



# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## At Blue-Gold march, speaker says rosary is best 'secret weapon'

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — Citing the rosary as the best "secret weapon," University of Notre Dame Law School Professor Emeritus Charles Rice exhorted students to remain prayerful and vigilant as graduation day approaches.

Rice was the main speaker before a crowd of some 200 gathered at the steps of the university's Administration Building before last Friday's first annual Blue-Gold Weekend March for Life.

The march is the most recent event organized by the group ND Response, a student coalition created to express opposition to University of Notre Dame President Father John I. Jenkins' controversial decision to invite President Barack Obama to speak at this year's commencement. The university also plans to confer an honorary doctorate of law degree upon Obama, despite Obama's policies on life issues.

Rice pointed out two main reasons he believes Obama should not speak at a university that calls itself Catholic. The first is Obama's endorsement of embryonic stem-cell research, which Rice believes leaves the door open for therapeutic cloning.

Rice also referred to the "conscience clause," protection for health care personnel that Obama would like to see removed, making it difficult if not impossible for health care workers to refuse to participate in abortion and related procedures.

"There's an aspect to this that makes the Notre Dame honoring of Obama especially repugnant," continued Rice. "Notre Dame has many, many, many

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DIANE FREEBY

Marchers, with the dome in the background, participate in the pro-life march and rally at the University of Notre Dame on April 17.

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## Christ Child Society founder venerated

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The Christ Child Society (CCS) in Fort Wayne is alive and well. Founded in 1997, some would even say it is flourishing in its efforts to live out its founder, Mary Virginia Merrick's vision of serving at risk children of the community. The membership of the Fort Wayne chapter, over 180 strong, join the over 7,000 national members in celebrating the recent news that their founder is being considered for canonization.

According to Margaret Saffell, national director of program and chapter relations, the Christ Child Society is thought to be the oldest nonprofit service organization in the country, at over 120 years old. Its signature program is infant layettes, but each chapter facili-

tates creative programs to serve the specific needs of the children in their community.

Fort Wayne Christ Child Society supports the layette program that gifts at-risk expectant mothers with baby clothes, diapers and blankets. Other proactive, hands-on programs include coats for kids, foster children's Christmas party, backpacks for kids, tutoring and the crib clubs located at the Women's Care Centers.

All this, says Saffell, because Merrick gave back to those in her community "in the name of the Christ Child through a collaborative effort with other agencies." Merrick's philosophy, she adds, focused on personal contact with the poor as the true element of charity.

Mary Virginia Merrick was born in 1866

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## TELLING OUR FAITH STORY

I came back to the Catholic Church because after searching for a certain feeling, for a certain belief system, one that matched how I wanted to believe; that

essentially was more convenient, I decided to search, to seek the truth. And as promised, it has set me free.



Rebecca Howe

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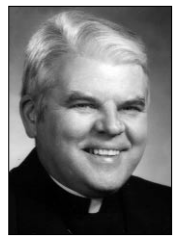
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# Let Notre Dame family come together in prayer and conversation



## NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

### A moment of fidelity

Late last Friday, I took the plane from the South Bend airport and flew through Cincinnati to Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love. In a way, it was like a pilgrimage. The purpose of my visit was to celebrate Mass for Sister Alphonsus Moran, OSF, or as we knew her in my home by her baptismal name — Mary Agnes. She came to my home in Boston a year or two before I was ordained a priest; a cousin, the daughter of my uncle, John Moran, an Irish farmer from County Mayo. After a few years in Brighton, she entered the convent, and this was her golden jubilee — her 50th anniversary as a sister. It was a joyful reunion, as my two sisters took the train from Boston to Philadelphia. It was a grace to see how Sister Alphonsus had served out her 50 years with humility, and love, and profound Christian simplicity. It was also like a pilgrimage; you see my sister, Mary, was a member of that congregation for 18 years, having entered religious life six months after graduating from Brighton High School.

I met many of her contemporaries, and learned how much they loved her, and also how devoted she was to her only brother; indeed, an intense love I did not deserve. The convent years were hard, but also very beautiful. It was a place that I had visited many times to see her, and got to know the extraordinary congregation — the Franciscan Sisters of Philadelphia.

The thing about losing a beloved sibling is that the pain stays with you. It slips away as you get involved in your work. But a visit like this was, in a way like visiting with my sister, Mary, who has now gone to God, the pain comes back; but I suspect

that is a good thing. It is about love and loving someone dearly that you grew up with, and who was one of the very first people you ever knew; and you realize that the love she had for her brother and sisters, which was once so visible and close, is no longer so visible. Rather, this is a challenge to faith, to believe that she is with God, and to pray to her and for her, and reflect on the beautiful things in her life. But it was not all so painful. A lady came in with an accordion and a number of Irish songs; and Irish cousins were there from the Philadelphia area, and some directly from Ireland. So many intense emotions — all squeezed into 24 hours.

### Up the next day for some prayerful time to prepare for a beautiful confirmation at St. Pius X, Granger

This parish is literally exploding. There were 148 for the sacrament of confirmation. It is expected that there will be over 500 in the new St. Pius X School next year. Indeed, I met people at the South Bend airport telling me how delighted they were with the new school. Between baptisms and professions of faith, over 40 people were received into the church at the Easter Vigil at St. Pius X.

### A few days at Notre Dame

Professor John Cavadini, along with being chair of the theology department at Notre Dame, is also director of the Institute for Church Life. In this, he has developed many outstanding programs, and I was blessed to be part of one this weekend.

It was a meeting of presidents of colleges and universities, along with members of their boards of trustees. There were several excellent presentations, and especially enlightening was a keynote by Melanie M. Morey, Ph.D. and Rev. John J. Piderit, SJ, Ph.D., who have written a book on Catholic universities. I found all of it most instructive, and it was a pleasure to meet so many presidents and trustees around the country, many from small colleges, reflecting prayerfully on these issues. I am sorry I missed the excellent talk on Saturday by Carolyn Woo, dean of the business school at Notre Dame.

### The question at hand

A few people have written asking for clarification about a statement written here last week relative to demonstrations, in which I urged Catholics to avoid those demonstrations which personally attack the president of our country; Notre Dame; or Father John Jenkins, CSC.

An outside person has come to town, and said he was going to create, "a circus." His aggressive approach is not helpful. Within the campus of the university, there are students and others who are gathering for talks and prayer to present, as is most fitting in universities, an enlightened position based on truth and rooted in respectful dialogue. This is not only appropriate, but is at the very core of what it means to be a university.

Let the Notre Dame family come together in prayer and conversation; and I will, of course, as is my obligation, continue my conversation with Father Jenkins.

### Two welcome guests

I have 30 confirmations lined up this springtime and have already carried out six of them, but I will have two exemplary bishops here to assist. First is Bishop William Houck, the retired bishop of Natchez-Jackson, Mississippi — a true missionary. He has been here many times before and will reside at St. Pius X, Granger. Also coming will be Bishop Carl Mengling, the retired bishop of Lansing. He is a native of Gary and was a priest there for many years. Like Bishop Houck, he is an excellent preacher, and is well-known by many priests in our diocese with whom he studied.

I know you will welcome them if they come to your parish.

### A team resurgent

My beloved baseball team has now won five in a row, and the ship is being righted. I guess I have to admit it. Their pitching is improved, and they do not really need me. It is the truth.

See you all next week.

## Bishop D'Arcy not opposed to 'peaceful' protests about commencement

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (CNS) — Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend said he was not opposed to "peaceful" demonstrations against the University of Notre Dame's invitation to President Barack Obama to speak at this year's commencement.

His communications spokesman said in an e-mail to Catholic News Service April 20 that a statement the bishop issued on Good Friday urging Catholics not to participate in "unseemly and unhelpful demonstrations" was aimed at protests that "attack" Obama, university president Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins and/or the university.

The spokesman, Vince LaBarbera, director of the diocesan communications office, said the bishop does not want people participating in demonstrations organized by those who have

vowed to make the controversy into "a circus."

Critics of Obama have said his support of legal abortion and embryonic stem-cell research make him an inappropriate choice to be a commencement speaker at a Catholic university. Obama also will receive an honorary degree from Notre Dame.

"The Notre Dame community is well-equipped to supervise and support discussions and prayer within their own campus," he said.

In that statement he said he had had "a positive meeting" with Father Jenkins, and expected "further dialogue" would continue.

A dozen student groups have formed a campus coalition called Notre Dame Response to express their opposition to Obama speaking at the commencement. On April 17 the coalition held a march for life with speakers and a rally.

The coalition has posted a message from Bishop D'Arcy on its Web site, [www.ndresponse.com](http://www.ndresponse.com), that said he was supportive of the coalition's efforts "or any other prayerful and dignified demonstrations by Notre Dame students."

Anti-abortion activist Randall Terry opened up an office in South Bend to launch a vigorous daily protest of the president's upcoming commencement address and said he wouldn't rule out having students disrupt the ceremony.

In March a Notre Dame spokesman told CNS that he had heard anecdotally that most students were pleased with this year's choice of Obama as the commencement speaker and feel honored the first black U.S. president would accept Notre Dame's invitation from among the many he has received.



STATEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

## Statement to the faithful

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently, Father John Jenkins, CSC, in a letter of response to Bishop Olmsted of the Diocese of Phoenix, who had written him, critical of the decision to invite President Obama to speak and receive an honorary degree of law at Notre Dame, indicated that it was his conviction that the statement "Catholics in Political Life" (USCCB) did not apply in this matter. Father Jenkins kindly sent me a copy of his letter, and also at a later meeting, asked for a response.

In an April 15th letter to Father Jenkins, I responded to his letter.

Now the points made in his letter have been sent by Father Jenkins to the members of the Notre Dame Board of Trustees and have been publicized nationally, as well as locally in the *South Bend Tribune*. Since the matter is now public, it is my duty as the bishop of this diocese to respond and correct. I take up this responsibility with some sadness, but also with the conviction that if I did not do so, I would be remiss in my pastoral responsibility.

Rather than share my full letter, which I have shared with some in church leadership, I prefer to present some of the key points.

1. The meaning of the sen-

tence in the USCCB document relative to Catholic institutions is clear. It places the responsibility on those institutions, and indeed, on the Catholic community itself.

"The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions." — "Catholics in Political Life," USCCB.

2. When there is a doubt concerning the meaning of a document of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, where does one find the authentic interpretation? A fundamental, canonical and theological principal states that it is found in the local bishop, who is the teacher and lawgiver in his diocese. — Canon 330, 375 §§ 1 & 2; 380; 381 § 1; 391 § 1; 392, & 394 §1.

3. I informed Father Jenkins that if there was any genuine questions or doubt about the meaning of the relevant sentence in the conference's document, any competent canonist with knowledge of the tradition and love for Christ's church had the responsibility to inform Father Jenkins of the fundamental principle that the diocesan bishop alone bears the responsibility to provide an authoritative interpretation.

4. I reminded Father Jenkins

that he indicated that he consulted presidents of other Catholic universities, and at least indirectly, consulted other bishops, since he asked those presidents to share with him those judgments of their own bishops. However, he chose not to consult his own bishop who, as I made clear, is the teacher and lawgiver in his own diocese. I reminded Father Jenkins that I was not informed of the invitation until after it was accepted by the president. I mentioned again that it is at the heart of the diocesan bishop's pastoral responsibility to teach as revealed in sacred Scripture and the tradition. ("Lumen Gentium," 20; and "Christus Dominus," 2.) I reminded him that it is also central to the university's relationship to the church. ("Ex corde ecclesiae," 27 & 28; Gen. Norm., Art. 5, §§ 1-3.)

5. Another key point. In his letter to Bishop Olmsted and in the widespread publicity, which has taken place as the points in the letter have been made public, Father Jenkins declared the invitation to President Obama does not "suggest support" for his actions, because he has expressed and continues to express disagreement with him on issues surrounding protection of life. I wrote that the outpouring of hundreds of thousands who are shocked by the invitation clearly demonstrates, that this invitation

has, in fact, scandalized many Catholics and other people of goodwill. In my office alone, there have been over 3,300 messages of shock, dismay and outrage, and they are still coming in. It seems that the action in itself speaks so loudly that people have not been able to hear the words of Father Jenkins, and indeed, the action has suggested approval to many.

In the publicity surrounding the points Father Jenkins has made, he also says he is "following the document of the bishops" by "laying a basis for engagement with the president on this issue." I indicated that I, like many others, will await to see what the follow up is on this issue between Notre Dame and President Obama.

6. As I have said in a recent interview and which I have said to Father Jenkins, it would be one thing to bring the president here for a discussion on healthcare or immigration, and no person of goodwill could rightly oppose this. We have here, however, the granting of an honorary degree of law to someone whose activities both as president and previously, have been altogether supportive of laws against the dignity of the human person yet to be born.

In my letter, I have also asked Father Jenkins to correct, and if possible, withdraw the erroneous talking points, which appeared in

the *South Bend Tribune* and in other media outlets across the country. The statements which Father Jenkins has made are simply wrong and give a flawed justification for his actions.

I consider it now settled — that the USCCB document, "Catholics in Public Life," does indeed apply in this matter.

The failure to consult the local bishop who, whatever his unworthiness, is the teacher and lawgiver in the diocese, is a serious mistake. Proper consultation could have prevented an action, which has caused such painful division between Notre Dame and many bishops — and a large number of the faithful.

That division must be addressed through prayer and action, and I pledge to work with Father Jenkins and all at Notre Dame to heal the terrible breach, which has taken place between Notre Dame and the church. It cannot be allowed to continue.

I ask all to pray that this healing will take place in a way that is substantial and true, and not illusory. Notre Dame and Father Jenkins must do their part if this healing is to take place. I will do my part.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,  
Most Reverend  
John M. D'Arcy

## FOUNDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to a prominent Washington, D.C., family. Her faith manifested in her devotion to the Christ Child and sustained her following a childhood accident that left her paralyzed and unable to sit up without support. Though she suffered debilitating pain, she unwittingly initiated her compassionate ministry in 1884, that would grow to national status, by gathering a small group of friends to sew a layette for a mother who had no clothing for her unborn child. Her collaborative work for area children was formally organized as the Christ Child Society in 1887.

Though Merrick was forced to remain in a reclined position in bed or wheelchair, she continued to lead others to serve the poor children in the Washington, D.C., area, forming alliances with individuals and organizations that lovingly provided children with clothing, shoes, layettes and toys.

Working tirelessly to meet the ever-changing needs of the children of the area Merrick was instrumental in establishing camps for needy children as well as a convalescent home, a hospital and several neighborhood centers.



**Christ Child Society president Lisa Didier, left, stands with national Christ Child Society president, Mary Grace and Margaret Saffell, national director of program and chapter relations. The national representatives made a visit to the Fort Wayne chapter on April 15 to meet with the board and present a moving DVD of the life and legacy of founder Mary Virginia Merrick. Merrick's life and work is being reviewed for the cause of sainthood.**

As the Christ Child Society grew, members took Merrick's mission as far away as Omaha, New York and Chicago. By 1912, 24 chapters had been formed and in 1916, the Christ Child Society

was federated into a national organization, of which Merrick served as president until 1948.

Currently there are 41 chapters in 18 states and the District of Columbia carrying Merrick's

legacy serving the needs of at-risk children into the future.

Saffell says this remarkable woman, who was declared a "Servant of God" by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome in 2003, "broke a lot of barriers in the late 1800s" and fits the profile of saint.

"The church says we must present all the facts about the spirituality and holy virtues of a person, showing a person living an ordinary life doing extraordinary things for the good of the church. From a historical perspective, what Mary Virginia Merrick did goes beyond extraordinary."

A prolific writer, Merrick's works are currently being transcribed and information on her extraordinary ministry will be presented to the Archdiocese in Washington with a request for opening of the cause for sainthood.

Saffell adds that it is unusual for a person not associated with a religious community to be considered for sainthood and it is not the mission of the Christ Child Society to canonize their founder, but to serve at-risk children. To that end a separate fund established with donations is subsidizing the cause.

The Fort Wayne Christ Child Society chapter and its president Lisa Didier welcomed Saffell and Christ Child Society president

Mary Grace of the Cleveland chapter April 14-15. After board meetings that included Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Mass and extensive tours of the Women's Care Center Crib Club, the chapter held a luncheon meeting where the national representatives presented a moving DVD on the life and legacy of their founder to its members. The DVD will be made available to the 41 chapters across the country following visits to each by Saffell and Grace. "It's a tie, a bridge. It's a reminder of the true mission of Christ Child Society," says Saffell.

Of the Fort Wayne chapter, Grace says, "It's been a rewarding trip. The people in this community are very gracious. The work they're doing here serving children is the legacy of Mary Virginia Merrick."

Saffell agrees saying, "This is an exceptional chapter. They are truly living Merrick's legacy."

**For information about the Christ Child Society** call (260) 424-3624 in Fort Wayne, (574) 271-0199 in South Bend or visit [www.nationalchristchildsoc.org](http://www.nationalchristchildsoc.org).

# Educators urged to follow example of Christ in his teaching ministry

BY DORIS BENAVIDES

ANAHEIM, Calif. (CNS) — Speakers addressing educators April 14 at the National Catholic Educational Association's annual convention encouraged them to follow the example of Jesus Christ in his teaching ministry. Father Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, was honored at the convention.

"I send my best wishes and gratitude for the great work you do in Catholic education, for the great role in evangelization, for delivering the Gospel message to those under your pastoral care," said Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of Washington in a letter read to the audience by Servite Father Gerald M. Horan, the superintendent of schools of the Orange Diocese, the host of the event.

Archbishop Wuerl is known nationally for his catechetical and teaching ministry and for his efforts on behalf of Catholic education. He is chairman of the NCEA board and the U.S. bishops' Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis.

"We are a mighty force for good in our world. We carry a grand story of people who travel far to teach about Jesus," Karen M. Ristau, NCEA president, told an audience of more than 3,000 educators gathered at the Anaheim Convention Center's arena. The crowd included delegates from Canada, Australia, Italy, Japan, Philippines and Indonesia.

The 106th NCEA convention, which took place April 14-17, was being held concurrently with the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors' annual con-

vention and the Catholic Library Association's annual meeting.

In a keynote titled "You Matter Much," Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., stressed the importance of educators in guiding students to increase their knowledge of Christ.

"Remember you matter much," he told the teachers, school administrators, religious educators, pastors, parents and volunteers who attended the national event. "What you do is at the heart of the church's mission. You bring faith (and) transmit it, generating a relationship with Jesus Christ," he said.

Bishop Kicanas, who has a doctorate in educational psychology, told the educators they are important to the church's future and that for their hard work they deserve a "big fat bonus check," especially during these hard economic times.

He urged them to become witnesses.

"This (new) generation listens to witnesses, and if they listen to their teachers, it is because they are witnesses," he said. "A teacher affects eternity and you can't (have) influence when it (witnessing) stops."

Most of Bishop Kicanas' speech centered on what he said are the five pastoral priorities set by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He called those priorities a source of energy for Catholic education and urged school leaders to focus their future faculty meetings on those proposals.

They are: faith formation and sacraments; strengthening of marriage; life and dignity of the human person; vocation promotion; and multicultural diversity.

"The church has been strugg-



PROVIDED BY THE NCEA

Father Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, was one of 13 priests recognized with the National Catholic Educational Association's Distinguished Pastor Award. Father Schooler is shown at the presentation awards dinner.

gling with catechesis in its life span," he said, discussing faith formation and sacraments.

Using an amusing story of a family who did not know the biblical tale of Joshua bringing down the walls of Jericho, he stressed the "dire need" for catechesis.

He said there are four generational groups in the church — those born before the Second Vatican Council, those born during Vatican II, those born after Vatican II, and those called the "millennials," born between the years 1979 and 1997.

Millennials have a different way of viewing the church, he said, and expressed special concern for them because they are coming of age in a world where the economy is near collapse and where many people are uninterested in the faith, "with

one foot in the world and one in the church, or maybe two feet in the world."

Bishop Kicanas encouraged the teachers to talk to their students about "Christ's way of life for others that leads to joy." To promote the faith he suggested engaging in family catechesis, paying attention to the youth culture, and encouraging people to learn about and participate in the sacraments.

He urged the educators to address the issue of marriage with their students, since the family is the primary place of formation for all people. He also underscored the importance of talking about the dignity of human life from conception to natural death.

"Some don't accept that teaching (about life)," he said, calling for "a new way of living" that treasures the value, love and joy of human beings.

To illustrate the need to promote vocations, he shared his own experience: His eighth-grade teacher was key in his decision to enter the priesthood, which he said has been a great blessing in his life.

Regarding multicultural ministry, he highlighted the importance of learning a second language as well as educators understanding the cultures of their communities. "Get out of your comfort zones to engage in the multicultural

of your communities," he told the teachers.

Bishop Kicanas said that "the work of the church will be much impeded" if people try to serve the young without taking into account the bishops' pastoral priorities.

At the convention, Father William Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, was one of 13 pastors recognized from across the nation for the NCEA Distinguished Pastor Award.

At the presentation, it was stated, "One of the teachers at St. Pius X School summarized the reason for which Father Bill Schooler received this award: 'His most amazing contribution to our parish has been the building of our Education Center. Father Bill had a vision of not just a school, but an education center that would serve the needs of the whole parish. He took on a project that had the potential of dividing the parish and not only accomplished his goal, but also ended up with the support of the parish behind him.'"

The presentation added: "Here's how one parishioner wrote about Father Schooler's vision for Catholic education: His plan has not been to build a parish around a successful school; it has been rather, to build a school within a successful parish. Father Bill's mantra is that the parish has the responsibility to educate its members from cradle to grave. The newly built St Pius X Education Center houses not only a parish grade school, but also a host of educational programs for parishioners of all ages, including an adult education program. Beyond education, the center houses retreats, service ministry meetings, adult athletic events, youth activities and countless other parish functions."

More than 400 workshop sessions were presented at the NCEA convention, and more than 400 companies were exhibitors.

The NCEA, established in 1904, has a membership of 200,000 Catholic educators who serve more than 7.6 million students in Catholic education institutions.

Today's Catholic staff contributed to this story.



## All Saints Religious Goods

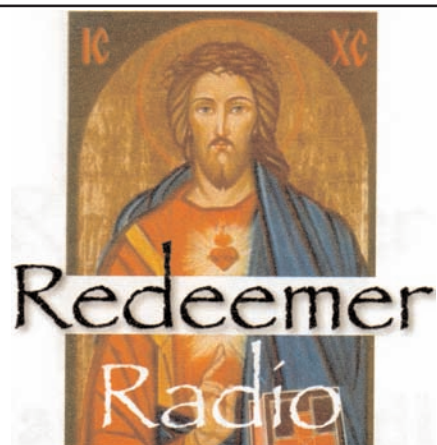
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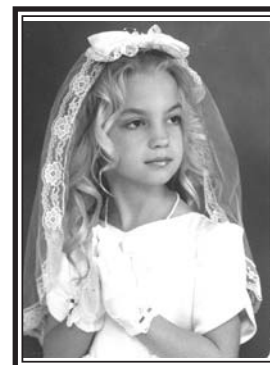
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# USF co-valedictorians are academic buddies

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF) graduating class of 2009 is scurrying to finish papers and final projects in these last weeks of the semester. The graduation ceremony they all look forward to will take place on May 2. This year, two exceptional students will share the coveted valedictorian spot.

Angela Conroy, communications/public relations major and Tyler Kimmel, who studied biology/pre-dentistry, are both surprised and honored to share the role of valedictorian for their graduating class. Both have worked tirelessly to achieve academic excellence during each of the four years of their undergraduate studies. But what makes the honor even more significant is they are both Bishop Luers graduates and longtime friends.

Conroy is from Yoder, the second of Jim and Rita's children, but she grew up in Ossian. She attended St. Therese School and by her own account was "studious and very athletic in school." She says, "I am extremely driven and a perfectionist. I don't accept less than the best. That's difficult at times. But I push myself until I get it."

These words hold true as well as her friend Kimmel, who is the oldest of Tim and Joyce's two children. Kimmel attended St. Joseph School, which is associated with St. Rose Church, his family's home parish in Monroeville. The family resides in New Haven.

Like Conroy, Kimmel was competitive in academics throughout his career, and says, "Both my parents are competitive in academics, my mom in literature and English and my dad in science and math. They helped me along."

His enrollment at Bishop Luers High School was vital to his academic career as his parents felt "strongly about Catholic education." Of his studies Kimmel says, "The education was strong at both schools." The small size made a world of difference, he adds.

Following in her mother's foot-

steps Conroy enrolled in Bishop Luers High School as well, and feels her experience there prepared her well for college. "It was awesome at Luers! I love the teachers, the activities and everything. The classes were small and you know someone was always there to make sure you did your best."

She credits her years at Bishop Luers for her self motivation and discipline, as well as her time management skills. "What I learned in high school helped in college," she says confidently.

Along with her studies, Conroy played basketball and tennis and was instrumental in reviving the SADD program at the school. She graduated third in her class at Bishop Luers High School and it was there during freshman year that she became friends with Kimmel.

At Luers, Kimmel took advanced classes and felt well prepared for college as well, earning 11 college credits before he even enrolled at University of Saint Francis. Not surprisingly he earned valedictorian status at his 2005 graduation from high school.

For the four years of high school these two scholars competed academically in many classes, and participated in several extracurricular activities including National Honors Society and peer ministry. Conroy says of their friendship, "We were competitive but helped each other. We watched out for each other..."

The two considered several universities but ultimately made the choice to stay in Fort Wayne where they could remain close to family. Each received scholarships from the University of Saint Francis and Kimmel says, "It was a nice transition from the Catholic education at Luers to the Catholic education at Saint Francis. They hold a lot of the same values."

The friends agree that faith and family are important elements of their success. Kimmel says, "I usually attribute my success to God. ... It's my family and Catholic education that led me to more confidence."

Conroy agrees saying, "Family



ANGELA CONROY



TYLER KIMMEL

and faith are my identity. They have carried me to be valedictorian. My faith has given me confidence."

The co-valedictorians are pleased with the education they received at the university and feel that the community connections they have made are as important to their future as their academic success. Kimmel has volunteered at Matthew 25 in dentistry as well as job-shadowed area dentists. Conroy has enjoyed her service at Kingston Care Center and St. Anne Home working with the elder population. She has also vol-

unteered with the Jesters, a theatrical group for disabled children and adults.

Though the scholars each had their own academic path, he in science and she in arts, Kimmel sees Conroy as a dedicated, hard working student. He says, "She is a very intelligent person. She'll be successful."

Of her co-valedictorian Conroy says, "He is a quiet leader and smart as all get out! He is going to be great at whatever he does"

The graduation ceremony includes the valedictorians' introduction, which will list their many awards, honors, service projects and club involvement including for Kimmel, founding the pre-professional Health Care Club, "Realizing the Dream Award" and three dental mission trips; and for Conroy, assistant art editor and writer for *Paw Print*, USF's newspaper, admissions ambassador and president of the Public Relations Society. They both have the honor of initiating the turning of the tas-

sel and following the general ceremony they will each participate in their individual school's honors banquet where they will be recognized as well.

And what of the future plans for these gifted students? Conroy hopes to be in service to the elder population, perhaps she says, as director of marketing for a retirement home where she can plan and facilitate events, while interacting with the residents. That is after she takes a little trip to Ireland — something she has dreamed of all of her life. "I want to see where I'm from and feel it," she says. Conroy plans to work in the Fort Wayne area to remain close to her tight-knit family.

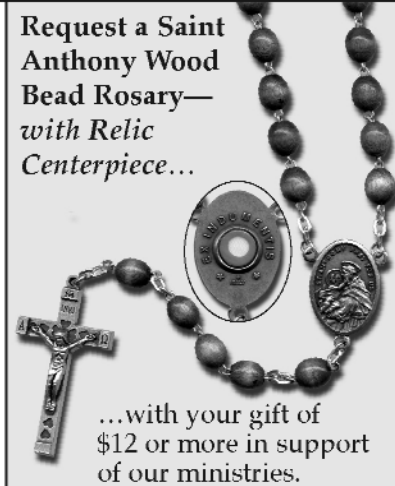
Kimmel has been accepted to the Indiana University dental school where he will study to become an oral surgeon. He plans to return to the area to share his expertise and serve his community through dentistry.

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## More than 2,000 see Archbishop Dolan's installation in New York

NEW YORK (CNS) — St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York overflowed with people, music, incense and good will for the April 15 installation of Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan as the 10th archbishop of New York. More than 2,000 guests in the cathedral listened to two church choirs and a brass ensemble and watched on television monitors as Archbishop Dolan, waiting outside on 50th Street, waved, pointed, grinned and called out to many of the 1,000 robed clergy and laity who moved into place ahead of him in the 45-minute opening procession. His entrance through the main doors of the cathedral on Fifth Avenue was greeted with echoing applause. The Mass of installation was attended by 12 cardinals and more than 115 archbishops and bishops. Some 800 priests in white chasubles participated from a sea of folding chairs arrayed on three sides of the high altar. The Gospel, read by a deacon, was Luke's description of Jesus meeting the disciples on the road to Emmaus. In his homily, Archbishop Dolan said contemporary Christians should turn to Jesus and "recognize him again in his word, in the 'breaking of the bread' and in his church. Let him 'turn us around' as he did those two disciples, turned them around because, simply put, they were going the wrong way."

## Cardinal George clarifies comments about Obama and Notre Dame

CHICAGO (CNS) — Although the University of Notre Dame is not controlled by the U.S. Catholic hierarchy, "in Catholicism, no person or institution is totally independent," Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago said. "Any institution that calls itself Catholic needs to anticipate in some fashion the impact their decisions make on others who are part of the church," the cardinal said in a statement posted in mid-April on the Web site of his archdiocesan newspaper, *The Catholic New World*. The statement was issued to clarify earlier remarks by Cardinal George, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, on Notre Dame's decision to invite President Barack Obama to address its commencement May 17 and to confer an honorary degree on him. The cardinal said the invitation "has embarrassed some of those who were also invited to be part of the commencement ceremonies," including Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Ind., who has said he will not attend. The university, run by the Congregation of Holy Cross, has drawn strong criticism for its decision, primarily because Obama's stands on abortion and embryonic stem-cell research conflict with Catholic teaching.

# NEWS BRIEFS

## ARCHBISHOP DOLAN ARRIVES FOR INSTALLATION MASS



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan gestures after arriving at the altar for his installation Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York April 15. Archbishop Dolan, 59, became the 10th archbishop of New York, succeeding Cardinal Edward M. Egan.

## Vatican orders 'doctrinal assessment' of group representing U.S. nuns

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has ordered a "doctrinal assessment" of the "activities and initiatives" of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, the Maryland-based association whose members represent about 95 percent of the 67,000 women religious in the United States. Sister Annmarie Sanders, a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who is LCWR director of communications, confirmed the investigation in a brief statement released to Catholic News Service April 15. "At this time, LCWR knows neither the process nor timeline for completion of this assessment," the statement said. "As more information is made available to LCWR, the conference will take the appropriate steps for its participation in the assessment." Bishop Leonard P. Blair of Toledo, Ohio, a member of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Doctrine, is to conduct the assessment at the direction of Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the doctrinal congregation. The assessment by Bishop Blair is separate from an apostolic visitation of U.S. institutes of women religious that will look into the quali-

ty of life in the communities and why their membership has decreased during the past 40 years.

## Announcement links Mass of reparations to Notre Dame controversy

ORLANDO, Fla. (CNS) — Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando will celebrate a Mass of reparations May 3 at the Cathedral of St. James in downtown Orlando "for all of our transgressions against the Gospel of life." The announcement of the Mass on the diocesan Web site, [www.orlando-diocese.org](http://www.orlando-diocese.org), linked it to the decision by the University of Notre Dame in Indiana to invite President Barack Obama to speak at its May 17 commencement and to give him an honorary degree. "As Catholics we are aware of the many shortcomings and transgressions committed against the dignity and sacredness of human life in our world," the announcement said. "That is why it is inconceivable," it said, that Notre Dame, "a Catholic institution of higher learning, should receive and honor anyone who promotes policies that are contradictory to who we are as a people of faith." Critics of Obama have said his support of legal abortion and embryonic stem-cell research make him an inappropriate choice to be a com-

mencement speaker at a Catholic university.

## Pope celebrates low-key birthday with brother at papal villa

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI celebrated a low-key birthday with his brother at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo. The pope, who turned 82 April 16, had a very informal "family celebration" that included a visit by a small group of top Vatican officials, the Vatican's spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, told reporters. The officials, including the secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, visited the pope in the morning to offer their birthday wishes. The pope then had a private lunch with his brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, who turned 85 early this year, Father Lombardi said. The Vatican spokesman said the pope received from government and church leaders worldwide many letters wishing him a happy birthday and "even some sweets." Italian President Giorgio Napolitano, who sent a special written message for the pope's birthday and the fourth anniversary of his election as pope April 19, thanked Pope Benedict for his support of those hit by the April 6 earthquake in central Italy.

## Young celebrities continue mission, vision of famed 'rosary priest'

NORTH EASTON, Mass. (CNS) — It's a page right from Holy Cross Father Patrick Peyton's playbook — or rather his prayer book. Family Theater Productions in Hollywood, Calif., affiliated with Holy Cross Family Ministries in North Easton, recently released a DVD, "Rosary Stars Praying the Gospel." The project aims to spread the Gospel message by making the rosary come alive, particularly for a younger generation of Catholics. It features 21 young athletes, actors, directors, TV hosts, recording stars, authors and lecturers sharing a Scripture reading, their own personal reflection and a decade of the rosary, encompassing the four sets of mysteries of the rosary: joyful, sorrowful, glorious and luminous. It includes a meditation from Father Peyton, known as the "rosary priest." J. Omar Castro, one of the celebrities recruited to help with the DVD, told *The Anchor*, newspaper of the Diocese of Fall River, that he was "flattered to be asked to take part in this DVD." He has appeared in the television hit shows "Without a Trace" and "CSI," as well as in films with Nicolas Cage and Cuba Gooding Jr. "I saw this as a great opportunity to show others the power and relevance of the rosary as a prayer tool and maybe to demystify what the rosary is," he said.

## Creators say 'My Mass Kit' aims to help children learn about liturgy

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An Indiana Catholic couple has come up with an educational toy called "My Mass Kit" to help children ages 3-11 understand and participate in the liturgy more fully. Steve and Joni Abdalla created Wee Believers, located in Fishers, Ind., with a mission to produce Catholic educational toys with childlike appeal in an effort to increase a child's knowledge of the Mass and enrich his or her love for God. "My wife and I came up with the idea while sitting in Mass with our small daughter .... We saw other children and we thought how do you help children see both the practicality and mystery of the Mass," Abdalla said in a phone interview with Catholic News Service. The kit comes in a durable canvas case and includes a booklet and 12 plush, washable pieces: a crucifix, chalice and thurible, or censer; a finger bowl and purificator, the small cloth used by the priest to dry his fingers and the chalice; two cruets; two candles; a corporal, the cloth spread on the altar; hosts and a paten, the plate used to hold the hosts. The kit can be ordered on the Web site [www.weebelievers.com](http://www.weebelievers.com), or by calling (877) 933-2587. A kit costs \$89.99 plus shipping and handling.



## Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters celebrate Founder's Day

HUNTINGTON — Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters celebrated Founder's Day on Friday, March 13. The celebration honored their founder, Father John Sigstein.

Six sisters, who knew him personally and as their spiritual advisor, recalled memories for the congregation.

Events included a Mass, festive dinner and singing of the order's anthem, "We Have a Holy Mother."

## Sister Helen Prejean to speak at the USF commencement

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis has announced that commencement ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 2, at 2 p.m. at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Graduating senior Rachel DeKold will deliver the invocation. Angela Conroy and Tyler Kimmel are the valedictorians of the class of 2009. Approximately 480 students will be graduating.

The commencement speaker, Sister Helen Prejean, has been instrumental in sparking national dialogue on the death penalty and helping to shape the Catholic Church's newly vigorous opposition to state executions.

A member of the Congregation of St. Joseph, Sister Prejean was asked to correspond with a death row inmate, Patrick Sonnier, at Angola. She became his spiritual adviser. Concerned with the plight of murder victims' families she founded "Survive," which provides counseling and support for grieving families. Subsequently she wrote "Dead Man Walking," a book about the experience.

Baccalaureate Mass will be held on Saturday, May 2, at 10 a.m., at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, located at 1122 S. Clinton St. Graduates and their families and friends of all faith traditions may attend this service.

For further information, contact the Office of the President at (260) 399-7700 ext. 6910.

## Huntington County Right to Life to sell carnations

HUNTINGTON — Huntington County Right to Life will hold its 31st Annual Mother's Day Carnation Sale May 8, 9 and 10. Long-stemmed carnations, corsages and vases will be sold Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Right to Life office only, located at 34 E. Washington St. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Right to Life office, J.C. Penney, Etna Avenue Huggy Bear, Orscheln Farm and Home Store, Family Dollar, Walgreen Drug Store, Kmart and Wal-Mart.

Long-stemmed carnations and corsages will also be sold at Saturday and Sunday Masses at

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## KNIGHTS ANNOUNCE STATE POSTER CONTEST WINNER



PROVIDED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. John the Baptist Catholic School, New Haven, student, Carly Robinson, won the 2009 state first place award, in the Knights of Columbus State Council Poster Contest.

Robinson received the \$50 check from Grand Knight Stephen Haydock, right, with school Principal Janice Comito, left, in attendance on March 25. Subject of this year's contest was "Substance Abuse Awareness." Carly's poster was judged locally by Holy Trinity council No. 12741, and won the regional and state contest. Her poster has been submitted to the Supreme Council for competition at an international level. The contest was open to students ages eight through 11.

St. Joseph, St. Mary and Ss. Peter and Paul churches. Carnations will be made available on Friday for children at Huntington Catholic Middle Building and Huntington Catholic Primary Building.

Prices are \$1 each for long-stemmed carnations, \$2 and up for corsages, and vases start at \$3. Corsages, vases and large quantities can be ordered in advance by calling (260) 356-5933. Office hours are weekdays 2:30-6 p.m. (closed Wednesdays). All proceeds will benefit pro-life efforts in Huntington County.

## University of Saint Francis offers summer tutoring

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis' Oaks and Willows Center is offering an academic support program for students Monday through Thursday mornings on the university campus, beginning June 30.

The program is open to all stu-

dents in the community who need individualized help in reading, math and written expression for remediation or enrichment. Students will work in a small group of their peers with one tutor to enhance their skills. Work within the group is prescriptive. The program provides computer-assisted instruction along with a variety of hands-on materials under the direction of experienced teachers from the community.

Students in grades 1-3 will attend class from 8:30-10 a.m. Students in grades 4 and up will attend class from 10:15-11:45 a.m.

The cost is \$250 for the first student and \$200 for each additional student in the same family. A 10 percent early bird discount will be given if deposit is received by May 1. The fee includes all activities, evaluations and required supplies.

For further information and registration, contact Staci Mathias at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8409. The registration deadline is May 26.

## Ancilla receives grant from Marshall County Community Foundation

DONALDSON — Ancilla College has been awarded a grant from Marshall County Community Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 towards the purchase of the iStan human simulator.

A next-generation patient simulator, iStan is capable of mimicking the anatomical workings of the human body to a level of realism beyond all previous simulators, giving students and local emergency personnel a level of hands-on training that far exceeds the established norm.

Ancilla College's Ann Fitzgerald, director of nursing, Dr. Joanna Blount, dean of Academic and Student Services, Tom Sibal, assistant director of Institutional Advancement, and Mike Brown, executive director of finance and administration, were all on hand at

a recent program hosted by the Marshall County Community Foundation to receive the grant.

"The monetary donation received from the Marshall County Community Foundation to help purchase the iStan high fidelity simulation mannequin will impact this community in a ripple effect for the next several years," said Fitzgerald in a written statement.

"Working with Marshall and surrounding counties will allow Ancilla College to create a Regional Simulation Center that will assist all healthcare personnel maintain and perfect their life-saving skills. Living in a rural area does not create an expectation of sub-standard healthcare, and at Ancilla College, we are working diligently to ensure our regional healthcare is second to none."

With the grant, Ancilla has raised \$66,000 for the simulator, \$23,000 shy of the total cost.

## Tree giveaway on Arbor Day at the University of Saint Francis

FORT WAYNE — In association with the Fort Wayne Arborist's Association, the University of Saint Francis will host a tree giveaway on Arbor Day, Friday, April 24, beginning at 7 a.m. in front of Trinity Hall, 2701 Spring St., on the west end of campus near Lindenwood Road.

Free flowering dogwood, tulip trees, red bud, canaan fir, douglas fir and hackberry trees will be distributed to community participants a maximum of three trees per person — until supplies are gone. Approximately 1,200 trees will be given away.

For more information, please call the Grounds Department at (260) 399-7700, ext. 6112.

## Dwenger teacher honored by Siemens Foundation

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger math teacher, James LaMarca, was one of 50 teachers selected nationally to receive the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement. Each year, the Siemens Foundation honors the nation's top teachers in the areas of math and science education. This marks the 11th year for the award recognizing the achievements of students, teachers and high schools who excel in the College Board's Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) math and science awards.

LaMarca teaches AP Calculus at Bishop Dwenger. Over the past three years, a total of 85 out of 106 students have achieved a score of three or higher on the College Board's AP® exam, with 34 students receiving a five, the highest score they can earn. LaMarca is now in his 11th year of teaching at Bishop Dwenger High School.

Bishop Dwenger High School students in James LaMarca's AP Calculus classes help celebrate his being honored with an Advanced Placement Award by the Siemens Foundation.

# House okays abortion doctors' hospital privileges

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana House of Representatives passed a proposal, 73-20, April 15 that requires abortion doctors to obtain hospital admitting privileges and enhances Indiana's informed-consent law by adding that a pre-born baby might feel pain during the abortion.

The purpose of the measure, SB 89, according to the bill's author Sen. Patricia Miller (R-Indianapolis), is to provide better follow-up care for women who have complications following an abortion by requiring abortion doctors to obtain hospital admitting privileges in the county and adjacent counties where the abortions are performed.

"I'm very encouraged that the House passed the bill," said Sen. Miller. "It's been a number of years since the House has passed any pro-life legislation. I was also encouraged that several attempts to weaken the bill in the House Public Policy Committee were averted."

Sixteen amendments were filed

in preparation for second reading in the House. Eleven of the amendments were called by the amendment authors. Only three of the amendments passed. Rep. Tim Brown (R-Crawfordsville) offered the amendment that adds fetal pain to Indiana's informed-consent law, which passed 62-27. Women seeking abortion would be informed prior to the procedure that "a fetus might feel pain."

House sponsor of the bill, Rep. David Cheatham (D-North Vernon) offered an amendment to extend hospital admitting privileges to all physicians that perform surgery and passed by a voice vote. Cheatham said it became evident to members of the House Public Policy Committee that there are other types of surgery where patients are not provided adequate follow-up care including for example lasik eye surgery and liposuction cosmetic surgery.

"We felt that this could be addressed so that other types of

## INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

doctors would have admitting privileges so the patient would know where to go to get follow-up care," said Cheatham.

Since the House amended the bill, the bill's author, Sen. Miller, must either concur (agree with) the amendments made in the House to SB 89, or dissent (disagree with). If Sen. Miller concurs the bill can go to the Senate floor for a final vote. If Miller dissents on the amendments, the bill will go to conference committee where lawmakers would iron out differences.

Concerns have been raised by some regarding the inclusiveness of all health care providers and the potential unintended consequences that it creates, not to mention the excessive and unnecessary administrative burden on all physicians and hospitals.

Rep. Matt Bell (R-Avilla) House cosponsor of the bill said that he is concerned that Rep. Cheatham's amendment to include all physicians performing surgery to have admitting privileges "changes the dynamic a lot as a policy. If I am remembering the numbers given during testimony correctly, there are about 12,000 licensed and practicing physicians in Indiana. About three quarters of those currently have admitting privileges," said Bell. "So if the bill passes as it currently stands, that's going to affect over a thousand doctors."

Despite these challenges, Bell said he is hopeful and very encouraged by the vote of 73 House members supporting the bill. "I think the vote is indicative of where Hoosiers are on this issue," said Bell.

Another concern raised by Sen. Miller is that the bill does not specify what constitutes a surgical procedure. "This means something as simple as having a mole removed could be covered in the legislation," said Miller. "I would prefer to concur with the amend-

ments so the bill does not have to go to conference committee. However there are some problems with the bill as it currently stands. If there is any way I can concur with the House amendments, then that's what I'm going to do."

The legislation was prompted because of problems in Fort Wayne where local doctors had to take care of patients seen by abortion practitioner George Klopfer at the Fort Wayne Women's Health Organization. Klopfer, who resides in Illinois, comes to Indiana to perform abortions in Gary, South Bend and Fort Wayne.

There are nine abortion centers located in five different counties. Testimony during the panel hearing indicated just one of the abortion practitioners operating in Indiana has hospital admitting privileges. Planned Parenthood has expressed concern that if this legislation passes it will limit access to abortion.

If SB 89 passes this year, Indiana would join 11 other states which require abortion doctors to maintain local hospital admitting privileges. These states include Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas and Utah.

The Indiana General Assembly must adjourn by the April 29 deadline.

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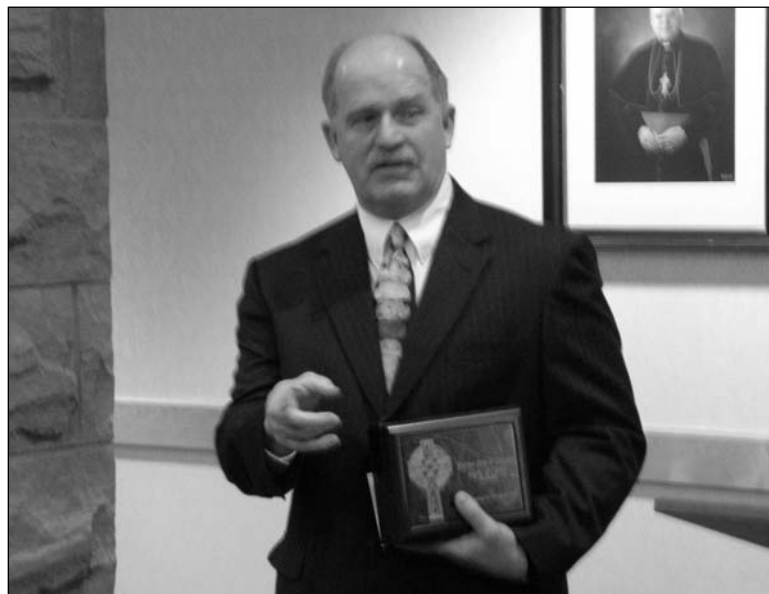
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## FORT WAYNE EDUCATOR HONORED WITH FATHER TOM AWARD



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop John M. D'Arcy presented Fort Wayne's Price Elementary School Principal William D. Critell with the 2009 Father Tom O'Connor Light of Christ Award in education. The presentation was made at a luncheon at St. Mary Church, Fort Wayne, on April 15. Most of Critell's work in education has been in service to students from lower-income families. Critell has visited businesses near the school to enhance the ability of the community and the school to work together. Critell told those gathered that he plans to use the \$1,000 for the purchase of books for the students who may not have access to libraries. Critell is a member of St. Peter Church in Fort Wayne.



# St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School celebrates milestone

FORT WAYNE — One-hundred-forty days, 140 years are concepts that may have challenged the youngest students at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School on Tuesday, April 7. That day, the 140th day of this school year, the school celebrated 140 years of continuous Catholic education in the Fort Wayne-South Bend.

After attending Mass, students formed a "living rosary" in the school gym. Each grade was responsible for leading a portion of the rosary, after which, students took their seats on the bleachers for a trip back in time.

Parishioners and grandparents, Jerome Herber, Millie Steenman, Godfrey and Rita Strack, Tom Rauner, Sr., Carole Sorg, Marylou Schwaiger and Jeanette Klingenberger came to share stories about "the old days," when they or a spouse attended St. Joseph School. Some were old enough to have attended classes in the old school building, which existed from 1907 until 1961.

Jerome Herber, who began first grade at St. Joseph's in 1940, told stories about how strict the Franciscan sisters were with their students. Writing a punishment 500 times was not unheard of. He recalled that his younger brother had gotten in trouble for putting the ponytail of the girl who sat in front of him into the ink bottle on his desk so that it was stuck.

Even though the good sisters had plenty of misbehavior to contend with, families taught their children to respect their teachers. Families would send a pail of milk or fresh eggs and produce from their farms, so the sisters would have enough to eat. Herber was glad when it was his turn to deliver the milk pail, so he could get a sucker as reward. His 14 siblings wished it had been their turn.

Millie Steenman, age 90, recounted that students would often have to write their multipli-



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH-HESSEN CASSEL

**Recalling the history of their school from left are Carole Sorg, Millie Steenman, Jeanette Klingenberger, Marylou Schwaiger and Rita Strack. Standing is the school principal, Louise Schultheis. To share a story in the rich history of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel please contact the school office at (260) 639-3580.**

cation tables many times as a punishment. She said they learned their multiplication facts much faster that way. One boy, however, thought he would take a shortcut. He retrieved his paper from the trash after his teacher had thrown it away, and was ready for the next time he had to write that punishment.

Carole Sorg related a story that her husband Ron had told her about the parish's school bus, known as the "chickie hack." Approximately 10-12 parish families had scraped together enough money to purchase the 1929 Dodge bus, with boards running along the inside for seats. Only students living east of the St. Mary's River were able to ride. Children living on the other side of the river had to get to school any way they could. Many walked. Some came by horse and buggy. Parents took turns as bus driver. Once, Ron Sorg thought

he would get out of going to school by hiding behind the corn shucks near the road. The bus driver saw him, got off the bus and hauled him onto the bus.

Sorg also told the story of Emil Herber, who was scheduled to serve Mass on Dec. 25, 1925. He had quite a distance to walk that cold morning. Sorg's grandfather, Anton, happened by in one of the first cars owned by parishioners. He gave Herber a ride so that the boy would be able to serve the Lord at the altar.

Rita Strack showed the students her father's German Bible. Many families spoke German at home. The children learned English at school. Godfrey Strack added that the pastor let families know that he expected them to send their children to the closest Catholic school.

Tom Rauner, Sr. was in the eighth grade when the current school building was built in 1961. He said he could "still smell the

old school." It smelled of "coal dust and everybody's lunch." He remembers when a black wrought iron fence surrounded the parish cemetery, and when the large oak tree near the school was much shorter and smaller around. These days, Rauner is a caretaker for the church and school property.

Marylou Schwaiger added that when her three sons attended St. Joseph's, they would clean restrooms and classrooms after school since they lived nearby and didn't ride the bus.

Every story was evidence of the hardworking, respectful families that built St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Church and School. These memories are precious treasures shared with the children. Louise Schultheis, principal, told the students that one day, when they grew up, perhaps they would come back to school and share their stories.



## Bishop Dwenger High School Summer Programs

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### Summer Camps

All camps are held at BDHS unless otherwise noted. Additional information and forms are available on the website at [www.bishopdwenger.com](http://www.bishopdwenger.com), and in the front office of the school.

#### Boys Summer Basketball League for current Grades 5-8

Required informational meeting on June 1st at 6 p.m., with games played between 12:15 - 3:00 p.m. on June 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, and 25.  
Cost: \$40, includes game shirt  
Contact: Coach Matt Kostoff, (260) 489-6613

#### Football Skills Development Camp for current Grades 5-8

June 1-4, from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$40, additional campers \$30, incl. ball & shirt  
Contact: Coach Chris Svarczkopf, (260) 496-4718

#### Volleyball Camp for incoming Grades 4-9

June 1-5  
Grades 4-6, 4-5:30 p.m. and Grades 7-9, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$40, includes volleyball  
Contact: Coach John Minnick, (260) 459-3162

#### Saints Basketball School for current Grades K-8

Session 1: June 8-12 Session 2: July 13-17  
Grades K-3, 9-10:15 am; Grades 4-8, 10:30am-12pm  
Cost: \$40, includes camp shirt  
Contact: Coach Dave Scudder, (260) 496-4700 x336

#### Future Saints Boys Soccer Camp for incoming Grades 5-8

June 8-11, from 5:30 - 7 p.m.  
Location: Hefner Soccer Fields on California Road  
Cost: \$30, includes camp shirt.  
Contact: Coach Mike Khorshid, (260) 483-0800

#### Boys Heart and Soul Wrestling Camp for current Grades 1-12 (w/IU Staff and wrestlers!)

June 8-11, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$100 (\$50 group rates for 5+), shirt included  
Contact: Coach John Bennett, (260) 486-5805

#### CYO Strength, Speed & Agility Training Camp for boys and girls in Grades 5-8

T & Th; Session 1: June 9-25; Session II: July 7-23  
Grades 5-6, 6-7:30 p.m.; Grades 7-8, from 6-8 p.m.  
Cost: \$120 for both sessions (\$75 for individual one)  
Contact: Coach Steve Fiacable, (260) 637-5977

#### Dance Team Camp for incoming Grades K-8

June 15-19, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
Cost: \$45 (\$35 family discount), includes camp shirt  
Contact: Coach Haley Wood, (260) 433-2306

#### Cheerleading Camp for incoming Grades K-5

July 27-31, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Cost: \$60, includes outfit (\$30 w/no outfit)  
Contact: Coach Amy Gonzagowski, (260) 496-4700

#### Squad Stunt & Cheer Camp for incoming Grades 6-8

July 27-31, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Cost: \$50, outfit is \$30 additional or \$15 per piece  
Contact: Coach Amy Gonzagowski, (260) 496-4700

### Summer School

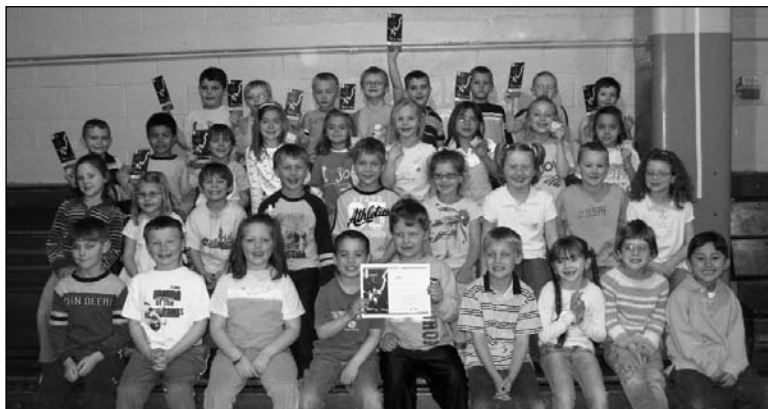
Session 1 runs from June 8-26, and Session 2 from July 6-24. Classes meet from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; students must attend every class in order to receive credit. The cost is \$260. Class information and registration forms are available on our website under the Guests/Summer School link.

### Driver's Education

Session 1 runs June 3-16, and Session 2 from June 17-30. Classes meet from 9:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m. or 4-7 p.m. Students must turn 15 before the last day of class to enroll. Cost is \$325. Classes fill up fast so enroll as soon as possible! Applications are on our website under the Guests/Driver's Education link.

Please check the website regularly for changes and cancellations. Thanks!

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[www.bishopdwenger.com](http://www.bishopdwenger.com)

# Catholic HEALTH CARE

## Privacy laws add difficulty to healing ministries

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Ministering to the emotional and spiritual needs of the ill in the church community of Fort Wayne and surrounding area is a big job. Several priests minister full-or part-time in area hospitals as well as Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home and Renaissance Village Nursing Home.

While visiting, the priest is sensitive to the Catholic patient's needs and remains only a brief time unless an extended stay is requested. He speaks to the patient about his or her illness and offers encouragement and the opportunity for reconciliation and Communion, though an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist offers Communion to the patients each day. The priest will make return visits when appropriate.

Another important aspect of the visit is the opportunity to receive the anointing of the sick, a sacrament for spiritual and physical healing. This sacrament is not necessarily or only for the dying, but for all who are ill. Many of the priests report that fallen-away Catholics have returned to the church and the sacraments through a hospital visit from a priest.

And while the priests take their hospital ministries very seriously, being informed of their parishioners illnesses and hospital stays has become problematic. During a scheduled visit, the priest may have access to the hospital census, but otherwise hospital stay information is restricted due to privacy laws. Many find the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 or HIPAA privacy rules to be a hin-

drance to their ministry.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Web site "The Privacy Rule, a federal law, gives you rights over your health information and sets rules and limits on who can look at and receive your health information." And though patients are asked to disclose their religious affiliation during registration into the hospital, unless they specifically request that their church or priest be contacted, no information can be disseminated to the parish priests.

Father George Gabet, a priest of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter and chaplain of the St. Mother Theodore Guérin community, is part-time chaplain at Lutheran Hospital. Of the HIPAA rules he says, "HIPAA has a lot of good qualities, but barriers as well and makes it impossible to know Catholic patients are there who need a priest."

He adds that the rule is sometimes "carried overboard" for fear of lawsuits. "It is hard for staff to know where to draw the line," he says. "But we support them and understand they're doing the best they can."

Father Ken Sarrazine, pastor of St. Joseph, Roanoke, and St. Catherine of Alexandria-Nix Settlement makes patient visits and offers Mass at Lutheran Hospital, Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home and Renaissance Village Nursing Home. He agrees with Father Gabet saying, "HIPAA makes it difficult to know who's there. But you are offering services and are available when notified. It is in God's hands."

Father Sarrazine does receive information of patient stays from the nursing home but says the

hospitals no longer call. He relies on the families of the patients to notify him for assistance.

Father Jim Shafer, pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, visits patients at Lutheran Hospital as needed. He relies on family calls as well, but says, "People get missed and then they think we're not doing our job."

It is imperative, he says, that family members contact the parish with information about loved ones and their spiritual needs during an illness.

Father Bob D'Souza, associate pastor at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, ministers part-time at St. Joseph Hospital and full-time at Parkview. Though he relies on family calls, which he says he receives from St. Jude parishioners as well as other area parishes, he has a working relationship with the nurses and other chaplains in the facilities who inform him of the Catholic patients' needs.

He says, "Hospital ministry is a very important ministry. I would advise families to inform us they are Catholic so a parish priest can visit — so their spiritual needs are taken care of."

All the priests agree on the importance of periodically reminding their parishioners that due to the constraint brought by HIPAA rules, they are now responsible for notifying the parish of their loved one's hospital or nursing home admission. Bulletin and pulpit announcements assist with the priests' efforts to support those in need.

And as Father Gabet says, "Priests don't have a crystal ball — the rules make it difficult to get the names of those in need. Parishioners must call for a priest's visit."

## NIH head foresees ethical concerns about draft stem-cell guidelines

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The acting head of the National Institutes of Health said he expects many of the public comments on the agency's new draft guidelines on embryonic stem-cell research will focus on ethical concerns about the research.

The NIH guidelines, which Kington said reflect "broad support in the public and in the scientific community," would allow the use of federal funds for embryonic stem-cell research only on embryos created for reproductive purposes at in vitro fertilization clinics and no longer needed for that purpose.

Specifically banned by the draft guidelines is funding "for research using embryonic stem cells derived from other sources, including somatic cell nuclear transfer, parthenogenesis and/or IVF embryos created for research purposes."

Also prohibited is funding of research in which stem cells "are introduced into nonhuman primate blastocysts" or research "involving the breeding of animals where the introduction of human embryonic stem cells or human-induced pluripotent stem cells may have contributed to the germ line."

Kington said research on adult stem cells and induced pluripotent cells — which do not require the destruction of human embryos — will continue to receive NIH funding.

The draft guidelines were issued at the direction of President Barack Obama, whose March 9 executive order overturned President George W. Bush's ban on federal funding of research that involved the destruction of human embryos. Obama asked NIH to draw up guidelines for embryonic stem-cell research that would be "scientifically worthy and ethically

responsible."

When Obama's decision was announced in March, Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said it represented "a sad victory of politics over science and ethics."

Kington said the draft guidelines would be published sometime during the week of April 20 in the Federal Register, opening a 30-period for public comment.

"At the end of the 30 days we will analyze the range of comments, consider them and ultimately have them inform our decision on the final guidelines," which will be issued by July 7, he added.

The draft guidelines set seven requirements for informed consent in cases when embryos created for reproductive purposes are later donated for use in research:

- "All options pertaining to use of embryos no longer needed for reproductive purposes" have been explained to the potential donors.
- No inducements were offered for the donation.
- The health care facility has a policy in place to assure that quality of care is not affected by a decision to donate or not to donate.
- There is clear separation between the decision to create the embryos and the decision to donate them.
- Consent was obtained at the time of donation and donors were informed they could revoke consent at any time.
- When possible, the physician responsible for reproductive care of the donor is not the person who will perform the research.
- Written consent must include nine separate elements contained in the guidelines, including an acknowledgment that the research could have commercial potential that would not benefit the donor.



# US, Canadian Catholics react to new stem-cell research technique

BY MICHAEL SWAN

TORONTO (CNS) — Several Catholic officials welcomed a breakthrough in stem-cell research that could advance the science of regenerative medicine, but at least one Catholic ethicist wanted more information about the procedure.

Dr. Andras Nagy of Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital announced a new technique for creating pluripotent stem cells that can develop into most other types of human tissue. Nagy's method of turning just about any cells, such as skin cells and blood cells, into stem cells avoids the use of spare embryos from in vitro fertilization and bypasses previous techniques that used viruses to turn back the clock on adult cells. Nagy published the results of his research in an online version of the prestigious journal *Nature* Feb. 27.

In 2005 Nagy created Canada's first embryonic stem-

cell lines from donated embryos. That research led to his discovery of the "piggyBac" method of reprogramming cells without using viruses to deliver growth factors to the cell's chromosomes. Viruses used to carry growth factors will incorporate themselves into the cells, which then could turn cancerous.

Adult stem cells have been used to treat Parkinson's, cystic fibrosis and other diseases that break down entire systems in the body.

In a March 4 interview with Catholic News Service, Richard M. Doerflinger, associate director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, applauded the advancement, noting that researchers "have now figured out how to inject this genetic material directly and then remove it once it has done its job."

Noting the primacy of adult stem-cell research in treatment, Doerflinger said it is "one advance among many leading more and more researchers to

abandon using embryos for stem-cell research."

In a statement March 2, Paul Long, vice president for public policy for the Michigan Catholic Conference, said he welcomed the "news of yet another scientific advancement that allows researchers to pursue ethical and proven stem-cell research without the need to destroy living human embryos."

But because Nagy's technique creates "embryolike cells," Canadian bioethicist Bridget Campion sees red flags.

"Are we in the realm of therapeutic cloning?" asked Campion, a researcher with the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute and consultant for the Catholic Organization for Life and Family. "Red flags go up when we say things like 'cells reverted to an embryonic state.'"

While the new technique does not use the product of sexual reproduction — whether natural or in a petri dish — Campion expressed concerns about how

the technique will be commercialized and whether the resulting stem cells might represent an interrupted process that otherwise could result in a human.

"As Catholics we are filled with compassion for the suffering in the human condition, but the ends never justify the means," she said. "We don't work with that logic — that the ends justify the means. Means are extremely important."

Jesuit Father Rob Allore, a genetics researcher at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, said there is no such thing as a scientific advance that will end debate over ethics in scientific research, but he hailed Nagy's paper as "a scientific as well as a technological breakthrough."

Many "are happy that this method takes us beyond the need for embryonic stem cells. The technique also begins to answer some important questions related to the genetic events involved in the induction of the stem-cell state," Father Allore wrote in an e-mail to *The Catholic Register*, a Toronto-based Catholic newspaper.

Scientists are constantly involved in ethical debate about what they are doing and how they do it, he said.

"Even with these wonderful advances we should continue to support a wide-ranging public discussion on ethical issues associated with embryonic stem cells," said Father Allore.

The new technique brings closer the dream of being able to use a patient's own cells to cure disease. That makes cells derived from embryos much less attractive as a subject for further research, said Father Allore.

"Embryos will always be a second-best source of stem cells," he said. "When stem cells are obtained from embryos you have the problem of an incomplete immunological match with the patient who is to receive the stem cells. If we can learn to induce cells to take on embryonic characteristics, we should be able to obtain cells directly from the patient. After being reprogrammed they can be transplanted back into the patient, where you would anticipate little or no problems with rejection."

Contributing to this story was Regina Linskey in Washington.

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## Foundation provides medical equipment and supplies to needy individuals

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — The Brenda Hanchar Foundation was established in 2006 to provide medical equipment, supplies and prescription drugs to those who cannot afford to pay for it themselves, do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid coverage and/or have no or limited health insurance coverage.

Tom Hanchar, parishioner at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and owner of Thomas International Convalescent Shop, created the nonprofit foundation to honor the memory of his late wife Brenda and to carry forward her active involvement in the profession of nursing.

"What a beautiful honor" it is to memorialize her, says Hanchar.

After his wife's death from cancer in December of 2003, Hanchar saw a need to help procure medical equipment for those "who fell into the hole," that is, individuals with medical needs that were not funded by insurance, Medicare or Medicaid. So he created the nonprofit foundation whose mission it is to help those who are unable to afford physician directed medical equipment, medical supplies or prescription medication to enhance and maintain a reasonable quality of life. For those qualifying individuals, equipment is loaned out to them as long as that condition exists.

The foundation receives support from manufacturers in New York, California and Illinois. Other charitable organizations donate useable equipment. In addition, notices placed in Fort Wayne area church bulletins requesting donations of gently used items produced "a very good response," he says. There is always a great need for durable medical goods like wheelchairs, semi-electric hospital beds, concentrators, hyperbaric oxygen chambers and the like.

The Brenda Hanchar Foundation works closely with other nonprofit agencies like Mustard Seed, Council on Aging, Matthew 25, Turnstone Center and League for the Blind. It "acts as a lazy Susan" in making the medical equipment



TESS STEFFEN

**The Brenda Hanchar Foundation donates medical items to patients who can't afford them. Tom Hanchar, left, founder of the Brenda Hanchar Foundation, and Jeff Siples, former Brenda Hanchar Foundation president, stand behind portable wheelchairs that are among the inventory to be donated.**

and prescription drugs it obtains available to other agencies' clients. "It's a big circle," he says.

Hanchar is especially pleased about the foundation's annual fundraiser, Flavor of Fall, in which northeast Indiana chefs prepare soups and gumbos for tasting in return for donations. A very popular event, last year's tasting at the Baker Street Station in downtown Fort Wayne was held on his and Brenda's anniversary date of Nov. 6. That was "kind of sentimental," he admits. An added feature was a number of personal testimonials given by clients of the foundation in appreciation for the assistance they have received.

Executive director Cindy

Cornwall handles day-to-day operations and public relations and a board of directors is responsible for establishing the requirements to qualify an individual for any financial or continued service requirements relating to their medical equipment, medical supplies and pharmaceutical needs.

"We're tickled pink that we're able to help the community," but it couldn't be done without the generosity of lots of caring people, says Hanchar.

**Individuals needing assistance** may call (260) 432-0400 to see whether they qualify for the program. Visit [www.brendahanchar-foundation.org](http://www.brendahanchar-foundation.org).

## Panel discusses ethics and religious values in business

### Moral standards needed in workplace

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Members of the academic and business community gathered March 23 at the Allen County Public Library Theatre to discuss business ethics and its relevancy to the modern work place.

Father Oliver Williams, academic director of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business, Notre Dame marketing professor Patrick Murphy, Ian Rolland, former chairman and CEO of Lincoln National Corp., and Tim Kenesey, president and CEO of Medical Protective were guest panelists during a question and answer session cosponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne and Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana.

The panelists started with a brief discussion of personal philosophy on ethics, followed by fielded questions from the audience.

Father Williams, a Mendoza School of Business faculty member, likened ethics to the Ten Commandments, as they are guidelines to remind us of what is right. In the wake of numerous scandals in the business world, he noted, self-interest is the biggest problem society faces right now. Business professionals must adopt the same moral standards they exhibit in their personal lives in their business lives, he said.

Unfortunately there is no universal definition of ethics. And many people have the attitude that the end justifies the means, Father Williams noted.

"A lot of harm is done when people don't follow moral standards," he cautioned.

Murphy offered a few suggestions for creating and maintaining morals in the work place. First,

he suggested a company should adopt a values statement. This is a written expression of the company's principles designed to guide employees on a daily basis.

He also proposed a company should stand by a credo and a code of ethics. The code of ethics needs to be revised and updated as needed, he said.

In conclusion, Murphy said a system of ethics starts at the top.

"Ethical leadership can be demonstrated at lower and medium levels as well as upper levels of management," he said.

Taking an oath is not enough to be a moral business person, Kenesey suggested.

"It's how you act," he said. "It's not until you really are challenged you can see if you're following the rules or not."

Rolland echoed Williams' comments about setting an example.

"The ethical environment of the organization is really set by the person at the top," he said.

Employees, he said, need to have confidence in their CEO to do the right thing. He then went on to outline Lincoln's seven shared values infiltrated into the company's environment and business practices.

Following these comments, the panelists addressed questions from the audience. Questions ranged from how to provide a moral compass in the workplace, how to avoid "traps" in business, the ethics behind executive compensation and the role of government in regulating business.

When considering moral issues in the workplace, Kenesey said it's important to avoid the "gray area."

"Don't go near that line," he said.

Similarly, Rolland offered this word of advice: "Be sure your actions are consistent with words."



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# Effort to end conscience protection threatens all rights, says bishop

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, spoke with Catholic News Service's Nancy Frazier O'Brien March 24 about the Obama administration's move to rescind a Department of Health and Human Services regulation guaranteeing conscience protections for health care workers and institutions. Here is a transcript of the interview:

**CNS:** Why should the average Catholic be concerned about a somewhat obscure regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services?

**Bishop Murphy:** You're right. The regulations from HHS are regulations that came from the Bush administration in the last period of their governing. And what they are are applications of the statutes. Now the (Obama) administration says all we're doing — with emphasis on all — is taking away the regulations. However, legal experts tell us that the regulations are totally in conformity with the statutes. So to take back the regulations raises a real issue, because the statutes are intended to protect human rights — rights of conscience and rights of freedom of religion. So why should everyone be concerned about this? Because if one person's rights can be compromised, everybody's rights can be compromised.

**CNS:** But won't Congress still be able to guarantee conscience protections via the statutes if the regulation is overturned?

**Bishop Murphy:** Well, that's one of those "what ifs" that doesn't make sense. If we're guaranteeing them now, why should we take them away and ask Congress to put them back? Second, there's a fallacy in this. Neither the United States government or the Congress or the administration gives us rights. We have rights ... because we're human beings and no state has the right to compromise or interfere with human rights.

There's a real problem in that kind of thinking — that somehow or another the government has given us something and the government can take it away. The government did not give us rights and the government is acting wrongly if it attempts to try to regulate rights in the sense of compromising anyone's rights. All the government can do is foster and guarantee and defend rights. Otherwise it's a false government.

Can I tell you a good story? When I was meeting with (Fidel) Castro in Cuba several years ago, I raised the issue to him about human rights and he said, "I guarantee all human rights so long as no one uses human rights against the state." It doesn't take a genius to figure out that he's not giving them human rights. The state controls. That's why the Congress is not the source of human rights.

**CNS:** Where do you think the next threat might come if this regulation is rescinded?

**Bishop Murphy:** I think that just about anything is open. Because once you compromise in one area, then you are open to be compromised in every area. And I would say for example what's going to happen with Catholic hospitals? If the government tries to say that abortion is a constitutional right, then a woman who comes to a Catholic hospital which receives government funds — and they all do — (if the hospital) says no (to performing an abortion), and the woman says, "But it's my right," then what do you have? So it's clear this is a very serious moment in constitutional history and in the protection of the rights and liberties of citizens.

**CNS:** How would you respond to those who argue that it threatens women's health to allow health care providers to decide whether to participate in abortions or other procedures that violate their consciences?

**Bishop Murphy:** I'm baffled by that question — truly baffled by it. When was abortion a guarantee of anyone's health? In fact it's a direct attack not just on the health but on the life of the unborn. I just don't understand that at all. The fact is in our society I don't know any part of the United States where abortion isn't readily available for the person who wants it. And this argument about the health of the mother — even if you were to allow, which I do not, that abortion is OK in the instance of rape and incest — the fact of the matter objectively is that is a minuscule percentage of the abortions that are performed. They don't even have a blip in the screen, and you're still having to face the fact that abortion is the direct taking of innocent human life.

**CNS:** Do you think the move to rescind this regulation is an attempt to implement part of the Freedom of Choice Act without having to introduce FOCA?

**Bishop Murphy:** I'll tell you what my fear is. They have not introduced FOCA and I believe part of it, and I don't know this, my guess is that they received so many cards across the country from the efforts here to say "Do not have FOCA," that they've decided as a tactical strategy not to have a FOCA bill, at least at this time.

What I also believe they are trying to do — and I hope I'm wrong, but I suspect this — is what I call death by a thousand slices. (The) Mexico City (policy barring the use of taxpayer money to fund organizations that promote or perform abortion or forced sterilization in other countries) gets repealed. HHS regulations get turned back. And the answer is, well, those are both Bush things. No, they're not. They have to do with right of conscience and freedom of religion.

Embryonic stem-cell research is called sound science. It isn't sound science. There's never been one person who's been cured or even successfully treated with the results of embryonic stem-cell har-

vesting — no one. Adult stem cells, yes. Why do they do this? I can only conclude it has to do with money. So I really do believe that they will move forward. The administration, the government plans to do this and we have to be very much on the alert.

**CNS:** What effect do you think the administration's effort against conscience protections could have on the upcoming debate over health care reform?

**Bishop Murphy:** Well, I was fortunate to have a very good discussion with Melody Barnes who is the domestic policy adviser in the White House for President Obama. We spoke about health care reform and I indicated to her the church's support of health care reform particularly to cover the poor and to see to it that everyone has the health care that they need in America. So there are real areas in which we not only would agree but we wish to be supportive for good sound health care reform.

But if health care reform means that everyone has to be lock step

into the same set of guidelines or that care is rationed unreasonably or things which go against the dignity of the human person now become part of the health care provisions, then we're going to have to say no to those parts of any kind of health care bill. And we will.

**CNS:** What can the average person do to raise awareness about this threat?

**Bishop Murphy:** I'm going to answer your question with an observation. We bishops are doing our best to get people to know what the reality is. To use one example, I did my column two weeks ago on embryonic stem-cell research. It's gone to every pastor and every pastor can use that to preach. Our people need guidance. And that's one of the good things that I bless you people here in this office for. By giving people clear reporting on these issues, you are a great instrument for education. And that's a great gift that we all need to make greater use of.

I think people need to be informed and I think they have to

recognize that they have to make their voices heard. The bishops by themselves cannot do it. Because you can always find some people who call themselves Catholic who don't agree with the bishops. The lay men and women of our churches, of our parishes and dioceses across the country have to be the voices of the Catholic Church today. Their voice is stronger than ours in many instances because they are the constituents, because they vote and because the politicians know they need the votes to be re-elected.

**CNS:** What are the most important points that people should raise in comments to HHS about the regulation?

**Bishop Murphy:** There is a litmus test here and it is a simple litmus test — is this really serving the health of human beings, of people in our society, or is it simply guaranteeing that a certain group's particular agenda gets the backing of the government against the will and the right thinking of the citizens?

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## EDITORIAL

## Human Embryology 101

With all the discussions surrounding embryonic stem-cell research, it may be helpful to keep in mind some basic facts of human embryology.

First of all, there are important distinctions among the terms "human life," "human being" and "human person." Unfortunately, due to the politicization of bioethics and even of science, statements are often made that can easily be refuted by sound science. For example, it is common to hear the statement that "no one knows when human life begins."

The fact is that "human life" as such began at least tens of thousands of years ago. Any living cell is either human or belongs to some other species. Living human cells only come from other living human cells. So, the right answer is that "human life" began when the species homo sapiens was created thousands of years ago.

Every "human being" is the product of living human cells — or at least of their DNA — that have been joined. Once the pronuclei of a human sperm cell fuses with the pronuclei of a human egg cell, you have a one-celled human being called a zygote. It is no longer just human life, but is now a human organism or creature. In other words, from the point of this fusion, known as syngamy, you have a living being that is human, no longer just "human life."

Finally, the question of human personhood is a little trickier. Now we are no longer talking about straightforward scientific facts, but of anthropology, ethics and the law. A person can, for example, be understood simply in legal terms as an entity with standing before the law which is not property, but which rather, can own property. However, personhood, understood in its deepest anthropological reality, refers to a being with an immortal soul.

Contrary to popular belief, the church does not teach that an immortal soul is infused at the moment of conception. The church admits that philosophical or theological arguments can legitimately be made that would hold that the infusion of an immortal soul occurs a little later, such as when the fission or twinning of a human embryo into two human embryos is no longer possible. Nevertheless, the church does indicate that it is probable that the infusion of an immortal soul does occur at conception.

Even so, the church clearly holds that from the moment of conception, every human being should be treated as a person. The question of the soul's infusion aside, we do know one thing with scientific certainty: this entity is a fellow human being that for this reason alone deserves the same respect that would be accorded to any other human being.

Consequently, this highlights the depth of the horror of federal-funding embryonic stem-cell research. In such research, researchers kill embryonic human beings — human beings that are not just fertilized eggs, but have already over a hundred cells that are differentiated. These human beings are certainly smaller than we are; more delicate and dependent than we are; and very much less cognitively developed than we are.

However, none of us is more of a person and more deserving of respect because of a larger size, a high level of independence or superior cognitive abilities. We share the same dignity because we are all human beings.

## Advance directives that help

An advance directive is a document which provides guidance when a person is no longer competent to make his own health care decisions. An advance directive can take the form of either a living will or an appointment of a health care representative. A living will tries to anticipate various health care situations and instructs those responsible to provide, withhold or withdraw certain procedures or therapies. An appointment of a health care representative authorizes someone trusted to evaluate what is proportionate care in light of what the patient would want and to make those health care decisions.

Since a living will cannot accurately predict every possible future medical condition and treatment option, the appointment of a health care representative is recommended by the church. The Indiana Catholic Conference has a model advance directive form that includes both basic Catholic principles and the appointment of a health care representative. The form came be downloaded and filled out without the need to consult an attorney. Go to the "Resources" tab at [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org).

**Today's Catholic editorial board** is 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](mailto:editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org)

## Withdraw invitation

What is the Notre Dame community thinking? Is all of this for 30 pieces of silver?

It is mournfully distracting:

- To offer a petition at liturgy for the end to the culture of death and an end to abortion when the greatest proponent of abortion is the scheduled commencement speaker and who recently released U.S. funds to aid international abortions.

- To pray under the gilded dome of the basilica, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven ..." when a university platform is given to a man whose personal judgment is that the sanctity of life is "above his pay grade."

- To remember Jesus in the words of the consecration, "When on the night he was betrayed, ..." when the community is showcasing the man who signed embryonic stem-cell research into U.S. law and which the Holy Father recently proclaimed as highly immoral.

What must Bishop D'Arcy, Bishop Jenky, CSC, our Holy Father, Benedict, be thinking about the judgment and prudence of the administration of Notre Dame? Please withdraw the university invitation!

Catholic Women's Book Club,  
Elkhart County  
Maureen Wosniak, Sue Stuckman, Linda Reed, Maria Pirrie, Sue Peterson, Jody McDonough, Vicki Kalil, Cynthia Herms

## Supports Obama visit

Such a lovely day Holy Thursday has been in my life — until this morning.

As I read my *Tribune* and *Today's Catholic*, I was dismayed by the position taken by the head of the Holy Cross Order regarding the upcoming visit to Notre Dame by the most powerful, surely most courageous man in the world. How honored I feel for our Notre Dame to have the leader of the greatest republic in the free world speak to the young people who are graduating into it. Many of them, like many good Catholics all over this nation, sent Obama to that office. Without us Catholics, his win would have been substantially less.

My dismay turned to fear and terror as I read the vicious threats by Randall Terry. This was heightened when I saw the protesters out stirring up trouble near campus instead of reciting the Way of the Cross and making a solemn reconciliation during this Holy Week.

I ask Bishop D'Arcy to reconsider his position and demonstrate love in his leadership of our people by coming to pay respects and honor the democratically elected President

Barack Obama at the commencement. At least then any possible untoward results of this ungovernable uproar will not lay at his feet.

M Lou C. Lonergan  
South Bend

## Pray for the president

Why are we not storming heaven with the one tool we have to change President Obama's mind — prayer.

One Hail Mary said every day by the people in every diocese from the east coast to the west coast would surely attract attention. If every one said this prayer at noon each day for the intention of changing the president's mind on family planning, I'm sure it would get heaven's attention.

Our Blessed Mother could ask her Son for help, as she did at the wedding feast at Cana when they were running out of wine. Obama is a family man, very smart, but not necessarily wise. Our Blessed Mother could teach him wisdom. He would not stand a chance.

We should have started praying when he was elected. It is never too late.

Mary R. Sparks  
South Bend

## Where was Notre Dame's board?

The issue Holy Cross Father John Jenkins created has left myself and even non-Catholic friends wondering — how did this happen? Where was the board?

Did Father Jenkins send the invitation and only tell everyone once he heard back? How could a man be in his position and be clueless as to what issues might surface? Was he so determined to be the one who got President Obama to come he was blinded by the honor? How could he not realize that the very person he was professing to want to honor would be thrown into an embarrassing mess. A mess he created.

I totally support Bishop John M. D'Arcy. It had to be a hard decision; because as a man of his stature in the Catholic Church he had to have deep feelings about causing the new president any embarrassment.

The bigger issue had to be beliefs. What does the Catholic Church stand for? Father Jenkins obviously saw a grey area. I'm not disputing his reasoning for choosing the president, but had he followed protocol, had he gone through the church heads, he might have avoided embarrassing our president, putting our bishop in a difficult situation and worst of all, taking away from graduates their hard-earned big moment. It should have been about them and the families that

supported them. Instead it is a divisive situation.

Tell me, Father Jenkins, is this what you pictured?

Carol Rainwater  
Huntington

## The truth about farm animals

As a person who spent 40 years of his life living and working around dairy cattle, I hope to clear up some misconceptions about farm animals.

First of all cows are artificially inseminated because it can improve genetics, sanitation and safety. Bulls that run loose in herds can be dangerous for the farmers.

Cows having calf after calf is no different than any animal in the wild that has babies every year. Yes, cows do grieve over having their babies taken away, but, a farmer can take better care of a calf than a mother cow can in the herd.

When her productive life is over, she is sent to a slaughter house. But, at the slaughter house I visited, the cows never saw other cows die. Death was caused instantly by shot in the head with an air gun.

And yes, some bull calves end up in veal houses when they are a few months old. Hogs are slaughtered at 6 months and chickens at 6 weeks. The best way to secure the future of any domesticated animal is to eat it. Otherwise, why raise it?

Bill Monhant  
Mishawaka

## Father Pacholczyk responds

I am happy to read that Ms. Shaffer agrees so strongly with the Catholic Church, and with what I have always stressed in my writings, namely, that every child that comes into the world is a source of great joy and always a blessing. Every newborn is to be rejoiced over as a kind of "miracle" and "grace," no matter how it was conceived.

While it is certainly true that babies are always a blessing, it is certainly false that their arrival somehow sanitizes or justifies those kinds of disordered human choices via which they may have gotten here such as sexual assault, adultery, pre-marital sex, cloning or in vitro fertilization. I believe Ms. Shaffer would benefit from going a little deeper into the matter and shifting her attention away from the emotional appeal of babies and newborns to focus for a moment on the very important and serious ethical obligations we have surrounding their procreation.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.  
National Bioethics Center  
Philadelphia, Pa.





# Indulgence requirements clarified

**In the letter in the Today's Catholic regarding the indulgence that one can receive during this Pauline year, there is no mention of the specifics of the how and where one goes for this votive Mass, etc. Can any further explanation be given? Anonymous**

It's up to the priest in the individual places to schedule things like votive Masses. For the people to do something themselves they would have to go in a group of two or more (because it has to be public) and read aloud from St. Paul's letters or do a Litany of St. Paul aloud.

**The "green" issue entices me to reconsider the digital version of Today's Catholic. How does that work? Anonymous**

Readers of *Today's Catholic* can download the electronic, digital, version of the newspaper either from our Web site, [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org) or receive it through e-mail. Most issues are

## THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

3.3 MB, but larger issues often use more megabytes, so we encourage people with high speed Internet connections to consider the digital version.

The digital version is e-mailed to subscribers on Wednesdays. This is especially attractive to people outside the diocese where delivery would take longer. For example, some of our Florida readers have reported the paper taking two weeks for delivery.

The e-mailed version and downloaded version look exactly like the print version. The digital version has e-mail addresses and Web addresses hyperlinked. Readers can also adjust the size

of print on their computer screen.

The digital version is definitely the "green" way to go. It cuts out printing, mailing and transportation charges.

But recycling your *Today's Catholic* after you read it is also "green."

Readers may also be interested to know that archived issues are available for download as a PDF. So if you misplaced and recycled your paper and wish to find a back issue, one can do so on our Web site.

If you get the newspaper in the mail and want the e-mailed version, please contact our subscriptions manager, Kathy Voirol, at [kvoirol@fw.diocesefwsb.org](mailto:kvoirol@fw.diocesefwsb.org), and please provide your label mailing address and then your e-mail address.

**Father Mark Gurtner**, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne, answered the first question. Tim Johnson, editor, answered the second question.

# Religious freedom, American security

Full disclosure, up front: Thomas F. Farr, author of "World of Faith and Freedom: Why International Religious Liberty Is Vital to American Security," (Oxford University Press), is my friend. Friendship notwithstanding, Dr. Farr has written a very important book.

A 21-year veteran of the Foreign Service, Tom Farr was the first director of the State Department's Office of International Religious Freedom. In that capacity, he traveled the world, trying to persuade persecuting governments to cease and desist. That was hard enough. Farr's hardest work, however, was inside his own department in Washington.

The Department of State, like the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency, is institutionally allergic to the idea that religious conviction has something to do with how the 21st century world works — and why the 21st century world explodes. That allergy reflects the bias of foreign policy realists, according to whom military and economic power are the only units-of-account in world politics; the biases of secularization theory, according to which a modernizing world is becoming ever more secular; and the personal biases of Foreign Service officers, many of whom were educated at elite universities where religion equals mythology.

You might think that 9/11 would have drawn these intelligent people's attention to the fact that religious conviction is — to put it gently — a dynamic factor in today's international environment. But you would be wrong. To this day, the chief foreign policy and national security agencies of the U.S. government live in a state of

denial about contemporary history's falsification of the notion that a modernizing world is getting ever more un-religious. By any empirical measure, the world is getting more religious, not less; that basic fact of life has yet to take hold at State, Defense and CIA.

Thus the task that Tom Farr sets himself in "World of Faith and Freedom" is both essential and difficult: to change the corporate mind of the American foreign policy establishment on the relationship between religious conviction and world affairs, and on the role that promoting religious freedom ought to play in U.S. foreign policy. His tone is measured; his analyses are fair and balanced. He understands that policy-formation is a complex business in which competing goods must be weighed and tradeoffs inevitably occur. No one can reasonably accuse Farr of being a naïf.

"World of Faith and Freedom" also offers an intriguing look at the difficult legislative birth of the 1998 International Religious Freedom Act and the even more difficult labors involved in giving the State Department's new Office of International Religious Freedom some bureaucratic traction. The late Wayne Hays, (D-Ohio), used to say that the two things people shouldn't see being made are sausages and laws — to which Farr would likely add, "new offices at State that State doesn't want." The story is a fascinating, if sobering, look at what crawls out when you lift up the bureaucratic rocks.

Tom Farr's tests his own proposals for reconceiving the role of religious freedom in U.S. foreign policy by applying them to two tough cases: religious freedom in Islamic states, and religious free-



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

dom in China (which Secretary of State Clinton unfortunately deemed less urgent than working with China against global warming). I'd argue with some of Farr's specific proposals; he senses possibilities in the Muslim Brotherhood becoming a long-term force for decency in the Islamic world that I can't quite see, for example. But with his general proposition — that religious freedom, successfully secured, advances American security because states that guarantee everyone's religious freedom are less likely breeding grounds for terrorism or aggression — I am in complete agreement.

The liberals of the Obama administration seem oddly enamored of a "new realism" in foreign affairs. They will soon learn, as others learned before them, that there is nothing "realistic" about supporting tyrants on the ground that only nasties can keep the lid on in nasty places like the Middle East. It doesn't work. U.S. policy that helps channel religious energies into building civil society where freedom is imperiled is far more realistic. Tom Farr's learned, lively and important book shows why, and how.

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

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for April 26, 2009

Luke 24:35-48

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter, Cycle B: the Risen Christ meets his disciples after he is raised. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BREAKING BE WITH YOU GHOST MY FEET BONES WRITTEN FORGIVENESS	BREAD TERRIFIED HEARTS TOUCH ME FISH LAW OF MOSES NATIONS	PEACE SEEING MY HANDS FLESH SPOKE PSALMS WITNESSES
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## FLESH AND BONES

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

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# BIOETHICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

asked him why he shouted at them to stay away. He said he was afraid if he put his hand on them, he would drag them under the water with him. He knew that a desperate person would reach for almost anything nearby in order to save himself, maybe even his own children, and he didn't want to do that.

We must be similarly concerned in our society when scientists and desperate patients are tempted to put their hand onto our embryonic children in a bid to alleviate suffering or even to save themselves. Sadly, the president's stem-cell decision encourages this kind of unethical behavior by an emotional appeal to patient desperation. The president's ethical mistake is further compounded by the fact that remarkable and powerful scientific alternatives exist, such as cellular reprogramming on the one hand, or the use of adult/umbilical cord stem cells on the other, neither of which requires ever laying a hand on a human embryo.

His stem-cell decision also manifests a troubling shift towards a more widespread and systemic form of oppression within our society. The president is offering Americans the prospect of using the powers of science to oppress, or more accurately, to suppress the

youngest members of the human family to serve the interests of older and more wealthy members. He is offering Americans the prospect of reducing fellow human beings to cogs and commodities in the assembly line of the medico-business industrial complex.

Many Americans, however, seem only vaguely aware of what has transpired in the president's decision. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas once commented on the way that oppression can subtly arise in our midst: "As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there's a twilight where everything remains seemingly unchanged, and it is in such twilight that we must be aware of change in the air, however slight, lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness."

Some would suggest that perhaps the darkness is already upon us. But a few moments of twilight may still remain, in which Americans can turn back the moral darkness that threatens our society and our future.

**Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.** earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass.



## Eagle Scout project benefits parish

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — St. John the Evangelist parishioner, Patrick Wheeler, completed an Eagle Scout project that parishioners will be able to enjoy for years to come. Wheeler admitted that originally he contacted the local parks department to see if they needed anything but he didn't receive a reply. So he asked his pastor, Father Chris Smith, if there was something he could do.

Wheeler said Father Smith had two items on his wish list — an outdoor rosary and a walking Stations of the Cross. "So I took both into my hands," Wheeler said. "The rosary is built out of bricks laid out in the shape of a rosary. I could've made the cross but there were already two crosses by the preschool from when the school was built so I used one for the cross of the rosary."

The brick path walking rosary surrounds the grotto across the street from the church. The walking Stations of the Cross also begin at the grotto of the Blessed Mother and continue down the rectory driveway and across the street, ending at the Pieta statue. Wheeler's brother, Mark, planted the landscaping around the Pieta for his project. "I wanted to have the 13th station precisely at the statue and it worked out," Wheeler said.

Eagle Scout is the highest honor a Scout can achieve. The project required has to benefit the community or any organization other than the Scouts, according to Wheeler. Wheeler said he was



St. John the Evangelist, Goshen, parishioner, Patrick Wheeler, kneels by one of the Stations of the Cross he erected for the parish as part of his Eagle Scout project. At left the brick path rosary is shown going around the grotto.

DENISE FEDOROW

a member of Troop 325, chartered through the People of Praise in South Bend — an ecumenical prayer group that is predominately Catholic.

The Wheeler family moved to Goshen when Nebraska about three years ago. Wheeler works part-time assisting the school custodian at St. John the Evangelist School and he will soon be starting a second parttime job at a

local coffee shop.

Wheeler said the project took about 50 hours to complete, including planning. He began in the spring of 2008, but due to summer camp the work took until October to complete. With warmer spring weather arriving, parishioners at St. John the Evangelist will be able to utilize the outdoor devotionals for spiritual development.

## Stein places in national geographic bee

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

NEW HAVEN — Seventh grader Sam Stein recently represented St. Louis Academy, Besancon, at the state level in a National Geographic Bee in Indianapolis. The event was held at Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis's (IUPUI) lecture hall on Friday, April 3.

Only 100 students across Indiana qualified to participate placing Sam in the top 1 percent of the nation's fourth through eighth graders in terms of geographic literacy.

St. Louis Academy's first-year principal and a former social studies teacher, Cheryl Layton, introduced the contest to the students feeling it was important to expose the students to the opportunity.

At the state competition, the nervous 13 year old made it

through the preliminary round correctly answering seven of eight questions to advance with an elite group of 17 others to the second round before being asked what the northern most capital city on the Persian Gulf is. Sam admits, "I had no idea. I did not know many of the cities in that area." The correct answer was Kuwait City. With the miss, Sam placed in an impressive three-way tie for 11th place.

The winner of the contest was from Holy Nativity Catholic School in Portage and will advance to the national competition in Washington, D.C. where "Jeopardy" host, Alex Trebek, will ask the final round of questions. The winner will be awarded a college scholarship of \$25,000.

Sam's favorite subject is science and he has hopes of becoming a meteorologist. The youngest son of Dan and Rosy Stein, Sam resides in rural New Haven.



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Sam Stein, who attends St. Louis Academy School, placed 11th in the national geographic bee held in Indianapolis on April 3.



*When I go to pray...*

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# Priest not surprised by Scottish woman's performance

BY SIMON CALDWELL

LONDON (CNS) — The audience snickered and the judges of "Britain's Got Talent" either rolled their eyes or allowed their blank expressions to betray their bemused skepticism as the awkward-looking middle-aged woman told them she wanted to be as famous as the popular British actress and singer Elaine Paige.

Then Susan Boyle began to sing, and they were spellbound and shocked by the beauty of her voice and rose to their feet in applause.

But Father Basil Clark, who watched the show on television at his home in Broxburn, Scotland, was not surprised.

He has seen the situation unfold many times before, having regularly accompanied Boyle, 47, on the annual Legion of Mary pilgrimage to the Marian shrine in Knock, Ireland.

"When I watched the judges' faces it reminded me of what I was like when I first saw Susan singing

— absolutely blown away by the quality of the singing and by that fantastic voice," said Father Clark, dean of West Lothian, the district that covers Boyle's home village of Blackburn.

"Anyone who sees her for the first time behaves the same way. I have never heard her sing badly, though she might lose the words if the stress gets too much," he told Catholic News Service in an April 16 telephone interview.

Boyle first appeared before judges Simon Cowell, Piers Morgan and Amanda Holden on the ITV1 sister show of "America's Got Talent," broadcast April 11.

Her fame spread on the Internet, and in just five days she had attracted more than 15 million YouTube viewings of her rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream," from the musical "Les Miserables."

Part of Boyle's attraction is that she appears to be such an unlikely candidate for stardom. She said on TV that she has "never been kissed" and has lived alone with her cat since her mother died in 2007.

According to British media, she

has learning disabilities as a result of being starved of oxygen at birth. She is unemployed and, as a churchgoing Catholic, her social life revolves around her family and her parish of Our Lady of Lourdes. She also enjoys karaoke in her local pub.

Father Clark said, "When she gets up to sing it can either be wonderful or you can get the unpredictable eccentric behavior, but it is to do with the fact that she has learning difficulties.

"In a sense, there is a beautiful voice trapped in this damaged body," he said. "It is an absolute contrast. There she was on television acting very peculiarly and the audience was expecting peculiar things to happen and then a voice of an angel comes out — and that's Susan."

Father Clark said that local people who knew Boyle, the youngest of nine children of a family descended from Irish migrants, were "enormously proud of her and wish her the best but they are aware of the risks she is running," adding that her behavior has previously

drawn cruel taunts from children.

"I am quite worried for her," he added. "I think it's great at one level. It might just be the thing that will make her, but she is a very vulnerable person and it could be quite difficult.

"It is a great opportunity for her and as far as I am concerned she should make the best of it, and if it lasts, it lasts, and if it doesn't, then it's still more than almost any one of us will ever achieve," he added. "It is important in sustaining her and making sure this is all a very, very beneficial experience."

The world's media has camped outside Boyle's home where she grew up and where she still sleeps in the same room as when she was a child.

She said that she wanted to make her performance "a tribute to my mother" who had encouraged her to sing.

"I knew it was something I had to do," she said. "I had to get on with it. That's where the courage came from, my mother.

"The ones who made fun of me are now nice to me," she said.

## CYO softball off to rainy start

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In early season softball action, Coach Monica Zwick is still waiting on the rain to let up to get a game in. Zwick, who is in her third season, coaches the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) team consisting of 16 players from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, two girls from St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and one young lady from St. Therese in grades five through eight.

"We have a very young roster, but several talented eighth graders who are looking forward to playing for Bishop Luers next spring," Zwick said.

With such a diverse level of experience from three different schools, Zwick is very pleased how well the girls all get along. The team has been rained out of their first three games and the forecast does not look favorable for this week.

"We are just waiting to put it all together on the field," concluded Zwick.

Jennifer Hayes and Kristi Hagan are serving as assistant coaches for the team this season.

The CYO competition will culminate with a blind-draw tournament beginning May 2 at Queen of Angels. Semi-final rounds will be held at St. Charles and the championship game is back at Queen of Angels field on Friday night, May 8, at 5 p.m.

Both St. Charles and St. Jude schools will field two teams a piece. St. Vincent, Queen of Angels/Precious Blood, and St. Joseph, Decatur, round out the eight-team league for 2009.

In his sixth softball season, Coach Scott Burkhardt feels his combined seventh- and eighth-grade team is "looking good."

Bart Tippmann will be the assistant coach for the Lady Cardinals this season. The younger Cardinals fell to St. Joe, Decatur, in one of the few games played thus far, 27-3.

## University hosts 5K race and silent auction to benefit Haitian infants

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis community will host Formula for Life, a 5K Run/Walk and Silent Auction, on Sunday April 26, at the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St. The race will begin at noon with the silent auction starting at 12:30 p.m. Live bands Sonoro(us), Beacons and Aaron Moses will perform during the silent auction.

The race entry fees (\$12 per person in advance; \$15 on race day) and silent auction proceeds will help feed Haitian babies.

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Obringer, (260) 399-7700, ext. 8210. To sign up for the event, visit Three Rivers Running Company, 4427 N. Clinton St., or [www.sf.edu](http://www.sf.edu).



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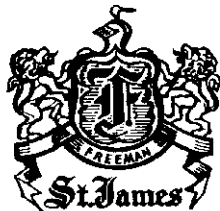
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

## MISC. HAPPENINGS

### Luncheon card party

South Bend — The St. Anne Society of Our Lady of Hungary Parish will have a luncheon card party Sunday, April 26, at noon. Donation of \$5. Bring your own cards.

### Rummage sale

Bremen — Altar Rosary Society of St. Dominic Parish will have a rummage sale on Thursday, May 7, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, May 8, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the parish hall, 803 Bike St.

### Bioethics conference planned

Notre Dame — The Midwest Regional Bioethics Conference will be held Saturday, May 2, with welcome at 10:45 a.m. and concludes with Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 5 p.m. with Bishop John D'Arcy as celebrant. Registration is needed by April 27. Speakers include Eugene Diamond, M.D., Brian Clowes, Ph.D., A. Patrick Schneider, M.D. and Christopher McIntire, D.O. Tickets are \$20 for students/clergy, \$50 general public, \$75 physicians and include lunch. To register or for more information visit [www.illinoisca.org](http://www.illinoisca.org)

### Victory Noll to host poverty simulation

Huntington — Victory Noll Center, in partnership with Purdue Extension of Huntington County, will host a poverty simulation Wednesday, May 6, beginning at 7 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, 1900 W. Park Dr. Leading the simulation will be Karen Hinshaw, extension educator of Purdue Extension-Huntington County, along with Sue Wilhelm, director of Victory Noll Center. There is no cost to participate in the program, but registration is required by May 1 to Sue

Wilhelm at (260)356-0628, ext. 128, or by e-mail at [suewilhelm@olvm.org](mailto:suewilhelm@olvm.org). Additional information is available at [www.olvm.org/vncenter.html](http://www.olvm.org/vncenter.html).

### Rib tip and chicken dinner

South Bend — The St. Augustine Altar and Rosary Society will have a rib tip and chicken dinner Friday, April 24, from 4-8 p.m.

### Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 1, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$7.50, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$7.50 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

### Light weigh orientation meeting planned

Mishawaka — The Light Weigh Catholic Bible Study DVD series without weigh-ins orientation meeting will be held Monday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish office, 220 W. Fourth St.

### Harvest House announces Older American Day celebration

Kendallville — The Harvest House council will have an Older American Day celebration Thursday, May 14, at Immaculate Conception Church. Doors open at 10:15 a.m. with Mass at 11 a.m. A luncheon will be served and includes entertainment by a female barbershop group and raffles. Tickets are \$8 and reservations are needed to Rita at (260) 347-4014 by May 9.

### Homeward Bound walk planned

Fort Wayne — Homeward Bound, a 5K walk for families who are struggling, homeless and separated will be Sunday, April 26, at 2 p.m. in Headwaters Park. No fee is required to participate but visit [\[boundindiana.org\]\(http://boundindiana.org\) for information and to register. All proceeds will benefit the shelter program at Vincent Village.](http://www.homeward-</a></p>
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### Sermon on the Mount performed

Fort Wayne — Frank Runyeon will perform "Sermon on the Mount," Sunday, April 26, at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Church, 2304 Lower Huntington Rd. A recep-



"Love one another  
as I have loved you"  
-John 13:34



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## REST IN PEACE

### Decatur

Nola A. Isch, 72, St. Mary of the Assumption

### Elkhart

Ray H. Doke, 93, St. Vincent de Paul

Donald J. Holtz, 83, St. Thomas the Apostle

### Fort Wayne

Stephen Robert Lavelle, infant, St. Charles Borromeo

Paul O. Schirmeyer, 87, St. Vincent de Paul

Eugenie Maria Myers, 62, St. Jude

### Mishawaka

Louise P. Amaral, 91, St. Bavo

### Roanoke

Douglas E. Flora, 51, St. Joseph

### South Bend

Genevieve V. Magdolinski, 90, St. Anthony de Padua

Stella O'Donnell, 91, St. John the Baptist

tion will follow. Admission is free, but a freewill offering will be taken. Sponsored by St. Aloysius, St. Joseph, Bluffton and St. Therese churches.

### Catholic Networking Offered

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network will meet

Friday, May 1, at the Chamber of Commerce, 826 Ewing St. Mass will be held at 7:30 a.m. with Father Tony Steinacker. Meeting will follow. Tower Bank's Don Schenkel will be the keynote speaker. For information visit [www.thecatholicbusinessnetwork.com](http://www.thecatholicbusinessnetwork.com).



# MARCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

graduates in the health care professions. And Notre Dame has many students now studying for the health profession. And what this is, is honoring a guy who has already started the proceedings to remove from them the conscience right to refuse to take part in murder."

Rice illustrated how Catholicism is being challenged elsewhere, pointing to last week's presidential visit to Georgetown, a Jesuit university in Washington, D.C.

"And Notre Dame, thank God, is not Georgetown," said Rice. "We shouldn't be. At Georgetown, when Obama went there to give his economic speech, at the request of his staff, the Georgetown officials put in front of the 'IHS' symbol, which is the symbol for the name of Jesus Christ, a black plywood board to conceal it because

Obama did not want that in the background. Notre Dame should not be Georgetown."

According to the Catholic News Agency, Georgetown University's decision to comply with a White House request to cover up the "IHS" monogram representing Jesus' name at President Obama's speech on Wednesday is drawing fire from the Cardinal Newman Society and Georgetown students, who are charging the university with "sacrificing" its "Catholic and Jesuit identity."

Rice congratulated the students of ND Response, saying they are handling their protest the right way.

"It's with no hostility and no animosity at all that we take the position we're taking. No personal animosity. There was none when I suggested that Father Jenkins and fellows and those trustees that are responsible for this fiasco should resign. But this is something that has to be put in the proper perspective."

Meanwhile, in a private letter addressed to ND Response, Father

Jenkins denied students' requests for dialogue on the issues surrounding this controversy.

According to ND Response, Father Jenkins replied to their April 7 written request that "conditions for constructive dialogue simply do not exist" and that students should disregard his earlier invitations to meet with him.

Father Jenkins, according to Dennis Brown, chief spokesman and assistant vice president for News and Information at Notre Dame, originally offered a closed-door meeting in his office with 25 members of the coalition.

ND Response requested the meeting instead be held in a large classroom, and be opened to all members of the groups in the coalition. ND Response also requested, as pre-conditions to a meeting, that the university publicly declare it would never engage in or collaborate with research involving human embryos or fetal tissue obtained through destructive techniques, and that the university would appoint a "pro-life ombudsman" to ensure



DIANE FREEBY

**Charles Rice, professor emeritus at the University of Notre Dame Law School and pro-life champion, speaks to a crowd of about 200 gathered before Friday's March for Life on campus. Professor Rice currently teaches law and morality at Notre Dame.**

that proper attention is paid to life issues in both Notre Dame's teaching and research.

Brown says Father Jenkins is willing to discuss any of those issues, but not as pre-conditions to a meeting. ND Response leaders, meanwhile, say they remain open to "true dialogue with Father Jenkins on this issue."

According to Brown, several private meetings with Notre Dame alumni are scheduled. Father Jenkins turned down an offer to be interviewed by *Today's Catholic*.

Rice reminded those gathered that the grotto would be full of people praying the rosary on May 17 during graduation. The professor recalled the power of prayer throughout history.

"That's what is our secret weapon," he said. "The rosary at Lepanto in 1571 sank ships. I think Mary can take care of this."

The victory at Lepanto was attributed to Our Lady, as a rosary was offered that day in St. Peter's Square in Rome for the success of the mission of the Holy League to hold back Muslim forces from overrunning Western Europe.

Rice also invited everyone to attend the annual eucharistic procession through campus, to be held Sunday, April 26, after the last Mass.

"What it is, and what you are, and what the incredible reaction to this outrage is, is Mary taking her university back. And that's what we've got to be doing. So, the most important thing, really, we have is prayer. And it's the rosary. And it's doing what you're doing. And don't let them buffalo you.


Don't let them talk you out of it. Just do what you're doing. Let's continue to pray. Pray to Notre Dame ... the words mean 'Our Lady,' ... that she will take her university back for her Son."

Following Rice's speech, those gathered began the march through campus. Led by students carrying a banner that read, "Irish Fighting for Life," the group followed Notre Dame Security bike officers to the South Quad, toward the gates of the university and back to the Golden Dome. Some talked about the abortion issue and Notre Dame's decisions, while others prayed the rosary.

As they headed back to the Administration Building, marchers passed rows of white crosses set up in the grass near the law school. One sign read, "In the time it takes to play one ND football game, 600 children (on average) are aborted. The white crosses are for them."

Behind the crosses were 3,600 pink and blue flags, in reference to the 3,600 abortions reported to occur in America every day. Another sign quoted Mother Teresa: "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so you may live as you wish."

According to Chris Labadie of ND Response, students might make the March for Life an annual event on Blue-Gold weekend. He also asked people to watch the ND Response Web page for updates on events. ND Response hopes to announce plans for a vigil and rally to take place on the weekend of commencement. For more information, go to [www.NDRresponse.com](http://www.NDRresponse.com).



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