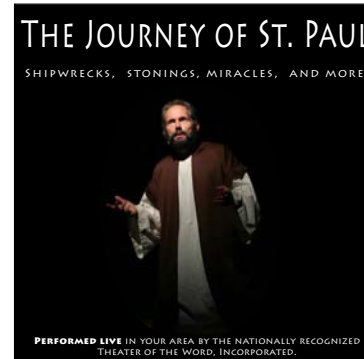
College, offered to book Driscoll Auditorium and cosponsor the play in order to make it accessible to college students as well.

"The Journey of St. Paul" begins in Acts 25, where Paul, a prisoner of the Romans, is brought before King Agrippa and Bernice and is asked to tell his story to them. We see, in flashback, the apostle's amazing journey, from his persecution of the early Christians, and his presence at the martyrdom of Stephen, to

his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, his blindness, baptism, and zeal for Christ, his shipwrecks, stonings, miracles and exorcisms and even his confrontation with Peter over the observance of the Jewish law. Through all this, we meet the bold, courageous "apostle to the Gentiles" and see the undeniable power of the Holy Spirit working in him. By the end even the cynical King Agrippa states, "Paul, you almost persuade me to become a Christian."

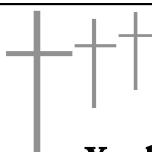
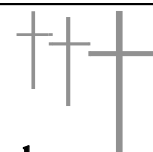
The show is approximately one hour long and is geared toward a general audience. While it is suitable for families with school-aged children, it is not designed to hold the attention of those under the age of 6 or 7. Admission to the play is free, but a ticket is required to ensure that attendance at each performance does not exceed the capacity of Driscoll Auditorium, which is 210 people. A free-will offering will be taken up at the end of each performance to offset the cost of the play. Tickets may be picked up beginning March 2 at the following locations:

- South Bend Chancery, 114 W. Wayne St. (second floor), (574) 234-0687
- Holy Cross Parish, 920 Wilber St. (parish office), (574) 233-2179
- Holy Cross College, 54515 State Road 933 North (Admissions Office), (574) 239-8400



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Catholic legislators must protect life, pope tells Speaker Pelosi

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI met privately with U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the House of Representatives, and told her that all Catholics, especially those who are lawmakers, must work to protect human life at every stage. Pelosi, a Catholic Democrat from California, has been criticized by many Catholics for her support for keeping abortion legal. "His Holiness took the opportunity to speak of the requirements of the natural moral law and the church's consistent teaching on the dignity of human life from conception to natural death," the Vatican said in a statement about the Feb. 18 meeting. Pelosi was making an official visit to Italy to meet members of the U.S. military stationed in the country and to discuss common security concerns with Italian government leaders. Her 15-minute meeting with Pope Benedict took place in a small room in the Vatican audience hall after the pope's weekly general audience. In a statement released by her staff, Pelosi said, "In our conversation, I had the opportunity to praise the church's leadership in fighting poverty, hunger and global warming, as well as the Holy Father's dedication to religious freedom and his upcoming trip and message to Israel."

Pope sets dates to canonize 10, including Blesseds Damien, Jeanne

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Blessed Damien de Veuster, a missionary priest who served patients with Hansen's disease in Hawaii, will be canonized by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 11 at the Vatican, the Vatican said. The same day the pope will also canonize Blessed Jeanne Jugan, who founded the Little Sisters of the Poor, and three others. The canonizations will take place during the Synod of Bishops for Africa and are expected to be celebrated in St. Peter's Square. The pope presided over a Feb. 21 consistory that gave final approval for the canonization of 10 people, including Blessed Damien, a Belgian-born member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Born in 1840, Blessed Damien spent the last 16 years of his life caring for patients with Hansen's disease, or leprosy, on the island of Molokai. He died in 1889 and was beatified in 1995. Last July, Pope Benedict authorized the publication of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Damien, clearing the way for his canonization.

Papal trip to Holy Land takes shape

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI's planned trip to the Holy Land was slowly taking shape

MAN SPEAKS TO PEOPLE SEARCHING FOR NEW JOBS



CNS PHOTO/MIKE CRUPI, CATHOLIC COURIER

Mike Perrotta, who was laid off by a large company before he embarked on a successful freelance consulting career, speaks during a Feb. 19 meeting of the New Horizons Network Support Group at St. Joseph's Church in Penfield, N.Y. The group provides support, guidance and networking opportunities to people in search of new careers.

in February, and the tentative schedule included a number of important pastoral and interreligious events. The proposed itinerary would take the pope to Jordan May 8-11, for a visit to the new King Hussein Mosque in Amman, meetings with Jordanian officials, a Mass for Catholics in a soccer stadium, a stop at Jesus' baptism site at the Jordan River and a pilgrimage to Mount Nebo, where Moses once looked out at the Promised Land. The pope would travel from Jordan to Israel May 11 and visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem the same day. Over the next three and a half days, he would visit the Western Wall, sacred to Jews; meet with Jewish and Muslim leaders; hold talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders; visit a Palestinian refugee camp; and celebrate Mass in Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem. Before returning to Rome May 15, the tentative schedule calls for the pope to hold a brief ecumenical encounter and visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. There was talk of a papal stop in war-devastated Gaza, but Vatican sources said there were no firm plans for such an event; instead, a delegation of Gaza residents was expected to attend one of the papal Masses. The Vatican's chief papal trip planner was expected to meet with local organizers in late February to work out a definitive schedule for the visit.

Traditionalist bishop says reconciliation with Vatican may not be easy

ROME (CNS) — The head of the traditionalist Society of St. Pius X said reconciliation with the Vatican on doctrinal issues may be difficult because of different perspectives on the Second Vatican Council. Bishop Bernard Fellay, superior general of the Swiss-based society, said Pope Benedict XVI's recent lifting of the excommunications of himself and three other bishops was a positive step toward establishing full communion. "We have already responded by affirming our desire to proceed with a positive spirit along the path of discussion indicated by the Holy Father," Bishop Fellay said in an interview Feb. 16 with the Swiss newspaper *Le Nouvelliste*. "But we do not want to do this in haste. When one walks through a minefield, prudence and moderation are necessary," he said. Asked whether he had hope of reaching a doctrinal consensus with the pope, Bishop Fellay responded: "That seems difficult. Certainly he seems close to us on the question of liturgy. On the other hand, he holds very deeply to the innovations of Vatican II."

Two GOP leaders write to Cardinal Rigali on life issues in Congress

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Two Republican leaders in the House wrote to Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia pledging their support "in the defense of all human life." The lawmakers, Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio and Rep. Thaddeus McCotter of Michigan, chairman of the House Republican Policy Committee, told Cardinal Rigali in the Feb. 17 letter they "look forward" to working with him during the current term of Congress. Cardinal Rigali is chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities. The cardinal had sent a letter Feb. 5 to all members of Congress urging lawmakers to retain pro-life provisions in appropriations bills they must approve to keep the government funded past March 5. "At a time when more Americans than ever may require life-affirming assistance from the government for their basic needs, efforts to force Americans to subsidize the denial and destruction of life would be especially tragic," Cardinal Rigali wrote. Boehner and McCotter said they were "committed to working to retain, and not weaken, laws that prohibit using federal funds

for the purpose of promoting or funding promotion of abortion."

Pope cautions against destructive polemics in the church

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Following weeks of controversy involving two of his decisions, Pope Benedict XVI has twice cautioned against destructive polemics inside the church. The pope, speaking in German at his noon blessing Feb. 22, asked for prayers to St. Peter so that "disturbances and storms do not shake the church" and that Catholics remain united in faith and love. Two days earlier, addressing students at Rome's diocesan seminary, the pope recalled St. Paul's admonition to Galatian Christians not to "go on biting and devouring one another" but instead to be guided by the Spirit. "St. Paul refers here to the polemics that emerge where faith degenerates into intellectualism and humility is replaced by the arrogance of being better than the other," the pope said. "We see clearly that today, too, there are similar situations where, instead of joining in communion with Christ, in the body of Christ which is the church, each one wants to be superior to the other and with intellectual arrogance maintains that he is better," he said.

Cardinal George pledges bishops' support to social justice ministers

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Saying that the church's social mission can ease the suffering of the poor and voiceless, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops pledged the full support of the U.S. bishops to the hundreds of people working in social ministry across the country. Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago told more than 500 ministers gathered at a Washington hotel for the Feb. 22 opening Mass of the annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering that the bishops desire to work closely with social service providers and peace and justice advocates in a time of extreme hardship. "Without apology, I tell you that the bishops want to be with you," Cardinal George said during his homily. "You cannot be yourself and about the social mission of the church without the bishops' presence and their cooperation," the cardinal said. "They pledge that presence and that cooperation, but you have to help us to know how to help you. We depend upon you to help the church's social mission take on flesh and meaning. Together we discover again what it means to be in Christ and we discover that we can't be in Christ except together," he said.

St. Michael, Plymouth to host parish mission

PLYMOUTH — St. Michael Parish will host a parish mission from March 8-12. The mission theme is "We Are the Carpenter's Tools." Sessions are as follows:

- Sunday, March 8: Tool of Faith, with speakers Lisa Marino and Holy Cross Father Chris Cox
- Monday, March 9: Tool of Hope, with speaker Father Tom Shoemaker
- Tuesday, March 10: Tool of Forgiveness, with reconciliation service. The speaker will be Bishop John M. D'Arcy
- Wednesday, March 11: Tool of Sharing, with speaker Carl Loesch
- Thursday, March 12: Tool of Love, with Eucharist and closing Mass, with speaker Father Bill Kummer

The evening services will be held at St. Michael Church and will begin at 7 p.m. There will also be morning sessions immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass led by Joseph Caudle, associate director of the Office of Spiritual Development.

St. Joseph, Roanoke, and St. Catherine-Nix Settlement, host mission

ROANOKE — St. Joseph, Roanoke and St. Catherine-Nix Settlement Parishes will host a parish mission from March 15-18. The mission theme will be, "Run the Race with Christ." Sessions are as follows:

- Sunday, March 15: Faith — "Ready, Set, Go," with speaker Bishop John M. D'Arcy
- Monday, March 16: Mercy — "Strengthened by Grace," includes reconciliation service with Father Tony Steinacker
- Tuesday, March 17: Prayer — "Keeping the Pace," with speaker Franciscan Sister Marilyn Ellert
- Wednesday, March 18: Eucharist — "Doing All Things Through Christ," includes closing Mass, with speaker Father Jim Stoyke

The evening services will be held at St. Joseph Church in Roanoke and will begin at 7 p.m. There will also be morning sessions immediately following the 8 a.m. Mass led by Jennifer Kehrman, associate director Office of Spiritual Development.

Redeemer Radio welcomes Bob Hartenstein

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio — Catholic Radio AM 1450 — WLYV, announced that Bob Hartenstein will serve as director of underwriting. Hartenstein is a well-known and respected fixture in both the business and Catholic communities of Fort Wayne.

As director of underwriting, Hartenstein will oversee the promotion and development of tax-deductible contributions to support daily operations and programming on Redeemer Radio.

Mike Kelly, president of

AROUND THE DIOCESE

A FRIENDSHIP ADVENTURE AT SACRED HEART, WARSAW



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART SCHOOL

The students at Sacred Heart Elementary in Warsaw received a belated Catholic School's Week treat. Ronald McDonald came to school for a special assembly. The program focused on friendship, cooperation, anti-bullying and active play. Ronald McDonald entertained the children with music, magic and lots of humor. In the photo, from left, students are Macy Glenn, Blake McGarvey, Cameryn Friedrich, Blake Bolland and Valesca Aguilar.

Redeemer Radio, said, "We are excited to have Bob on board, especially because of his extensive business experience and all of the fine work he does for the Knights of Columbus. There are businesses just waiting to be asked about underwriting our Catholic programming."

Hartenstein has been involved with Redeemer Radio from its inception. He is a regular voice talent for the station and serves as a host and announcer during Sharathons, the special fundraising drives held each spring and fall.

Recently retired from A.G. Edwards/Wachovia Securities, Hartenstein worked as an investment broker for 19 years. In addition, he has several years of experience in broadcast news, including as news director for stations WHHH in Warren, Ohio, WFAH in Alliance, Ohio, and WCUE Akron/Cleveland.

A parishioner of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Church, where he facilitates the RCIA program, serves as a lector and is an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, Hartenstein is also active with the Knights of Columbus and is past Indiana state membership director. The Indiana Knights rank 17th in the worldwide membership drive.

Currently Hartenstein is the state community director as well as pub-

lic relations director for the Knights and writes a monthly column that appears in all five Catholic diocesan newspapers in the state.

He is married to Kathleen Hartenstein, a teacher at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School, and they have two children.

5K walk assists the homeless

SOUTH BEND — During the months of April and May, the state of Indiana will see thousands of people walking and raising funds to support the men, women and children who are homeless. Eleven walks, called Homeward Bound: Indiana's 5K Walk to Provide Housing and Fight Homelessness, will take place in major cities throughout the state to bring awareness to the issues of homelessness. The Homeward Bound Walk is a project of the Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues.

The seventh annual local event will be held Saturday, May 9, starting and finishing at the College Football Hall of Fame, with registration opening at 8 a.m. There will be light refreshments, a fitness instructor to warm up the crowd and a deejay to keep the walkers energized. Massage therapists will be on hand before and after the walk.

Church groups, schools and companies are encouraged to form a walk team and collect donations; money can be designated to support a particular agency, or be shared among them all. Online credit card donations can be made on the walk Web site. A T-shirt will be given to all who register and attend and there will be opportunities for incentive prizes for those who collect \$100 or more. In addition to entertainment, there will be snacks and water available to all participants, as well as a goody bag provided by sponsors.

Businesses are encouraged to consider opportunities for corporate sponsorships to support the walk at various giving levels.

Agencies participating this year are: The Center for the Homeless, Dismas House, Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County, Hannah's House, Hope Ministries, Indiana Legal Services, Inc., Life Treatment Centers, Madison Center, St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County, United Religious Community and Youth Service Bureau.

For more information visit www.homewardboundindiana.org or contact Sarah Greenawalt, at (574) 235-4150, ext. 231.

Ecumenical group to meet

SOUTH BEND — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana are sponsoring an ecumenical study group to examine the Anglican/Roman Catholic joint document: "Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ." The group will meet on the Mondays of March from 6-8:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 915 N. Olive St. A soup dinner will be provided. To register contact Nancy Cavadini at (574) 291-6404.

St. Jude hosts kindergarten open house

SOUTH BEND — St. Jude Catholic School will host kindergarten information night for future kindergarten students and their families on March 5 from 6-8 p.m. Formal presentations by teacher Mary Johnson and recent St. Jude kindergarten parents will begin at 6:30 p.m. Free child care and refreshments will be provided.

"We would like to extend this open house invitation to any family seeking a faith-based kindergarten education for their child," said Stephen Donndelinger, St. Jude School principal.

St. Jude School's full day kindergarten program includes religion and core academic instruction. A half-day option is also available. Johnson emphasizes religious, academic and literacy development in the morning, while students have more opportunities for creative play, rest and social learning in the afternoon.

St. Jude offers Catholic education through eighth grade and is located at 19657 Hildebrand St., off Johnson Rd.

For more information, contact Principal Donndelinger at (574) 291-3820 or visit www.stjude-school.net.

St. Patrick's Day party

SOUTH BEND — St. Patrick Parish will host its annual St. Patrick's Day party on Saturday, March 14, from 12-4 p.m. The event, which includes a traditional dinner of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, bread and beverage, will be held in the St. Patrick Parish gymnasium located at 308 S. Scott St. Child's meal includes hot dog on bun, chips and a drink.

Admission is free and meal tickets are \$10 for adults, \$3 for children.

There will also be a Celtic Mass at 9 a.m. in St. Patrick Church.

For more information call the St. Patrick rectory during office hours at (574) 232-5839.

Correction

At Christ the King the Wednesday Mass time has been changed from noon to 5:30 p.m. beginning March 4.



PAUL PARE

Kelsey Verhaeghe and her father, Jeff, of Argos, share a moment with Robert Rogers.

St. Michael, Plymouth, hosts inspirational speaker

PLYMOUTH — Robert Rogers recently brought his message of “Live a Life of No Regrets” to St. Michael Parish.

Rogers, who experienced a tragedy of biblical proportions, spoke at two special engagements at St. Michael School Feb. 15. In 2003, Rogers lost his wife and four children in a flash flood in Kansas. Since then, he has risen above adversity, sharing his inspiring message and original songs at the piano across the country.

An accomplished worship leader, pianist and songwriter, he is the author of, “Into the Deep: One man’s story of how tragedy took his family but could not take his faith.”

Rogers’ second engagement was speaking at the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance sponsored by St. Michael’s Angels Girls Club.

During his presentation, Rogers, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, stressed to dads the importance of loving their wives and making time for their daughters. “Be promise keepers, not promise makers,” he said.



Deacon Bob Ellis to present Fatima message, pilgrim statue

NEW HAVEN — The “Message of Fatima” will be presented by Deacon Bob Ellis, the national coordinator of the World Apostolate of Fatima USA on

Sunday, March 8, at 2 p.m. at St. John Church, 943 Powers St.

Even with fears of terrorist attacks, the collapse of the economy, the culture of death, which has engulfed society and the loss of a constitutional republic, John Paul II repeated over and over, “Be not afraid.”

The solution to all of these ills is contained in the simple message of hope the Blessed Mother delivered to the world through three small children at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. Knowledge and understanding dispel bewilderment and hope dispels fear.

Participants are encouraged to hear and learn about the “Message of Fatima.”

The Odessa Pilgrim Virgin Reliquary Statue will accompany Deacon Ellis.

This presentation is sponsored by the Fort Wayne-South Bend Division of the World Apostolate of Fatima. For information, contact Betty at (260) 749-9396 or Emma at (260) 625-3281.

Men rekindle the fire at St. Vincent retreat

BY CASEY O’BOYLE

FORT WAYNE — Inspired by the written works of St. Thomas Aquinas, theologian Father Bernard Lonergan once wrote: “(Grace) is being a child of God and moved by the Spirit of God.”

Based on the reaction of the nearly-200 men who attended the Feb. 7 Rekindle the Fire Men’s Conference at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, Lonergan’s definition of grace could not be more apropos. The day’s theme was “Becoming better husbands, fathers and leaders.”

Afterward attendees were heard uttering words like, “unbelievable, amazing, unforgettable, inspiring, life-changing.” Indeed, the Holy Spirit was hard at work during the seven-hour retreat which began with Mass at 8 a.m., and concluded with the riveting testimonial of Robert Rogers, the day’s fourth and final speaker.

“Looking around the room at 190 men, listening to Robert’s personal faith journey, was just awesome to see,” said Al Scagnoli, Rekindle the Fire retreat committee chairman. “To leave there with the full impact of that and to hear so many guys afterward, who went home and hugged their family, who heard his message of living a life of no regrets, it was just amazing. I, myself, was blown away.”

Bishop Dwenger Principal Fred Tone set the tone with his talk on fatherhood, captivating the audience with his personal journey that intertwined the relationships between he and his father, and he and his sons. Tone challenged the retreatants to become better men by “surrendering just one thing.”

In typical Tone rhetoric, the raspy rambler mixed humor with humility when he acquiesced his own shortcomings on fatherhood. As a former wrestling coach at Dwenger, Tone’s “Step to the line” metaphor was analogous to taking on the challenge of becoming a better father.

“A lot of guys took from (Tone’s) talk that you always have to ‘Step to the line,’” said attendee Chad Watson, a member of Rekindle the Fire and a



AL SCAGNOLI

Nearly 200 men took part in the St. Vincent de Paul Parish men’s retreat, sponsored by the Rekindle the Fire group, on Feb. 7.

parishioner at St. Vincent. “He really challenged us.”

Following Tone was Jason Garrett, the founder of the Apostolate Center, who spoke to the men about what it meant to “husband.” Garrett, a father of 10 children, talked of the importance of helping your wife “flourish as a woman.” His unmistakable message of expendability challenged all of the husbands in the crowd “to launch your wife and children toward Christ.”

“Jason touched on the fact that our children are watching, even when we think they’re not,” said parishioner Brad Lomont, father of four, who attended the conference. “That theme was carried out throughout the day: ‘How to act around your kids.’ He also encouraged us to live our lives scripturally, which really spoke to me.”

After a brief intermission for

lunch, the retreat ensued with speaker Ken Ogorek, the director of catechesis for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Ogorek’s talk centered on the pillars of Catholic life, speaking specifically to the differences between men and women.

But the spiritual sledgehammer of Robert Rogers’ witness provided the slam-dunk closing that punctuated the day. Rogers, who lost his wife and four children during a Kansas flashflood in the summer of 2003, inspired the men with his moving mantra: Know God, no regrets. Rogers has turned tragedy into triumph by honoring his deceased family members through his Mighty in the Land Ministry, which is creating orphanages in five continents.

“Rogers’ experience showed me a man who is truly filled with extreme courage and absolute faith in God,” said attendee Geoff Cly, also a member of Rekindle the Fire and St. Vincent. “I only hope that more men can be touched (by his story) the way it touched me. His faith-share was the perfect end to a wonderful day, which demonstrated love, peace and faith. He truly was amazing.”

Said Watson: “I think the entire day was led by the Holy Spirit. We heard things about becoming better men, better husbands, better fathers. I don’t think I’ve ever seen that many men, in one room, crying at one time. It was more than what we expected. The Holy Spirit definitely beat us over the head with the holy stick. For me, I came away feeling like I could do so much more as a father. And that’s exactly what I’ve tried to do since.”

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Holy Cross offers gerontology consortium

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

NOTRE DAME — Many middle age adults may recognize this familiar scenario: they are at an age when they have finished the caretaking of their children. They have paid their child's last college payment and are looking forward to spending their golden years quietly with their spouse. Suddenly, one of their parents becomes unable to take care of themselves and the caretaking process begins anew.

The second annual Gerontology Consortium will be held on March 13 at Holy Cross College, addressing many of the issues of caretaking for seniors. Titled "Journeying Through the Aging Process," the conference will examine health care, financial issues and psychological concerns of seniors.

Pat Adams, director of continuing education at Holy Cross College, notes the mission of the conference is a cooperative venture of regional organizations working together in partnership in order to catalyze and promote education and service for the benefit of seniors in the community.

Paige Popovic, a marketing specialist for Memorial Home Care, adds it is the wide variety of organizations that are represented that makes the consortium unique.

"You have people from the education community, and members of the marketing community that provide services to the aging in our community. Normally these organizations would be competing against each other, but have come together for this event," she says.

Keynote speaker Dona Billey-Weiler is a certified caregiver trainer and the director of Adult

Education and Life Enrichment for the Cass County, Mich., Council on Aging. Popovic stresses that Billey-Weiler's perspective on the aging process is twofold. "She is setting the tone from a personal note on her life's journey balancing family, work and aging parents. So she is coming at it from not just being a professional that sees (the aging process) when she is in the office, but when you are at home with your family and how you juggle it all together."

The consortium's breakout sessions are aimed at caregivers, adult children, seniors and professionals. Among the 14 topics at the five breakout sessions are: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias; Navigating the Complexities of Home Health and Senior Care; Financial Issues of Caregiving; and Senior Health and Fitness. Several of the topics are repeated in the five breakout sessions.

Professionals in the home health care industry were the largest group to attend last year's conference, Popovic recalls.

"A lot of the issues that we are talking about in the break out sessions are challenges all of the caregivers that are serving our community face and sometimes feel they are not prepared to answer. They search out opportunities like the conference so they can get as much information at once as they possibly can," she says.

While serious subjects such as suicide in the elderly are explored in the break out sessions, fun topics such as senior health and fitness are available. Fitness activities aimed for seniors will be demonstrated.

Adams and Popovic stress speakers in the breakout sessions are not gearing their talks toward a particular business or organiza-

tion. "The speakers are donating their time and expertise with no ties. They are not marketing in the sessions," says Popovic.

Booths will be set up in Vincent Hall with representatives from various organizations for people seeking more specific information on a particular business.

According to Adams, the consortium is a first step towards establishing a Center of Excellence in Gerontology and Intergenerational Learning at Holy Cross College. The college is currently seeking grant funding to establish the center.

Holy Cross College President Brother Richard Gilman describes the importance of a gerontology center in the area: "Holy Cross College is dedicated to strengthening the Michiana community by bringing generations together to meet the needs of individuals and families throughout the life cycle."

Gilman adds, "In addition to its traditional excellence in undergraduate liberal arts education, the college is seeking to partner with Holy Cross Village and other providers of service to seniors to increase the quality of their lives."

The consortium runs from 7:45 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. on March 13. The cost is \$50 for professionals (social worker, nurse, etc.), \$20 for senior/family/caregiver and free for students with student ID. The registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Registration can be made by phone to Pat Adams at (574) 239-8364 or online at www.hcc-nd.edu (select Gerontology Conference on home page). Registration deadline is March 6.



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KAREN CLIFFORD

Gerontology Consortium planning committee members Andrea Popielski, Paige Popovic, Malana Maher and Pat Adams discuss the upcoming conference.

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On Fire with St. Paul

Living faith, living the law

**LENTEN
FAITH SHARING**

 BY GINNY KOHRMAN AND
JOSEPH CAUDLE

Opening prayer

Lord, you chose a people to be your own and have grafted the Gentiles into that chosen people through faith in your Son. Grant that, by following the teaching of blessed Apostle Paul, we may grow to know and love this great gift ever more. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

"Before faith came, we were held in custody under law, confined for the faith that was to be revealed. Consequently, the law was our disciplinarian for Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a disciplinarian." — Gal 3:23-25.

St. Paul has one of the most profound experiences of conversion from his former religious practices. As a young man, Paul becomes a very devout Pharisee. At the early age of 12 years old, Paul leaves his homeland of Tarsus and settles in Jerusalem, where he is educated at the feet of Rabbi Gamaliel the Elder. Here Paul would have acquired a tremendous zeal for the Mosaic Torah according to strict Pharisaic guidelines: "On the basis of this profound orthodoxy that he learned at the school of Hillel in Jerusalem, he saw the new movement that referred to Jesus of Nazareth as a risk, a threat to the Jewish identity, to the true orthodoxy of the fathers." — General Audience, Aug. 27, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI.

Paul's persecution of the early Christians results from this interior zeal for his Jewish faith. However, after his encounter with Christ on the way to Damascus, Paul becomes a preacher of the faith he received by Our Lord's own intervention. It should be no wonder, then, that we find throughout St. Paul's writing a definite distinction between what the Law that is the

Torah of the Jewish religion gives and what faith in Jesus Christ accomplishes.

In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul addresses the problem of his people turning from the faith received in baptism through the power of the Spirit to the mere external practice of what is mandated by God in the Law of Moses. St. Paul asks the Galatians, "... did you receive the Spirit from works of the law, (Torah) or from faith in what you heard?" (Jesus Christ) — Gal. 3:5. The Galatians, caught up in their zeal of conversion, began to think that the gifts they received through the Holy Spirit were the result of their "works of the law," rather than their faith in Christ. Paul chastises the Galatians by pointing them to Abraham, the father of faith.

We can often find ourselves doing external works for others and expending ourselves in very noble tasks in the world, while excluding Jesus Christ. We somehow think that our external works alone will achieve the eternal reward, which faith in Christ accomplishes. We ignore the fact that our actions are the result of the Holy Spirit working within us.

What is at risk when we, like the Galatians, work from a notion of fear or reward rather than an attitude of love for others through Christ?

Heirs of Abraham

Through the Law many faithful Jews entered the family of Abraham, where they awaited the fulfillment of the promises of God and the coming of the Messiah: "The Lord said to Abram, 'I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you'" — Gn 12: 1-3.

Abraham pleased God because

of his great faith and his obedience. In time, God would give the Law to the Jewish people through Moses and command them to obey the Law.

Paul knows the importance of the Law, but comes to realize its limitations after his conversion. The Law can no longer give him what his new life in Christ offers. Paul, as the apostle to the Gentiles, teaches the Galatians what he now realizes — that, through Christ's death, all who sin against the Torah are now saved: "For through the law I died to the law, that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ; yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing." — Gal 2:19-21.

Paul teaches that the Law has prepared the children of Abraham for Christ. The Law can be likened to a guide or teacher, who imposes discipline in the face of human failings, in anticipation of the Messiah's arrival. But Jesus lifts the burden of the Law through His death and resurrection: "For My yoke is easy and my burden is light" — Mt 11:30. Liberation from the Law through faith in Jesus Christ does not open the gates to immorality and vice. Nor does Paul's concept of liberation dismiss his Christian communities from good works. However, freedom from the focus on law, fear and punishment opens the door to a life of faith through charity: "For you were called for freedom. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather serve one another through love." — Gal 5:13.

Today we continue to feel the tension between obeying the letter of the Law and living in the Spirit of the Law. In the continuing Tradition of our faith, we realize that it is our own interior disposition that is the key to heeding

Paul's message to the Galatians.

The laws, or truths, of our Catholic faith and the practice of unconditional Christian love for others are never in conflict.

How do you see these two aspects of faith — laws and love — working together for the good of the world? Where might there be areas in your own life that you experience tension between law and love?

All God's children

"For through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither slave nor free person. There is not male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendant, heirs according to the promise." — Gal. 3: 26-29.

Pope Benedict, in his general audience, Nov. 19, 2008, tells us what the Law was and why it was so important to the Jewish people. The pope explains that the Torah, the five books of Moses, was "a complex set of conduct codes that ranged from the ethical nucleus to observances of rites and worship..."

In addition, the Torah "included circumcision, observances concerning pure food and ritual purity in general, the rules regarding the observance of the Sabbath." These laws, regulations and rituals were enforced by the Jewish people to set them apart from the polytheistic, politically constraining Hellenistic culture in which the Jewish people lived. The Chosen People feared that, if the Law was not embraced, "the heritage of the faith of their fathers" and their faith in the one God with whom they shared a covenant of promises would be lost.

As a Pharisaic Jew, Paul feels that the loss of the Law threatens the identity of the Israelite people and destroys their relationship with

God — until his personal encounter with Christ. At that perfect moment in salvation history, Paul comes to realize that "with Christ, the God of Israel, the one true God, became the God of all peoples." — General Audience, November, 2008.

Through Jesus Christ all walls are brought down, and the bond of unity amongst all cultures, religions and peoples is made perfect. God, revealing his love for all through Christ, fulfills the Law and makes human salvation possible for "all the communities of the earth." Salvation is from God for all peoples. Faith is our response to God's gift.

Paul entrusts himself to Christ through a deep and lasting faith. Paul understands that Christ's love has fulfilled the Law. Because of Christ's love for him, Paul is impelled to set the world on fire for the Lord: "For the love of Christ impels us, once we have come to the conviction that one died for all; therefore, all have died. He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised." — 2 Cor. 5:14-15.

To whom have you entrusted your life? What does the love of Christ impel you to do?

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Second Week of Lent

BY KAY COZAD

As the second week of Lent unfolds, let's continue to engage in the rich tradition of preparation for what is the heart of the Catholic faith: the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Use these Scripture passages and action suggestions that incorporate prayer, sacrifice and service as a springboard for your own ongoing Lenten journey. (Scripture taken from the New American Bible Catholic edition.)

Second Sunday

"In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God, and the Word was God." Jn 1:1

Action: After Mass, discuss the Gospel reading with family.

Monday

"Do to others as you would have them do to you." Lk 6:31

Action: Go out of your way today to be nice to someone you don't like.

Tuesday

"I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Mk 1:8

Action: Discuss baptism with family or friends. Renew your baptismal promise aloud today to live a life in Christ.

Wednesday

"Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Lk 18:16

Action: Have a family night where the children plan the activity.

Thursday

"... This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." Lk 22:19

Action: Attend a weekday Mass.

Friday

"But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day." Mk 2:20

Action: Fast from meat today. Use the money saved for charity.

Saturday

"Beloved, I hope you are prospering in every respect and are in good health, just as your soul is prospering." 3 Jn 1:2

Action: Take a walk and pick up all the litter along the way.

Catechism and Bible form financial freedom program

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — Phil Lenahan wrote the Seven Steps to Becoming Financially Free small group study program from a Catholic perspective — not only according to what the Bible says about finances, but also according to what the Catholic catechism advises. The program has been offered in many parishes to give participants the tools for success in the past two years since its inception. The approach uses the spirituality of the Catholic faith, which incorporates the sacraments, the teachings of the pope and the communion of saints, to give participants the strength to live a virtuous life.

People often wonder about the connection between God and money because it is not discussed in Catholic churches as often as in Protestant ones. It is believed that Catholics often view money and church as two separate entities. However, God spoke about money throughout the Bible and since the church is of God, perhaps there is more to the connection than meets the eye.

Lenahan believes that the real emphasis in the quandary around God and money should be placed on attitude. “Actions follow atti-

tude,” explained Lenahan. “Get the attitude right and actions will follow. Money is a tool to carry out the wishes of Our Lord in your life.”

Lenahan believes that 80-90 percent of success or failure with money is the attitude one has toward money, not money itself. This, he says, is according to St. Paul. He encourages participants in the program to develop an attitude nurtured by biblical teaching such that one can have a “vertical relationship with our Lord, which breeds a horizontal relationship with our family and friends.” Seven Steps to Becoming Financially Free program is offered in many parishes throughout the diocese and mentored by parish volunteers.

“The program is an investment and so you will get a return on that investment. A return in terms of your relationship to God and (for couples) each other, and also grow in their understanding of their finances. The program is a practical approach to managing money. It’s the support and understanding of the church to helping reduce stress and manage finances,” says John Christensen, director of marketing and advertising for Our Sunday Visitor, which publishes the program in conjunction with Phil Lenahan.

Paul Oberhausen teaches the Seven Steps to Becoming Financially Free program at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne.

He says the program is a wonderful tool because it deals with all aspects of life, yet the program format is straightforward. There is an introductory meeting followed by six weekly meetings lasting two hours each, followed by a graduation meeting. Each meeting offers a video related to personal finances and time to go over homework material, as well as Scripture and information from the catechism related to the financial topic.

What type of homework is assigned for those wanting to learn more about budgeting? For the first four weeks, participants are asked to keep a spending diary to see where their money is being spent. This diary becomes the foundation for developing a budget, while applying the seven steps to financial freedom.

Lenahan’s Seven Steps to Becoming Financially Free begins with the foundational belief that people must always be stewards of Providence. This means that people must realize that everything they have — money, material possessions, food, even relationships — is a gift from God.

Building upon that groundwork,

participants reference their spending diary to access where they are financially. They are encouraged to establish a \$2,000 emergency spending fund for “things that should not be unexpected, but always comes around at the wrong time,” according to Oberhausen.

He says that this is the time when it is emphasized that a couple or an individual should not rely on credit cards. And, participants should eliminate debt by accelerating their rate of paying off existing debt.

Then, a six-month rainy day fund should be established. It is recommended that the amount of money in the rainy day fund be above and beyond the \$2,000 emergency fund.

Lenahan’s series also suggests reviewing one’s insurance and estate planning portfolios. Before graduation, participants are taught to save and invest with a purpose.

People on all socioeconomic

levels are encouraged to participate in the financial study program. Lenahan says, “The program is clearly not only for those in trouble, but for growing in the understanding about what God has to tell us about money.”

The course promises to impact the attitudes of the participants such that their thinking will be different and

their relationships with others grow deeper.

Groups of eight to 12 participants usually meet in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. Participants have also met in group members’ homes. Each group contains one or two leaders who facilitate group participation and discussion. The groups are open to married couples and single adults around the diocese.

The cost of \$47 for couples and \$30 for individuals covers the cost of materials and engages participants in the process.



Faithful youth from area schools practice what they preach

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Stewardship, the sharing of time, talent and treasure, is a central teaching in the Catholic Church. Volunteering time and talent for ministries within and outside the church community is an act of faith and brings joy and fulfillment to many.

Some area middle and high schools require service hours as part of their curriculum but several students, all parishioners of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, embrace the stewardship concept regardless of school requirements and practice what they preach.

Elizabeth Hess, eighth grader at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School, believes stewardship is “taking care of others before yourself,” and has grown up in a family who does just that. Both Hess’s parents and two older sisters have volunteered within the religious education (RE) program at St. Elizabeth.

In the family spirit, Hess is currently an aide in a preschool RE class and has volunteered during the parish Vacation Bible School and blood drive. “My dad and I serve together as ushers for Mass,” she adds.

Of volunteering within her church community Hess says, “I feel like God has used it as a way to guide me in my everyday choices. ... It’s made me more confident

and helped me feel like a bigger part of the church.”

Maddie Henschen, freshman at Homestead High School agrees. “I feel volunteering benefits me because I can give something to my community,” she says.

Henschen, a kindergarten RE teacher in the St. Elizabeth program, says her volunteer work has been rewarding and helped strengthen her faith. “It’s very important for me to have strong beliefs in order for the kids to benefit from me,” she says. Her career path, she adds, holds the possibility of teaching.

Another young steward at St. Elizabeth is Lauren Hellinger, a senior at Bishop Luers High School, who appreciates the Catholic education her parents insisted on. “I was blessed to have attended Catholic schools. ... There is no doubt that my faith has been strengthened through daily religion classes, weekly and monthly all-school Masses, caring teachers and varies religious opportunities open to me at school.”

Hellinger served as altar server until she began volunteering for RE. “I wanted to share my faith with others,” she says.

As an aspiring high school religious education teacher, Hellinger reports that although she has little money to donate, she does have “tons of time and talent” and is happy to share it with her church community.



KAY COZAD

Elizabeth Hess volunteers her time in a preschool RE class at her parish, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, every Sunday.

Chelsea Childers, Homestead senior, feels stewardship is an obligation and a privilege. “Volunteering is something I am called to do, but it is my honor and privilege to do it. ... It’s shown me how God works through us,” she says.

Childers has been an RE aide for the past three years for a young boy challenged with autism and finds that being with him “helps me remember what is truly important in life. He has also helped me mature and become more patient.”

Patience is a virtue that Maddison Smith from Homestead High School feels she was blessed

with. “I believe God gave me patience for a reason,” says the junior, who teaches religion to kindergarten students once a week at St. Elizabeth’s. Giving back to God is what stewardship is all about for this volunteer.

Smith feels it is important to share her faith, but knows she benefits as well, saying, “The pureness of love a child has for God has shown me that even when you cannot understand what or who he truly is, you can still love and believe in him.”

Canterbury sophomore Madeline Scott, learned stewardship from members of her family.

Along with her parents, Scott’s sister also encouraged her to volunteer. Currently an RE teacher at St. Elizabeth, Scott has recently been commissioned as eucharistic minister as well. She says of sharing her time and talent at church, “I enjoy volunteering so much and I really love being involved with the community. It’s a great way to give back to my community and be involved with others. Teaching RE reminds me that I should practice what I preach!”

Amanda Vankoski practices what she preaches as well in her RE class for three year olds. This Bishop Luers sophomore admits that her Catholic upbringing has solidified her choice to embrace stewardship. “My parents sent me to a Catholic high school and one reason was so that I could share my faith with others,” she says.

Vankoski recommends volunteering saying, “It is fun, teaches you a lot and is a good thing to give even a little something back.”

The common thread that all of these students share is the desire to give back to their church community and serve others.

Laura Hellinger captures that sentiment perfectly when she says, “As my religion teacher tells me, ‘We best image God when we love others.’ Serving others is loving them and it makes the volunteer a less selfish, more grateful person. Who wouldn’t want that?”

Volunteering is a way of life for the Leffers

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — Read a St. Therese Parish bulletin listing asking for volunteers or suggest that someone in the parish needs something done and Steve or Karen Leffers will often answer the call.

Karen has been a parishioner of St. Therese Parish since before her marriage to Steve in 1977. After they married, they both felt it an obligation to assist their parish community in any way possible.

Steve is known as the music guy at St. Therese, where he has sung in the choir since 1977. He has also participated in various guitar groups there over the years. He has coached basketball and

served on the school board as well. Together with his wife, he has been the co-chair for the parish fall festival, helped paint the school and parish hall recently for its 50th anniversary celebration and coached track at the school for the last 15 years.

In addition to the volunteer work done collaboratively, Karen serves as the school board liaison for the parish council. She has also been involved with the Booster Club and bell choir. She is an usher and eucharistic minister. Karen also launders the purificator cloths used to wipe the chalice and cups during the Eucharist at Mass.

Karen, who also works as a nurse, wishes she could find more ways to volunteer. Her motivation for volunteerism is the belief that God put us here to serve. She further explains, "I am here for others and our parish community. I don't always have the money or funds, but I can always give of my time."

The parish community has always been there for her husband and her in return, even when she battled breast cancer and during other times of need.

Volunteering for the parish brings a lot of joy to Steve also. He says, "It's a good place to be involved and be with your friends. It's our parish, our second family. It's the culture we grew up in. It's who we are. When something needs to be done, somebody has to do it. And it's fun to be with family and friends, so it's not like it's really work."

Steve believes that volunteers keep parishes going and for this reason it is important that parents model such behavior for their children.

Steve and Karen's dedication to volunteering runs deeply through generations. Grandparents, who passed the example on to their parents, who passed them onto Steve and Karen, set the example of volunteering.

They were involved in HASA and Girl Scouts, and Karen's dad drove the bus for Bishop Luers High School. Steve, who is the oldest of eight siblings, and Karen, the oldest of five children, have four children of their own ranging in age from 27 to 14.

All of the Leffers' children were involved with the Bishop Luers Key Club, among other things, and the tradition of giving to others continues. Their daughter, Krista, is a student at the University of Indianapolis and serves her parish community there as a eucharistic minister. Their youngest, Corey, is still a server at St. Therese Parish and helped paint the parish hall and school even though he is now a freshman at Bishop Luers High School.

Steve and Karen also feel it is important that parents stay involved and volunteer to assist with activities in high school. Karen is on the LuersKnight committee, assists with Show Choir and coordinates snacks and volunteers for the track team at Bishop Luers.

"It's important to volunteer to keep a parish going."

STEVE LEFFERS

Earl Keith works faith, fast-pitch softball and fundraising into volunteerism

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — When it comes to faith, fast-pitch softball and fundraising, one South Bend man knows how to combine it for the benefit of others.

Earl Keith, a parishioner at St. Anthony de Padua, is a busy guy who wouldn't have it any other way. Employed full-time at Creative Promotions, Inc., in Elkhart, and part-time as the varsity softball coach for Saint Joseph's High School, Keith devotes much of his "free time" to helping his local Catholic community.

"Earl helps so much behind the scenes," says Saint Joseph's assistant principal and boys varsity basketball coach Marty Harshman. "He really has a great rapport with the kids and is able to connect with them on a level not everyone can. He develops positive relationships with our young people, and he knows almost everyone in our community. That's really unique for someone who isn't a full-time teacher here."

His job with Creative Promotions puts Keith into contact with many of the area Catholic schools, and like any good coach, he is always scouting the talent. Keith's wife, Clare, is often nearby and helps explain to sometimes bewildered kids how her husband probably knows them. When he recently greeted a fifth-grade Corpus Christi athlete after Sunday Mass, Clare pulled the student aside and whispered, "He knows you from softball."

Keith meets a lot of folks while serving as president of the Saint Joe Athletic Association. In addition to his coaching duties, Keith volunteers as the public address announcer for football, volleyball and boys and girls basketball. He organizes the athletes to help raise money for their teams by working the football parking lot during Notre Dame home games, and, when Trivia Night comes around, Keith is coordinator Joanne Verhiley's right-hand man.

"He'll bend over backwards to make things happen," says



DIANE FREEBY

Earl Keith is happiest when he's helping others reach their potential, even early on a snowy Saturday morning for indoor softball drills at Saint Joseph's High School.

Verhiley. "He's easy going and fun — he always seems like he'd do anything for you. Just a real people-friendly guy with good Christian values."

Verhiley insists she's not just saying that to entice the next Trivia Night coordinator who will take over when she steps down this year.

"Earl is easy to work with. He's very involved, and when he says he'll get something done, it gets done," she adds.

Keith's passion for getting involved began back when his children were students at St. Anthony's. He says memories of his own childhood motivated him, and that he mostly just wanted to spend time with his kids.

"My father wasn't always around when I was younger," he recalls. "He could have been there for 10 games in a row, but I always remembered the times he wasn't there. I knew as a father I'd be involved, and coaching was a way to do that."

Keith, a former baseball player himself at Ball State, began his volunteer work coaching his daughter's grade school teams. He

spent 10 years coaching girls soccer and basketball, and another four years coaching boys basketball when his son came along.

"Volunteering is a way to give back," explains Keith. "I think how lucky I am to have three healthy children. God tells me this is my way of helping and giving back. It's food for my soul to be able to help other people."

While sports is his main focus, that's not all Keith is about. He tries to bring out the best sports has to offer and make the entire community a better place.

Father Terry Fisher is the former pastor of St. Anthony's and current pastor at St. Joseph, Mishawaka. He worked with Keith for six years during a very critical time at St. Anthony's.

"Earl was our liaison for the athletic department," says Father Fisher. "He was very active on our parish council, and really moved our parish along at time when we were in a bit of a slump. Earl has a real way of transforming his energy to others. He believes in what he's doing and has a way of motivating others!"

Having served on St. Anthony's athletic board for 10 years, Keith says he was glad when Father Fisher wanted to reestablish the parish council, and jumped at the chance to help.

"It was all about community," remembers Keith, who was one of about six people on the parish council. "It wasn't about athletics or scholastics. We did carnivals, hog roasts and euchre nights. It just involved everyone without being at a ball game. You get everybody involved that way. You don't realize the people you didn't know. But you get to know them in a relaxed atmosphere. It was really good for our community."

Even though his two older daughters are in college now, Keith says he has no plans to slow down anytime soon.

"When I took the varsity softball job, I promised I'd do it for another 10 years. I'm not rich, so I'm not retiring at 65," Keith says.

Keith has certainly made the lives rich of those around him.

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Stewardship and the Eucharist

BY HARRY VERHILEY

In 1992, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a pastoral letter, Stewardship: A Disciples Response. This document is a useful guide for the Catholic seeking to live according to God's call. It is an invitation to follow Christ who gave himself up for us.

Each of us is called to serve God and neighbors and be stewards of God's creation and all that he has entrusted to us.

Stewardship is necessary for all members of the church so that each one of us recognizes what needs to be done and we know how to go about doing it.

To understand stewardship, we must look towards the holy Eucharist and understand that it is life-giving nourishment for the engagement in the work of the church.

Eucharist is the total gift of our loving Savior to us. Jesus gives us the Eucharist because of his love for us, and for our salvation. "He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end." — Jn. 13:1.

This love is not just for the Twelve Apostles present in the room, but for us, too, who receive Eucharist 2,000 years later. The Eucharist was long planned by Christ.

St. Luke quotes Jesus saying, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer ..."

We know this suffering in reference to Calvary as a sacrifice and today our Eucharist is the sacramental representation of the sacrifice of Calvary — of the paschal mysteries of his suffering, death and resurrection. To participate in the Mass and to receive the Eucharist is a supreme act of worship.

Jesus not only loved us as he laid his life down for us on Calvary, but he also established this profound sacrifice and sacrament in order to be one with his beloved church. This new covenant is "a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a paschal banquet in which Christ is consumed, the mind is filled with grace and a pledge of future glory is given to us." — "Sacrosanctum Concilium," 47.

Certainly this is a cause of thanksgiving, a thanksgiving to be lived. And by living the Eucharist is where the stewardship way of life comes into play.

Jesus, in the holy Eucharist, teaches us how to be generous, how to give, how to sacrifice, how to serve. Jesus does this through the work of the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit promised and given to the apostles. This is the same Spirit given to us

through apostolic succession. By way of this Spirit, we come to know what Jesus has done for us in the Eucharist.

We, the recipients of Christ, the followers of Christ, are taught by the Holy Spirit how to be united in love and service just as the third eucharistic prayer expresses to the Father, "We who are nourished by his body and blood may be filled with his Holy Spirit and become one body, one spirit in Christ."

We do not do this all on our own; it is the work of the Holy Spirit, the gift of Jesus. It is the power of the Eucharist that enables Christians to give of themselves generously to the service of others. Our stewardship acts of generosity, sacrifice and service are acts of God, not an expression of our own greatness.

The holy Eucharist is the source of life giving nourishment so that we will act upon God's way. It is only in communion with him that we truly grow in love.

Harry Verhiley is the director of the Development Office for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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Stewardship



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EDITORIAL

Will call to conversion change leaders, change us?

Many have speculated what Pope Benedict XVI might have said to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who is third in line for the U.S. presidency, at a Vatican meeting last week. The Democrat from California claims she is "ardently Catholic." At the same time she is an ardent advocate of abortion rights, which is quite contrary to the teaching of the Catholic Church. The church holds that all life has dignity from conception to natural death. Anything contrary to this opposes Catholic teaching.

Pelosi further confused Catholic teaching on abortion when she exclaimed on NBC's "Meet the Press" last August that church leaders for centuries have not been able to agree on when life begins.

In response, Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia and Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., who are chairmen of the U.S. bishops' pro-life and doctrine committees, issued a statement saying Pelosi "misrepresented the history and nature of the authentic teaching of the Catholic Church on abortion" in the interview and noted the church, since the first century, "has affirmed the moral evil of every abortion."

In the meeting with Pope Benedict XVI last week, Vatican reports indicate that the pope was straightforward with his words that urged legislators to uphold just laws that protect the sanctity of life.

The communiqué, which was released Feb. 18 on the Vatican Web site, said: "Following the general audience the Holy Father briefly greeted Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the United States House of Representatives, together with her entourage.

"His Holiness took the opportunity to speak of the requirements of the natural moral law and the church's consistent teaching on the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, which enjoin all Catholics, and especially legislators, jurists and those responsible for the common good of society, to work in cooperation with all men and women of good will in creating a just system of laws capable of protecting human life at all stages of its development."

Pelosi issued a statement on the "common concerns" that were discussed with Pope Benedict: "The church's leadership in fighting poverty, hunger and global warming, as well as the Holy Father's dedication to religious freedom and his upcoming trip and message to Israel."

No mention of the pontiff's urging for U.S. legislators to defend the sanctity of life could be found in her statement. Perhaps this is an indication that even an explanation of our pontiff could not change Pelosi's heart on the abortion stance.

But prayer can help! When President Barack Obama visited Mesa, Ariz., Feb. 18, to unveil the \$75 billion "Homeowner Stability Initiative," some along the streets protested his pro-abortion legislation with signs, but many also gathered at nearby St. Timothy Parish in Mesa to pray for the president.

"Yes, we don't agree with a lot of the things he's going to do or even the things he's doing now," said St. Timothy pastor Father Jack Spaulding in an interview on Catholic News Service. The priest was referring to the president's stand on abortion legislation. "But he's our president and we need to pray for him."

The Year of St. Paul is a year devoted to conversion and evangelization. As we all pray for our own illumination of conscience, conversion and understanding of the truth, let us use this Lent to also pray and fast for the conversion of heart of all those in leadership.

The awesome truth

Is crucifixion just too brutal to consider? Constantine the Great thought so; out of respect for Jesus Christ's execution, he abolished the practice in the Roman Empire in 337. Today it would seem that many avoid recalling the Savior's cruel death by skipping attendance at Stations of the Cross services.

In a way, that's understandable. Who wants to think about being spat upon, or whipped or stripped naked in front of a crowd.

But on the other hand, every detail of the Divine Victim's agony emerges as triumph of love over hate; divine love conquering human failure.

The Stations of the Cross is an empowering service reminding us that although it was 2,000 years ago that the precious blood mingled with the dust of Calvary, the promise of forgiveness and salvation is as fresh as the wounds shown to Thomas.

Today's Catholic editorial board consists of 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 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

Attack unwarranted

I am writing to those people who felt it appropriate to send hate-filled and anonymous letters to my home in response to my letter to the editor printed on Feb. 8. The intent of my letter to the editor was to enlighten some that there are Catholics who believe it is important to vote on all issues in an election, not just on abortion. My intent was not to open myself up to fear and pain.

Upon reading these letters, I was supremely upset at the level of hatred being expressed by members of the Catholic community. Is this how Christ would have handled this situation? Is it Christlike to tell someone she is a "baby killer" and that she will "definitely be living out her eternity in hell." What has happened to Christian charity, Christlike ideals of love, kindness and respect? I am deeply saddened that such individuals may share my pew in church, may shake my hand at the sign of peace, yet hold this level of hate in their hearts.

If you will remember, before becoming pope, Cardinal Ratzinger stated that there could be "proportionate reasons" that justify voting for someone who does not share the church's position against abortion. If you will remember, the Catholic bishops stated that Catholic voters should examine all of the issues at play before casting their votes. How does a Catholic choose between a candidate who supports abortion law and the candidate who is in favor of the Iraq war that has also killed so many innocents and was deemed pre-emptive and immoral by John Paul II? There are no candidates right now that represent Catholic beliefs in their entirety, so we all must make a choice.

There were no easy answers for any voters, especially Catholic voters. I feel it is a Catholic voter's responsibility to weigh all of the issues before voting. You have every right not to agree. I respect that. The intent of my letter to the editor was to point out that I cannot imagine that God would see my vote that was placed in favor of policies that advance the poor and downtrodden as a sin. If he does, I will answer for that when I see him, but that is his judgment to make — not yours.

I would also like to thank those who took the time to call me, stop me at church and write me to express their appreciation for my letter to the editor. Your responses uplifted me in a time of confusion and sadness.

Ann Britzke
Goshen

Where are the sisters?

My interest in the number of women in the religious life was peaked by an article Feb. 8 announcing the study by the Vatican of the

Religious Institutes for women here in the United States. The editor of *Today's Catholic*, Tim Johnson, was kind enough to answer my inquiry about the number of women religious and forwarded an article regarding some statistics.

According to this article from the Catholic News Service, "the falling number of religious women is alarming." In the last four decades, the number has "declined from 160,000 in 1970 to about 63,000 today."

Just as an experiment, I decided to go through the Feb. 15, 2009 issue of *Today's Catholic* to see just how any of our precious nuns are mentioned. To make this more of a scientific experiment, I began with two different colored markers, planning to highlight any references to deacons, priest or bishops with one color and then the opposite color to highlight any reference to our "beloved" nuns. Yes, "beloved" can be used to describe women religious too.

Until I reached the article on page 13 (out of 20 total pages), *The Cutting Edge* written by Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, there were no references to women religious. No nuns mentioned, no nuns as parts of stories, no nuns quoted in articles, no news about them, no mention that they existed in the diocese or for that matter, the entire United States.

After that article, nothing more until finally on the very last page as part of the article (jump from the front page) on the diocesan all-school Mass, two religious women were mentioned: Sister Margaret Mary Mitchell and Sister Clare Marie Klein were called on by the bishop to speak about their ministry. Finally!

Women in religious vocations are professionals and college graduates. Certainly they have views and accomplishments and should have a voice. Where is it? And why isn't it there?

Pat Arata
Mishawaka

Appreciates Latin Mass availability

I'm really happy that the Latin Mass is available in this diocese. I have somehow gotten on the mailing list for the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) and find their newsletter to have some excellent Catholic articles. I would consider the members of the fraternity to be some wonderful Catholics from reading the articles they print.

I was quite surprised to read that young people are more likely to attend the traditional Mass than the older Catholics. I thought I would find more elderly people and fewer young adults at the Latin Mass.

I'm a member of St. Patrick Parish in South Bend, one of the churches that the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Latin Community worships at. I decided to attend one of the Latin Masses, while the people

who usually take me to Mass were out of town. I liked the Mass so much that a couple weeks later I returned to the Latin Mass even if it meant taking a cab and getting up very early.

I really would like to thank Bishop D'Arcy for asking the fraternity to send a priest to our diocese to say the Latin Mass and for Father George Gabet for driving all the way to South Bend from Fort Wayne to make the Latin Mass available to Catholics in my area. I think the Mass and the newsletter are a real help to my faith and I'm going to try to attend the Latin Mass regularly.

Paula L. Spart
South Bend

Jobs do not equate to defense of life

The economic improvement promised by our president does not cancel the seventh commandment: "Thou shall not kill." Three times in the Illinois legislature Barack Obama voted against providing life saving help to babies who had survived abortions. That is infanticide, a form of "killing."

I started my education in Spain during the Second World War. It was in the "Deutsche Shule," a Nazi-run school. It still is the best school building in Santa Cruz in the province of Tenerife. Nazism under Hitler brought improved education, improved economy and jobs were created, with the help of heavy industry. (Big Business).

Hitler's only fault was that he did not like Jews, or gypsies or homosexuals among others. Otherwise he was very good for Germany. Following the same line of thought, President Obama's support of the Freedom of Choice Act, which will result in more babies being killed, is not that bad. Look: "I have a job."

Having had a good friend, July Engel stand in front of a moving train five years after undergoing an abortion, is good reminder for me that abortion has many victims. Victims include the dead baby and the impaired mother for starters.

Our country is based on the right to life, as mentioned in the Declaration of Independence. The constant teaching of the Catholic Church from the apostles down to our present day has been that abortion is the killing of an innocent human life. Remember when God gives life it is forever and ever.

My question is the following: Why is active participation in facilitating abortion by voting for a pro abortion, pro infanticide president not a confessable sin? It is at least a "misdemeanor" in the spiritual realm. May God have mercy on us, so callused that we accept and even facilitate abortions, and then receive the God of life in holy Communion.

Jose Carlos Espinosa, M.D.
Fort Wayne

Paul the preacher

It has become customary to speak of three “offices” that Christ fulfilled. He is prophet, priest and king. Put it in more descriptive language, they are the office of teaching, the office of sanctification and the office of shepherding.

Christ has shared these offices with his church, that she may continue to minister to mankind. They are treated individually in the Code of Canon Law, and appear in the catechism, for example, in paragraph 1592, “The ordained ministers exercise their service for the people of God by teaching, divine worship and pastoral governance.”

But these tasks belong not only to the ordained ministers of the church. They belong to every Christian baptized into Christ, only in different ways. The laity have their own way of expressing the prophetic, priestly, and kingly offices of Christ.

The Second Vatican Council spoke about this in its “Decree on



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the Apostolate of the Laity.” It said first of all that, “The church was founded for the purpose of spreading the kingdom of Christ throughout the earth . . .” It then said, “All activity of the mystical body directed to the attainment of this goal is called the apostolate, which the church carries on in various ways through all her members.”

The baptized are challenged to discover what it means to be a prophet, priest, and king in their own lives.

If we consider only the first of those for now, we are reminded

of the remark made by St. Francis of Assisi, “Preach the Gospel always. If necessary use words.”

This quotation expands our idea of “preaching.” It’s more than the homily (reserved to the ordained ministry of deacon or priest.) Preaching involves proclamation, evangelism, witness. It involves catechesis and Catholic education. It involves the profession of faith that we make formally or informally.

All this makes me think of St.

PAUL, PAGE 16

Jesus calls for reform during Lent



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

1st Sunday of Lent Mk 1:12-15

The Book of Genesis provides us with the first reading. It is the familiar story of Noah. Noah was faithful to God, whereas the world almost universally was not faithful. Since Noah was true to God, God provided that Noah should escape the impending doom of the great flood.

This reading is about events following the flood. Noah, his family and couples of the various animals Noah had taken aboard the ark were safe on dry land. By God’s help, they had survived.

God assures Noah that never again would a flood destroy the earth. For Noah and his family, the most consoling divine promise was that God promised to protect them and all their descendants. In return, they would have to conform to God’s holy will.

Genesis, sadly, has had a very tortured history. Volumes on how to interpret Genesis would fill a library. Without straying into the many controversies, it suffices to say that the purpose of the book, and of this reading, is to teach religious facts.

The simple religious fact is that sin destroys. God wills that people not face eternal death, but many choose death by sinning. It is their choice.

The Second Epistle of Peter is the source of the second reading. The letter states that it was composed in Babylon. Probably it was written in Rome, which pious Christians called Babylon because of the excesses they saw all around them in Rome.

For Christians, living in the midst of these excesses was daunting. This epistle encouraged and reassured them. As in the case of Noah, God protects the faithful, united with God through Jesus. The faithful will survive, even in eternity, because God will prevail. The “glories” of Rome would fade — as indeed they did.

St. Mark’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. It is very brief, but it is quite dramatic.

Times are threatening. Jesus retreats into the desert, there to be tempted by Satan. John the Baptist is arrested. Then the Lord comes into Galilee. His message is bold and stark. He says that “the time of fulfillment” is at hand. God will be vindicated. The tables will be balanced. The sinful will be laid low. It is inevitable.

Jesus calls people to reform their lives. Fidelity to God is the key to life. There is still time to reform.

Reflection

The church has begun the season of Lent, the most intense period in the church’s year of calling its people to union with God. This weekend’s readings call people to face the facts of life as humans. They need God.

What about the flood described in Genesis? How extensive was it? Does the story in Genesis actually echo an older story from pagan sources about a great flood, with the exception of the references to the faithful Noah?

Regardless of the answers to these questions, the religious message of Genesis is clear. The first reading for this weekend is a fitting beginning to reflection for Lent. This is the message. Willful rejection of God leads necessarily and always to destruction. God, however, always is ready, indeed even eager, to forgive and to restore life, despite the gravity of our sins. His plan is that we should live.

We must seek forgiveness. Essential to asking for forgiveness is to acknowledge personal sin. Acknowledgment must be more than simply realizing our faults. The future is important. We must discipline ourselves so that we do not sin again. Such disciplining is the purpose of Lent.

On this weekend, the church calls us to discipline by penance. It calls us to prayer, to focus our hearts and mind, and to communicate with God, the fountain of strength and mercy. Only with God’s strength, will our resolve not to sin again endure.

READINGS

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In February, the church remembers saints Cyril, monk, and Methodius. Their greatest legacy is the Russian Orthodox Church. But while the Russians never had a Reformation, they have had schisms and heresies. This quiz looks at some of these dissenters from Orthodoxy.

1. For many traditional Orthodox this, the largest Christian group, is either schismatic or heretics

- a. Baptists b. Lutherans c. Catholics

2. Although reasons varied, many schismatics (also known as Raskolniki) left the Russian Orthodox Church not to reform it but to

- a. abolish it
b. preserve its essential elements
c. have it bridge the gap with Islam

3. The immediate cause of the split was the reforms introduced by this man:

- a. Peter the Great b. Ivan the Terrible
c. Nikon, patriarch of Moscow.

4. When was he active?

- a. seventh century b. 17th century c. 21st century

5. What was his main aim?

- a. To return the Russian Church to its Roman origin
b. To more closely align with the synagogue sept of the Kazars
c. To return to Greek liturgical models

6. Why did it cause trouble?

- a. His methods and nature were severe and harsh
b. He was too timid in his approach
c. The Turks refused to allow any of the bishops to worship in the Crimea

7. Some of the contentious items may seem trivial now. One of the biggest was how many of these to use when making the sign of the cross:

- a. Nails b. Fingers c. Prostrations

8. Those who ultimately rejected these reforms became known as the

- a. old Catholics b. new church c. old believers

9. The new group succeeded in bringing some clergy, but none of these necessary for continuity

- a. bishops b. priests c. monks

10. Partly because of this (as well as the tendency of splinter groups to splinter) they eventually formed these two groups:

- a. Those with priests and those without priests
b. Those who were celibate and those who were married
c. Those of the world and those not of the world

11. To cope with this, one group simply changed its theology to suggest

- a. marriage was evil
b. they did not need priests
c. the two worlds were really one

12. The priestly group eventually got what they needed most when they attracted to their cause a bishop who had this colorful background:

- a. He was a bear trainer from France who had become Orthodox when mauled by a Catholic bear
b. He was a monk who was defrocked for secretly being a bigamist
c. He was a dethroned patriarch of Constantinople

13. The Russian authorities, who supported only the official church, did not interfere in this recruitment because

- a. the Russian constitution promoted the separation of Kremlin and church
b. these old believers were operating in territory controlled by the Austrian Empire.
c. the Russians realized that persecution just made the dissenters stronger

14. Unrelated, but often lumped together, other dissenter groups included these very idiosyncratic groups. The “Mutes” never or rarely did this:

- a. sang b. spoke c. played music in ragtime

ANSWERS:

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

History of the sign of the cross

What is the history of the sign of the cross? Anonymous

The sign of the cross shows us two things: 1) our belief in the Trinity, since it mentions the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and 2) our redemption by Christ, since Jesus died on the cross to save us from sin and death.

This Trinitarian formula is mentioned in the Gospel of Matthew. Before his ascension into heaven, Jesus commissions the apostles: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." This baptismal formula reflects the church's gradual understanding of God as three persons. The church still baptizes people today in the name of the Trinity. The holy Mass also begins with the sign of the cross.

F. Cross says that from the time of the early theologian Tertullian (A. D. 160-225) from Carthage in North Africa (modern Tunisia), Christian writers testify to the use of the "sign of the Lord," partly as sanctifying every action in daily

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

life from rising in the morning to retiring at night, partly as an encouragement in temptation and trial, partly as a means of mutual recognition in times of persecution. From early times the sign of the cross was also employed in baptism and confirmation, and its use was then extended to the liturgical blessing of persons and things.

In the early centuries, the sign of the cross was drawn upon the forehead by the thumb or finger of the right hand from forehead to chest, and then from shoulder to shoulder, returning to the center afterwards. It is usual in the Western Church to cross-stroke from left to right, and in the Eastern Church from right to left.

I know what a "doctor of the church" is, but how many are there and name a few. D.W., South Bend

We must first distinguish between "doctors of the church" and "fathers of the church." The fathers of the church is a group of church authors of the past whose authority on doctrinal matters carried special weight. The fathers of the church were characterized by four qualities: 1) orthodoxy of doctrine, 2) holiness of life, 3) approval of the church, and 4) antiquity. The period of the fathers of the church is closed with St. Isidore of Seville in the west and with St. John of Damascus in the east.

E. Livingstone says that the title "doctor of the church" has been regularly given since the Middle Ages to certain Christian theologians of outstanding merit and acknowledged saintliness. Originally the western theologians, Gregory the Great, Ambrose, Augustine and Jerome were held to be the four doctors par excellence. In later times the list has

been gradually increased to over thirty. In recent times the pope has named three women doctors of the church: Teresa of Avila and Catherine of Siena in 1970, and Therese of Lisieux or the Little Flower in 1997.

Of these doctors of the church mentioned here, St. Gregory the Great (A.D. 540-604) was a pope, helped to convert England to Christianity, wrote "Dialogues" and "Pastoral Rule" and encouraged Gregorian chant. St. Ambrose (A.D. 340-397) was a bishop of Milan in Italy and wrote many books, sermons and even hymns. St. Augustine (A.D. 354-

430) was a bishop of Hippo in northern Africa, fought against heresies, and wrote "Confessions" and "City of God." St. Jerome (A.D. 342-420) was the secretary to Pope Damasus, translated the Bible into Latin and wrote many works. St. Catherine of Siena in Italy (1347-1380) received the stigmata and her mystical experiences were published as the "Dialogue."

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

Reconciliation, forgiveness, hope — and Lent

It was Mardi Gras night, 1995, and I found myself sipping bourbon at 40,000 feet over the Atlantic, en route to Rome where I'd been asked to address an international symposium on the recent Cairo World Conference on Population and Development; there, you may recall, adroit Holy See diplomacy prevented the Clinton administration from getting abortion-on-demand declared a fundamental human right, equivalent to religious freedom or free speech. On Ash Wednesday morning, I set off in search of an English-language Mass and soon found myself at Santa Susanna, Rome's American "parish" near the Piazza della Repubblica. The noon Mass was packed with local Anglophones, with whom I queued up after the homily to receive ashes. What followed was one of the shocks of my life.

"Be reconciled to yourself this Lent," the priest intoned, imposing the ashes. To which I could only blurt out in response, "What did you say?"

Whatever Father X's intentions, his admonition was a piece of psychobabble that badly misconceived the spiritual wisdom of the Ash Wednesday liturgy. The kernel of that wisdom is contained in the liturgy's second reading, from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians. There, Paul gives his apostolic mission a remarkable definition: undertaken in this "acceptable time," it is a mission of reconciliation, and through it the good news is proclaimed that God has reconciled the world to himself, restoring man's lost communion with his Creator through

the gift of the Son.

The Greek verb used to describe this reconciliation has a particular edge to it: for what is being "reconciled" is not a bank statement and a check book, but a relationship — a relationship of love, broken by betrayal. Through that verb, Paul hammers home to gentile Corinthians a theme dear to the Old Testament Hebrew prophets: The relationship between God and humanity is not like that of a dictator and his subjects, or a master and his slaves; rather, God's relationship with us is best understood by analogy to love. And the reconciliation that God wishes to achieve in Christ is the kind of reconciliation that follows infidelity in love.

This, and not some psychobabble about self-regard, is the reconciliation to which the journey of Lent calls us. Lent is the "acceptable time" in which we should seize every opportunity to confront our infidelities: not to wallow in guilt, but because recognizing the truth of our fallenness is the first, essential step toward reconciliation with those we have wounded and with God. Charlton Heston was once asked the secret of his long, happy marriage to Lydia; the man who had played prophets, kings, and presidents said, in so many words, "It's not very difficult; you just have to be able to say, 'I'm sorry, I was wrong.'" The inability to say that — or, more properly, the lack of a someone to whom that can be said, a someone with real authority to forgive — has cultural, not only personal, consequences.

In his 2003 apostolic letter, "Ecclesia in Europa," the Servant of God John Paul II noted the



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

sense of cultural malaise that permeated 21st-century Europe — and then linked it to the basic human need for forgiveness: "One of the roots of the hopelessness that assails many people today is ... their inability to see themselves as sinners and to allow themselves to be forgiven, an inability often resulting from the isolation of those who, by living as if God did not exist, have no one from whom they can seek forgiveness" (emphasis added). And what is true of Europe is also true of America, which is Europe transplanted: if there is no one to whom we can turn for forgiveness, we will turn in on ourselves — and we will find there no satisfying agent of absolution. Self-reconciliation is self-delusion.

Thus one good way to live this "acceptable time" of Lent is to discover anew the graces of the sacrament of reconciliation. Through those graces, we, like Paul's Corinthians, can become in Christ the "righteousness of God." Doing that is what keeps hope alive.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for March 1, 2009

Mark 1:9-15

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent, Cycle B: Jesus at the Jordan, in the desert and after. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	NAZARETH	GALILEE
BAPTIZED	JORDAN	WATER
HEAVENS	A DOVE	VOICE
PLEASED	SPIRIT	FORTY
TEMPTED	BY SATAN	WILD BEASTS
ANGELS	AFTER JOHN	ARRESTED
PROCLAIMING	REPENT	BELIEVE

DRIVEN BY SPIRIT

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

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PAUL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Paul as a model for preaching — perhaps a kind of patron saint of preaching. He encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus, and went away to Arabia for three years in order to meditate on it. And when he was finished, he came out like a whirlwind. It's like he had an evangelical hot foot lit under him.

In three great, looping missionary journeys he covered the Mediterranean basin. He showed up in Samaria, Caesarea, Damascus, Syria, Galatia and Corinth. It's like a person with a message burning in his heart showing up in New York, Atlanta, Chicago, Denver and Los Angeles. He couldn't sit still.

Why not? He is modest about claiming any credit for it. "If I preach the Gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it!" — 1 Cor 9:16.

Have you ever had something so wonderful happen to you that you couldn't stop talking about it? You tell a stranger on the bus, you phone a friend, you text message your entire address book. The Gospel was burning within Paul, and he had to share the message.

Why are we so passive? How can we be so blasé? Perhaps we think we do not have the eloquence that a saint and apostle like Paul had. But he, himself, said he did not preach "with the wisdom of human eloquence." — 1 Cor 1:17.

He preached Christ crucified, and the message takes care of itself.

Sports

ICCL boys begin fifth- and sixth-grade tourney

BY GREG SCHULTHEIS

SOUTH BEND — Thirty-three teams completed a 12-game regular season schedule and started their year-end tourney the first weekend in February. Twenty teams were entered in the A League tourney, while 13 teams participated in the B League tourney. The top finishers in the regular season were St. Pius A1 (12-0) in the John Bosco A division, Our Lady A (11-1) in the Martin De Porres A division, St. Pius B2 (10-2) in the John Bosco B division and St. Michael B from Plymouth (12-0) in the Martin DePorres B division.



Family, 29-24, behind the 17-point performance of Will Whitten, while Kevin Weinberg scored 12 points for Holy Family.

St. Bavo A defeated Christ the King A2, 30-23, as Paul Saros, Michael Voor and Alex Mangus scored 6 points each. Zach Bomban and Tommy

Lovalle scored 7 points each for Christ the King.

St. Pius A2 defeated St.

Anthony A2 in hard fought game, 36-30.

Luke Gebbie had 15 points and Braydon Edwards 14 points for St. Pius.

Our Lady A defeated Corpus Red A as Mikal Henderson scored 16 points, while Garrett Lukens scored 13 points for Corpus Christi.

St. Michael B who moved in the tourney to play with the A League heavy weights defeated Corpus Christi Blue A, 49-39, as Nate Day tossed in a game high 16 points, while Danny Torres scored 11 points for Corpus Christi.

In the first round of the B League tourney, Christ the King B2 defeated St. Monica B, 33-24, behind the 19-point performance of Joe Stoud, while Cody Wisser and Patrick Coulter scored 6 points each for St. Monica.

St. Joe Mishawaka B defeated St. Joe SB Gold B, 30-13, as Joe Ravotto, Jake Whitfield and Joey Kerner scored 7 points each. Zack Credi pumped in 10 points for St. Joseph, South Bend.

St. Anthony B defeated Christ the King B1 in a close one-point game, 18-17, to advance.

Both St. Pius teams advance to the second round as St. Pius B1 defeated St. Joseph, South Bend, Blue B, 32-25, and St. Pius B2 defeated St. Thomas B in a high scoring game, 48-38.

Second-round games

In the first game of the Elite Eight of the A League tourney, three pointers were raining down as St. Pius A2 gave St. Pius A1 their first loss of the season and knocked them out of the tourney, 32-19. Billy Doslak of St. Pius A2 hit four three pointers and finished with a game high 22 points, while Nate Miller hit four,

KNIGHTS FREE-THROW UPDATE Hanna Smith of St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder, advanced in regional action of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest at St. Vincent Activity Center on Sunday, Feb. 22. Hanna made 18-25 in first round competition to tie with another shooter. She went on to make 5-5 in the tie breaker and will compete at the state level in March. Hanna is the daughter of Bill and Peggy Smith. Other winners from northeast Indiana include Hannah Delp, Kamio Gilreath, Kaylar Hershberger, Rebekah Frey, Evan Doelling, Adam Owens, Michael Pawlak, Blake Brouwer and Austen Edwards according to District Deputy Jim Brassel from St. Charles Parish, Fort Wayne.

CYO Eagles soar to finals

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — As the number one seed in the 73rd annual Gold League boys' Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) bracket, the St. Charles Cardinals received a first round bye before facing Tom Starks' Eagles from St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, in the semifinals.

The Cardinals' lone loss in the regular season came at the hands of the Eagles on Dec. 13, 2008, when they fell, 33-40. The Cardinals went on to beat every other Gold League foe and finish 5-1, while the Eagles finished 3-3 for a fifth place seed.

However, it was the Eagles who came out on top again this time with a commanding 47-32 victory and will head into the championship game of this year's tournament on Saturday, Feb. 28, against the No. 2 seed, St. Jude.

In his 15th season, Cardinals Coach Jeff Polhamus has served at both St. Charles and at the Bishop Dwenger junior varsity level. His 2008-2009 roster for the Cardinals consisted of 11



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

St. John, Fort Wayne's Jacquale Cooper lines up with St. Charles' Casey Cooney in semifinal CYO action. The Eagles knocked off the No. 1 seeded Cardinals in a 47-32 upset.

eighth graders and his assistant coaches were Tad Christle and Dave Kosiarek.

Polhamus feels his team strengths this season were good outside shooting and team depth. "All of our players contributed,"

Polhamus concluded.

Casey Cooney led his team with 7 points in the final game of their CYO careers while Jacquale Cooper paced the Eagles with 13.

The Eagles avenged their Jan. 17 regular season 38-41 loss to St. John the Baptist, New Haven, in the opening round, besting the Raiders, 43-24. St. Jude advanced by downing St. Joseph, Decatur, and St. Vincent.

In the semifinal girls' large school tournament, St. Jude, St. Vincent, St. Charles and St. John, Fort Wayne are all still battling for the top spot while St. Aloysius and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will go head to head for the small school title.

In boys' small-school play, the No. 1 seed, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will face the winner of St. Aloysius vs. Queen of Angels.

For the seventh-grade league, St. Vincent will play St. Charles and St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth meets St. Jude this week in the boy's semis, while St. Vincent and St. Charles are the last two standing in the girls' bracket and will compete in the championship at St. Charles on Saturday.

WILDCATS CLAIM ICCL CHAMPIONSHIP



ELMER J. DANCH

The Inter-City Catholic League division and tournament basketball champions from St. Joseph of Mishawaka finished with a perfect 41-0 four-year record. The champs pictured include the following: front, from left, are Austin Deneen, Tyler Nixon, Michael Whitfield and John Jessup; back, from left, are coach Jeff Deitchley, Noah Deitchley, Vince Ravotto, Dillon Gohn, Chris Ross, Joseph Walter and Head Coach Steve Ravotto.

Lenten meatless recipes

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Here are some meatless recipes that could be used for family dinners during Lent.

Deb's Easy Tuna Melts

(Reprinted with permission of CatholicMom.com)
 4 toasted English muffin halves
 1 can tuna in water, drained
 1/4 cup chopped celery
 2 T chopped onion
 1/4 cup mayonnaise
 salt and pepper as desired
 8 very thin slices tomato
 8 slices cheese of your choice (jack, American, white or cheddar)
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
 Lightly toast the muffins.
 Line baking sheet with foil and put muffins on this.
 Mix up the tuna salad.
 Spoon the tuna salad onto the muffins, add sliced tomato on top.
 Bake for about 8 minutes, then add cheese slice and bake for another 2 minutes.

Ruth's Cajun Seafood Pasta

(Reprinted with permission of CatholicMom.com)
 2 cups heavy whipping cream
 1 T chopped fresh basil
 1 T chopped fresh thyme
 2 t salt
 2 t ground black pepper
 1-1/2 t crushed red pepper flakes
 1 t ground white pepper

1 cup chopped green onions
 1 cup chopped parsley
 1/2 pound shrimp, peeled
 1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
 1 pound dry fettucine pasta
 Cook pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water until al dente.
 Meanwhile, pour cream into large skillet. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until just about boiling. Reduce heat, and add herbs, salt, peppers, onions and parsley. Simmer 7 to 8 minutes, or until thickened.
 Stir in seafood, cooking until shrimp is no longer transparent. Stir in cheeses, blending well.
 Drain pasta. Serve with sauce.

St. Andrew's Salmon With Maple Soy Glaze

(Copyright 2008 by Amy Heyd. Reprinted with permission of St. Anthony Messenger Press)
 Preheat oven: 400 degrees
 2 1/2 to 3 pounds salmon fillets
 1 1/2 cups pure maple syrup
 1 cup low-sodium soy sauce
 3 T Dijon mustard
 3 t chili garlic sauce (found in the Asian section of the market)
 Place salmon fillets skin side down in a 9x13-inch glass baking dish. In a separate bowl mix maple syrup, soy sauce, Dijon mustard and chili garlic sauce. Pour this marinade over the salmon. Bake in

oven for 10-15 minutes. The thicker the salmon, the longer it will take to bake. The salmon will be ready when it flakes easily and looks opaque in the center.

Lisalis' Chile Relleno Casserole

(Reprinted with permission of CatholicMom.com)
 NOTE: Make ahead then cover dish and chill overnight (or at least four hours) before baking.
 4 slices whole wheat bread
 2 cups (8 oz.) grated cheddar cheese
 2 cups (8 oz.) grated jack or mozzarella cheese
 4-ounce can chopped green chiles
 6 eggs
 2 cups milk
 1/2 teaspoon crumbled oregano
 1/4 teaspoon each salt, pepper, paprika, mustard powder and garlic powder.
 Oil a 9-inch by 9-inch casserole pan. Place bread on bottom of pan. Sprinkle cheeses over bread. Spread green chiles on top of cheese. Beat eggs in a bowl; add milk. Add oregano and other spices to egg mixture. Beat until blended. Cover dish and chill overnight, or at least four hours.
 Bake at 325 degrees for 55-60 minutes, until top is lightly browned. Let stand 10 minutes.

ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

three pointers of his own and finished with 12 points.

St. Michael B pulled the upset of the day beating Our Lady A in an exciting game, 42-40, that went down to the wire. Nick Felke led St. Michael with 13 points while Mikal Henderson powered his way to 11 points and Matt Escalante and Jarez Cruz each had 8 points for Our Lady.

In the battle of Mishawaka St. Bavo A defeated St. Monica-St. Joe Mishawaka A 33-23 behind the strong post play of Alex Mangus with 10 points while Will Whitten scored 14 points for St. Monica-St. Joe Mishawaka.

Holy Cross A got a shot from Caleb Dourbon with 3 seconds left in regulation to force overtime against St. Anthony A1 and then defeated their cross town rival, 29-27. Conner Futa led Holy Cross with 10 points while Oliver Page had 16 points and Justin Drinkall 10 points for St. Anthony.

In the second round of the B League St. Joe Mishawaka advanced with a 30-13 win over St. Anthony B. St. Pius B1 beat Queen of Peace B, 33-14. Christ the King B2 handled Holy Family B, 29-12, and St. Pius B2 moved on by beating St. Jude - Our lady B, 49-21.

Semifinals

In the A League semifinals St. Pius A2 advanced to the championship game by defeating St. Michael B, 41-17. Billy Doslak scored 12 points and Braydon Edwards and Luke Gebbie tossed in 7 points each to lead St. Pius. Nick Felke led St. Michael with 6 points.

Holy Cross A advanced to face St. Pius A2 in the championship by beating St. Bavo A in a close game, 45-42. Conner Futa scored 16 points and Brandan Chappel scored 14 points to lead Holy Cross to the victory. Joe Molnar tossed in a game high 18 points for St. Bavo and Paul Saros and Michael Voor scored 8 points each.


In the B League, St. Joe Mishawaka B won an exciting overtime thriller to advance to the championship by beating St. Pius B1, 33-29. Jacob Whitfield and Nick Thurin scored 11 points each for St. Joe Mishawaka. Michael Koebel scored 11 points, Parker Hart, 9 points, and Brandon Stesiak, 7 points, for St. Pius.

In the other semifinal Sammy Quinn scored 14 points led St. Pius B2 to the championship game against St. Joe Mishawaka as they defeated Christ the King B2, 33-29. Joe Staud led Christ the King with 12 points.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

FISH FRIES

Fish fry at St. Jude

Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish, across from Parkview Hospital, will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 27, from 5-8 p.m. in the church basement. Adults \$7, children 6-8 \$5 and children under 5 free.

Fish fry and salad bar

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry and salad bar Friday, Feb. 27, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-out \$7.50, children 5-12 \$3 and children under 5 free.

Queen of Peace fish fry

Mishawaka — The Knights of Columbus Council 8617 will host a fish fry from 5-7 p.m. on March 6 and 27 at Queen of Peace hall, corner of Vistula and Bittersweet. Tickets are \$7 pre-sale at the parish office or \$8 at the door for adults, \$4 for children 6-12. Drive-thru available until 6:30 p.m. Refreshments and sides included. Dessert available for donation. Call (574) 255-9674 for information.

Arts and enrichment host fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Arts and Enrichment group of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 13, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Pursley Activity Center. Drive-through or carry-

out service available. Adults \$7.50, children 6-12 \$4.50 and children under 6 \$1.

Queen of Angels fish fry

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a family style fish fry Friday, March 6, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Drive-through and carry-out service available. Adults \$7.50, children 6-10 \$3 and children 5 and under free.

Fish fries announced

Clear Lake — The Knights of Columbus Council 7053 will have fish fries on Fridays, Feb. 27 and March 13, at St. Paul Chapel from 5-7 p.m.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Larry Kramer will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour Tuesday, March 3, at 7:15 p.m. at MacDougal Chapel to pray for priests and vocations. Father Kramer is pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Columbia City.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Course

South Bend — Christ the King Parish will host a level 1 formation course in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd beginning in June for adults interested in learning a Montessori-based approach to faith formation for the three- to six-year-old child.

Contact Joanie Rymysza at (574) 273-0232 or rymyszaj@sbcglobal.net for registration and more information.

Parish breakfast helps Scouts

South Bend — Christ the King Parish will host a Boy Scout Troop 451 parish breakfast on Sunday, March 22, from 7:30 a.m. to noon. Pancakes and sausage or scrambled eggs and sausage or biscuits and sausage gravy and a beverage. Tickets are \$6 adult, \$4 children 4-10 and children under 4 free. Advance sale tickets are \$1 less.

Talent show support mission

Fort Wayne — The 2009 Bishop Dwenger Talent Show will be Friday, April 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Bishop Dwenger SAC gym. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults. Proceeds will be given to Dr. Rick Reifenberg '83 to support his medical mission to Bolivia.

Raffle benefits needy children

South Bend — The Christ Child Society will have a 50/50 cash raffle. Tickets are \$100 each and are on sale now until March 17. The drawing will take place on April 1 at the Sacred Heart Parish Center. Proceeds of the raffle will be split 50/50 between the winners and the society and pro-rated evenly for five drawings. One

REST IN PEACE

Decatur

Edward L. Hammond, 82, St. Mary/Assumption

Elkhart

Walter A. Lauer, 93, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

William L. Casey, 93, St. Vincent de Paul

Jeanette E. Wehrle, 88, St. Jude

John F. Slane, 73, St. John the Baptist

Lula Kramer, St. Henry

Mary Alice Trahin, 91, St. Jude

Dorothy Railing, 97, St. Jude

Huntington

Paul J. Hunkler, 89, Ss. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Sister M. George Ann Fronick, OSF, 95, Our Lady of Angels Convent Chapel

Arthur E. Steenbeke, Jr., 77, St. Bavo

Vincent D. Marrese, 79, St. Bavo

Notre Dame

Marcelli Piechocki, 69, Church of Loretto

Brother Harold A. Ruplinger, CSC, 80, St. Joseph Chapel

Plymouth

Betty L. Cain, 86, St. Michael

Jean E. Kriscunas, 87, St. Michael

Rome City

Loretta Demske, 93, St. Gaspar

South Bend

Kenneth D. Eslinger, 90, Holy Cross

Francis J. Rupley, 88, Little Flower

DeLois F. Burns, 83, St. Matthew Cathedral

Ervin C. Jankowski, 83, St. Stanislaus

Evelyn Mary Matthys, 89, St. Anthony de Padua

Mary Jane Nowinski, 78, Our Lady of Hungary

Joyce A. Perusich, 75, Holy Family

hundred percent of these proceeds will purchase new clothing for needy children in St. Joseph County. Call (574) 288-6028 or visit www.christchildsb.org.

Spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus will have a spaghetti dinner Saturday, Feb. 28, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the K of C hall, 553 E. Washington Street. Tickets are \$6 adult, \$3 children 6-13 and children 1-5 are free.

Catholicism Revealed

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent's Church will host Catholicism Revealed Mondays, March 2, 9 and 16, from 7-8:30 p.m. March 2 "Learn Apologetics From The First Apologists" by Father Mike Heintz, St. Matthew Cathedral; March 9 "Icons In Our Church" by Nancy Simmonds, IPFW; March 16 "Do You Know How It's Going To End?" by Father Larry Kramer, St. Paul of the Cross. No fee, no registration needed. Optional liturgy of the hours begins at 6:40 p.m.

Driver's Education offered

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will offer spring and summer sessions in driver's education. Spring session: March 2-20, Monday through Friday from 3:30-5:30 p.m. (No class on Good Friday, March 21) Summer session: June 8-19 from 8-11 a.m. Cost, which includes a road

test is \$390 or \$375 for Bishop Luers students. For information call (260) 456-1261 or visit www.bishopluers.org.

Excellence auction

South Bend — Saint Joseph's High School will sponsor the 2009 Excellence Auction featuring a tribute to Father Walter Bly on Saturday, March 14, at the Hilton Garden Inn at St. Mary's College. Cocktails and registration at 6 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person and include dinner and drinks. For information call (574) 234-2904.

Retreat planned at St. Thomas

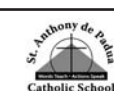
Elkhart — The St. Thomas Altar and Rosary Society will have a bus trip to the Transformations Spirituality Center in Nazareth, Mich., Saturday, March 7. Bus will leave St. Thomas at 8 a.m. and the retreat ends at 3 p.m. The \$15 cost includes lunch. For information call Sharon Johnson at (574) 293-2479 or Mary Lee Pringle at (574) 264-1288.

Concert to benefit homeless

South Bend — The University of Notre Dame Celebration Choir will perform Saturday, Feb. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Road, 744 S. Main St. Free admission, donations accepted. All proceeds benefit Our Lady of the Road and Dismas House. For information call (574) 631-9326.

TV Mass schedule for March

2009	Feast Day	Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WISE-TVCh.33	South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TVCh.16
March 1	First Sunday of Lent	Msgr. John Suelzer St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne	Father John DeRiso, CSC St. Joseph Parish South Bend
March 8	Second Sunday of Lent	Father Thomas Shoemaker St. Jude Fort Wayne	Father Pat Maloney, CSC Notre Dame
March 15	Third Sunday of Lent	Father Ron Rieder, OFM Ss. Peter and Paul Huntington	Father Robert Dowd, CSC Corby Hall Notre Dame
March 22	Fourth Sunday of Lent	Father Gary Sigler Queen of Angels Fort Wayne	Father Michael Heintz St. Matthew Cathedral South Bend
March 29	Fifth Sunday of Lent	Father Daryl Rybicki St. John the Baptist Fort Wayne	TBA



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Lenten adult faith formation offered

The diocesan Office of Catechesis will offer several adult faith formation sessions during Lent. Sessions are free to attend, however registration is required. Interested participants can register online at www.diocesefwsb.org/OC under Adult Education. Contact Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411 or by e-mail at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org for additional information.

Sessions include:

- **"How is a Busy Mom to Grow in Spirituality?"** will be presented by Mary Jo Parrish beginning Saturday, Feb. 28, and continuing March 7 and 14 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne.

There is a legacy of Catholic men and women who have lived an active and deep spiritual life. Their example will be applied to the individual's own journey to find the ever-elusive balance of being a mother. Discussed will be: letting go of the mother's guilt, ideas to create peace in our homes and simple ways to incorporate prayer throughout the day. Examined will be individual personalities, virtues and gifts of the Spirit.

- **"Helping Parents Share the Beautiful Truth of our Sexuality with their Children and Teens"** will be presented by Cindy Black, diocesan youth director, on Mondays, March 2 and 9, from 7-9 p.m. in the Archbishop Noll Catholic

Center.

Parents have been entrusted by God to raise their children in the fullness of his truth and are held accountable for their role in guiding children to holiness. Children are bombarded with messages that degrade our sexuality. Parents need to proactively share the beautiful truth about the gift of our sexuality and guide our children to live it fully. This session will explore some key concepts of Pope John Paul II's theology of the body, discuss how to apply these concepts at various ages and develop family plans to grow in purity and chastity.

- **Lectio Divina** will be presented by Father Drew Curry, associate pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, on Thursdays, March 5, 12, and 19, from 7-9 p.m. at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall in Fort Wayne.

Pope Benedict XVI is promoting that Catholics learn to pray Lectio Divina. This four step process of learning to pray with sacred Scripture "... will bring to the church — I am convinced of it — a new spiritual springtime." Father Curry will help those who are approaching a scriptural prayer life for the first time or who are looking for a new dimension to their prayer life learn how to approach and meet Jesus in Scripture.

Father Curry will be using the book "Too Deep for Words: Rediscovering Lectio Divina" by

Thelma Hall during this session. Participants may contact Kara Slocum in the Cathedral Bookstore at (260) 422-4611 ext. 3356 to order this resource.

- **Lectio Divina** will be presented by Father Bob Lengerich, associate pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, on Thursdays, March 19 and 26, and April 2, from 7-9 p.m. at St. Pius X in Granger.

Father Lengerich will also use the book "Too Deep for Words: Rediscovering Lectio Divina" by Thelma Hall.

- **Lectio Divina** will be presented by Debbie Baum on Thursdays, March 19 and 26, and April 2, from 7-9 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Kendallville.

She will use the book "Too Deep for Words: Rediscovering Lectio Divina" by Thelma Hall.

- **Sacrament of the Eucharist** sessions will be conducted by Father William Kummer on March 16, 23 and 30 at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Plymouth.

Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, and the church continues to join herself to God through this sacrifice. In this series of three presentations Father Kummer will explore the Eucharist as the connection between word and sacrament, the reconciliatory power of the Eucharist, and the Eucharist as food for the journey on our pilgrimage to eternal life.

After 30 years, Saints Alive! still has a big heart

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Few events have the ability to seamlessly unite multiple generations. Saints Alive is one of them.

For the past 30 years, the annual fundraiser has united Bishop Dwenger students, faculty, parents, alumni and community members. About 500 people gathered Feb. 27 for this year's dinner and auction affair: "Una Bella Notte" (Italian for "A Beautiful Night").

Although mainly behind the scenes, production manager Gene Andert is the brains behind the creative operation. Andert, a parent of Bishop Dwenger alumni, designed and provided direction for the set. Guests were drawn into vistas of a seaside Italian landscape with elegant palaces, all inspired by a real-life Venetian village.

Andert said he started with the initial concept of a Mediterranean cruise and built the props around the theme.

Co-chair and alumnae Julie Eifert said Saints Alive is a 10-month commitment. Two paid staff and several volunteers work almost year-round to ensure the successful execution of the fundraiser. Forty committee heads

and 200-some students contribute to the event in various capacities. Duties include everything from accounting to production to solicitation.

As such a large-scale operation, it's no wonder Saints Alive is one of the largest Catholic school fundraisers in the nation.

"It's amazing that in 30 years, it has continued to get bigger and better," Eifert said.

The \$500,000 in donations is designated for scholarships and operational expenses. The monies help support Dwenger's motto, "Citizens of Two Worlds," and calls students to be world leaders. And this is something co-chair Beth Fuze does not take lightly.

"A Catholic education means an investment in faith, continuing Catholic education and fostering community development," she said.

In her opinion, a Bishop Dwenger education is a priceless investment, especially due to its high academic standards. That's why it's important to donate, to ensure there is a budget to invest in the best and brightest faculty and staff and upgrade resources.

"People believe in Dwenger," she said. "There's a sense of community ... a strong passion to build for the future."

Today's Catholic

BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

This month's featured selection:

"Meet John XXIII: Joyful Pope and Father to All" by Patricia Treece

Reviewed by Kay Cozad

Today's Catholic book club selection for March is "Meet John XXIII: Joyful Pope and Father to All," by Patricia Treece. (Servant Books, ISBN 978-0-86716-729-0)

This biography of the beloved Pope John XXIII takes the reader from this gentle man's birth in 1881, through his early years with his faith-filled Italian family, the Roncallis, and faith formation to his religious life and papacy culminating in his death in 1963. Though the book is a mere 197 pages, it is packed with historical information as well as insights taken directly from Pope John's personal journal accounts.

The infancy and childhood of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was marked by virtuous Christian living within a large peasant sharecropper family. By age 14, the boy with the sweet temperament was embedded in spiritual development in a minor seminary and encouraged to journal reflections and life remembrances that would eventually become inspired books, including, "Journey of the Soul."

Following his ordination to the priesthood in 1904, Don (Father) Roncalli met with a variety of assignments from years of studying canon law in Rome to bishop's assistant to teaching to working with Catholic women laity. During those early years his charity, diplomacy and ecumenism won him favor with many groups. While working with the soldiers of varied denominations within the military during the war he wrote, "Never mind thunderbolts from heaven! Charity, charity and simple, direct, loving truth!"

Roncalli's loyalty and attachment to those he shep-

herded was even evident in his difficult Bulgarian term.

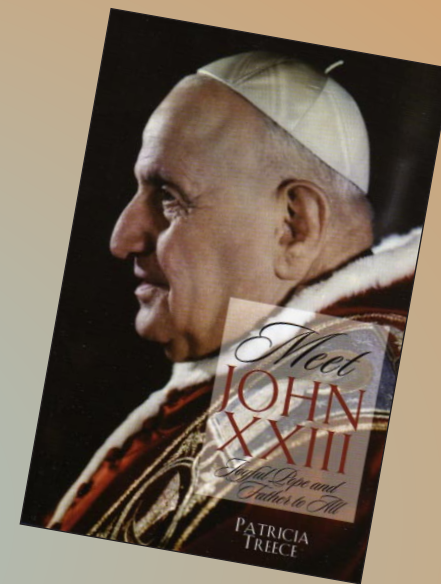
The reader will travel through time with Roncalli experiencing his pastoral deeds as well as his priestly appointments culminating in the papacy. The author reveals not only the joys, accomplishments, frustrations and sorrows of this great man's vocation, but also that of his most intimate personal life as well, including his devotion to his sisters and staff and his struggle with weight.

This humble and simple man followed the golden rule throughout his life, being told many times to be harsher in judgment. His response was, "If the eternal Father says to me, 'Roncalli, you needed to be harsher at times,' I will say, 'Eternal Father, it is you who sent your son to give me bad example.'" His altruistic acts spoke volumes of his deep love for Christ.

His work during the war revealed his deeply tolerant and spiritual nature. And his ecumenism throughout his pastorate and papal reign brought kinship to his flock and their neighbors; all virtues to inspire even the least of the faithful. The book also unveils his daring and inspired thinking that set forth the Second Vatican Council in 1962 that would explore a new way for the church, just eight short months before his painful death from stomach cancer.

Pope John XXIII's cheerfulness in serving God and humanity has made him "the beloved pope." Read "Meet John XXIII," to inspire a faith walk based, as John XXIII's was — in Christ.

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



Questions for discussion

- Pope John XXIII preached charity and acceptance for all. How does that ecumenical idea impact your life? Your faith? How can you live it more fully?

- Pope John XXIII was able to distinguish a person from his/her theological position, in his effort to encourage Christian unity. "A position may be worthless; each person, made in God's image, was of inestimable value." (Page 154) How do you treat others and promote Christian unity in your community? How does this idea nurture the Biblical image of "we are all one in the body of Christ?"

- How does reading about Pope John XXIII's life inspire you to change your life?