

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Notre Dame fallout discussed on EWTN interview

BY TIM JOHNSON



FORT WAYNE — In his first national television interview since the Notre Dame commencement weekend May 17, Bishop John M. D'Arcy made an appearance on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) on the May 22 airing of "The World Over," hosted by Raymond Arroyo.

In the nearly 25-minute interview, Arroyo asked Bishop D'Arcy to comment on a series of questions including the U.S. President Barack Obama's definition of faith and if University of Notre Dame President Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins will be penalized in any way for defying Bishop D'Arcy and the U.S. bishops in inviting President Obama to the university as commencement speaker and to receive an honorary doctorate of laws degree.

As far as a penalty, Bishop D'Arcy said, "That's the question that keeps coming into us now," alluding to the requests his office and other diocesan offices continue to receive from Catholics across the country.

"I don't know about that situation," Bishop D'Arcy told Arroyo. "I have written a note to Cardinal George in the hope (that when the U.S. bishops meet in June in San Antonio, Texas) that the matter will be discussed, and I've asked to speak there.

"We want to be careful, we want to be gentle, but we want to be firm," Bishop D'Arcy said. "We start with conversations, but that's the question that's coming in

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Bishop John M. D'Arcy discussed the Notre Dame controversy on the May 22 episode of "The World Over," hosted by Raymond Arroyo, left, on the Eternal Word Television Network. It was Bishop D'Arcy's first national interview since the May 17 University of Notre Dame commencement in which U.S. President Barack Obama was the speaker and received an honorary doctorate of law degree.

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## Clergy team are 'on the go for St. Joe!'

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — They don't just talk the talk, they walk the walk when it comes to fund-raising for the school ... literally.

Holy Cross Father John M. DeRiso, the pastor of St. Joseph Parish and assistant pastor Holy Cross Father Nathan Wills have created a special fund-raising project using their own time and talents called "On The Go For St. Joe! Run and Ride, 2009."

On June 6, Father DeRiso will be running the Sunburst Marathon, a distance of 26.2 miles and on the same day in southeastern Wisconsin, Father Wills will be cycling 100 miles through America's heartland in the Trek 100. The duo is asking for pledges from the community, church and school for this venture and will donate 10 percent of the proceeds from this year to the South Bend chapter of the Christ Child

Society, with the rest going to the school.

"This is the third year in a row that we have done 'On the Go for St. Joe.' In 2007, we each ran the Sunburst Half-Marathon, for a total of 26.2 miles, and 10 percent of the funds raised were donated to Hope Rescue Mission, a downtown neighbor and a place where our parishioners and school children have done volunteer service work," said Father DeRiso about this project. "In 2008, we each ran the Sunburst Marathon, for a total of 52.4 miles, and 10 percent of the funds raised were donated to the Women's Care Center. This year, 2009, I am running the Sunburst Marathon and Father Nate is participating in the Trek 100 bike race for a total of 126.2 miles."

As a fund-raiser, this was a great way to combine their individual hobbies with a new and creative way to raise money for

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## SEEKING EAGLE SCOUT AWARDEES



Today's Catholic is seeking a list of Eagle Scouts from the last year who have not yet been featured in the diocesan newspaper. The Scouts will be featured in the July 5 issue of Today's Catholic. Please contact Tim Johnson, editor, at editor@fw.diocese-fwsb.org with basic background and contact information before June 12.

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the  
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend  
P.O. Box 11169  
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

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Web site: [www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY)

Published weekly except the fourth  
Sunday in June, first and third weeks in  
July, first week in August and last week  
in December by the Diocese of Fort  
Wayne-South Bend, 1103 S. Calhoun St.,  
P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801.  
Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne,  
IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:  
Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort  
Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or e-mail:  
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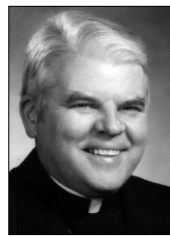
News deadline is the Monday morning  
before publication date. Advertising  
deadline is nine days before publica-  
tion date.

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Mail letters to: Today's Catholic,  
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN  
46856-1169; or e-mail:  
editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

ISSN 0891-1533  
USPS 403630

# Fund-raiser with Lou Holtz will benefit good works of WCC



## NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

### Pentecost

This is a feast filled with graces, Christ having won for us at great cost. The Father sent the gift of the Holy Spirit for light and strength to the church — and to each one. Come, Holy Spirit should be our prayer on this feast — and always.

### Things to come

For many years now we have been hearing this word from politicians who oppose legal protection of the unborn child. They want to make the destruction of unborn life, “safe, legal and rare.” Of course, it is never safe for the child.

Another question is why would you want to make it rare. I presume you want to make it rare because it is a very bad thing.

At any rate, so in Fort Wayne we will honor an institution, which has indeed made it rare. I refer to the Women's Care Center. It is without question the finest pro-life pregnancy center in the country, and we are blessed that it was founded in this diocese and is spread now from west to east across the pastoral and ecumenical landscape. Founded by Janet Smith, Ph.D., a friend and a splendid warrior on behalf of life and on behalf of church teaching. The first women were served in a small blue house not far from the Notre Dame campus. That is where it existed in 1985 when I came here as bishop. When Janet, sadly in the opinion of many and in my opinion, left Notre Dame, Ann Murphy Manion became the director. I believe that Ann was in the first class of women graduates of Notre Dame. She is a CPA, and married to Judge Daniel Manion and has four children. Her father, Ed Murphy, was a brilliant teacher at the Notre Dame Law School.

Some years ago, I made a note to visit with Ann about bringing the Women's Care Center to Fort Wayne. Alas, this operation was already well advanced. Several people, some of them non-Catholic, were trying to establish such an effort in Fort Wayne, and the trail led to Ann Manion. Special among them was Anne Koehl. Anne, who was herself a nurse, had long been involved in the strong pro-life community in Allen County; and Ann Manion appointed her as director. The rest, as they say, is history.

We had a small fund-raiser to get the Fort Wayne center going, which raised \$22,000. The Women's Care Center exploded on the scene. Through the help of John Popp, a successful businessman in Fort Wayne, the first Women's Care Center was established next to the abortion mill. Business was swift.

Before long, another center was established at the other end of town. The occasion for this was when the man who does the abortions changed his place of business. Through local real estate contacts, the Women's Care Center was once again set up next to the new abortion mill.

Some time ago, Ann Manion wrote to me and said business was so strong (the Fort Wayne operation sees 75 young girls every day) that they needed some extensive fund-raising. I thought of my good friend, Lou Holtz and his wife Beth, both of whom were associated with Women's Care Center — during those long ago golden October days when Lou walked the sidelines at Notre Dame and brought joy and inspiration to many. He showed that victory was

It will be a great night for the unborn child,  
and it will be a great night for those  
who love Notre Dame football  
and know that Lou Holtz is a very special man.

possible, even in the most trying of circumstances; and he said there was no better place in the world to be as Saturday afternoon turned into evening — than in the Notre Dame stadium. I wrote to Lou and he agreed to come because of his belief in the cause.

### Many thanks to John Tippmann, Don McArdle, Don Schenkel, Ruth Beier, Don Dimberio, Dee Dee Dahm and several other who have put this event together

It will be a great night, Tuesday, June 2, at 5:30 p.m. at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne, for those who care about young women who are expecting a baby and torn in two directions. It will be a great night for the unborn child, and it will be a great night for those who love Notre Dame football and know that Lou Holtz is a very special man. Tickets are still available. Please call the Fort Wayne Women's Care Center at (260) 424-9377.

### Stewardship: A way of life

Many of our parishes practice stewardship. This is not a program, but a way of life. It helps people to enlarge their hearts and give themselves more fully to life as a vocation. It is not just a financial matter, but a matter of time, talent and treasure. There are schools in our diocese in urban areas, where learning is taking place and young people are being formed in the faith, which would not exist without parishes that are living out stewardship and its emphasis on sacrificial giving.

For this reason, Harry Verhiley, our very devoted development director, brought in Father Dan Mahan from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis to present two days — one in South Bend and one in Fort Wayne — to our priests on this dynamic work. It wasn't just about fund-raising. It was truly about the spirituality of the parish. About 60 of our priests attended between both places, and it was very enriching. In an economic downturn, it is even more necessary that strong efforts in this area continue.

### About young people

Pope John Paul II in a beautiful book of essays entitled, “Crossing the Threshold of Hope,” spoke of the World Youth Days. He wrote, “It is not true that the pope brings the young from one end of the world to the other. It is they who bring him. Even though he is getting older, they urge him to be young...” — John Paul II: “Crossing the Threshold of Hope,” page 125.

That is what is in my heart as the days surrounding the Notre Dame graduation, days so full of tension and difficulty and for me and others, sadness, fade from our view, but remain in our hearts. It was the young people who drew me to the center of this painful confrontation.

I thought the young people who put together ND Response were a great source of light. In my prayer now I ask Our Lady and her Son to bring some good out of this most painful and difficult moment in the long history of our beloved Notre Dame. I do not know how that will happen, but I do pray for it; and I believe it will happen.

I think these young people — and I came to know some of them personally, along with the professor who stood with them, saved the soul of Notre Dame.

First place on Memorial Day, the Yankees are lurking and looking strong. It will be a battle.

See you all next week.

# Bishops, others react to Obama, Father Jenkins talks at Notre Dame

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The commencement addresses by Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins and U.S. President Barack Obama at the University of Notre Dame May 17 have drawn some strong comments from U.S. bishops.

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver said the introduction of Obama by Father Jenkins, university president, did “a real disservice to the church” and suggested in a May 18 statement that Catholics “insist — by their words, actions and financial support — that institutions claiming to be ‘Catholic’ actually live the faith with courage and consistency.”

Bishop Robert W. Finn of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Mo., said in a May 18 interview with his diocesan newspaper, *The Catholic Key*, that although Father Jenkins warned against a tendency to “demonize each other,” he himself used “a whole series of very, very hard words” and spoke “in a very negative way about anyone who appears to be contrary to the decision” to invite Obama.

Archbishop Chaput said Catholics “have the duty to avoid prostituting our Catholic identity by appeals to phony dialogue that mask an abdication of our moral witness.”

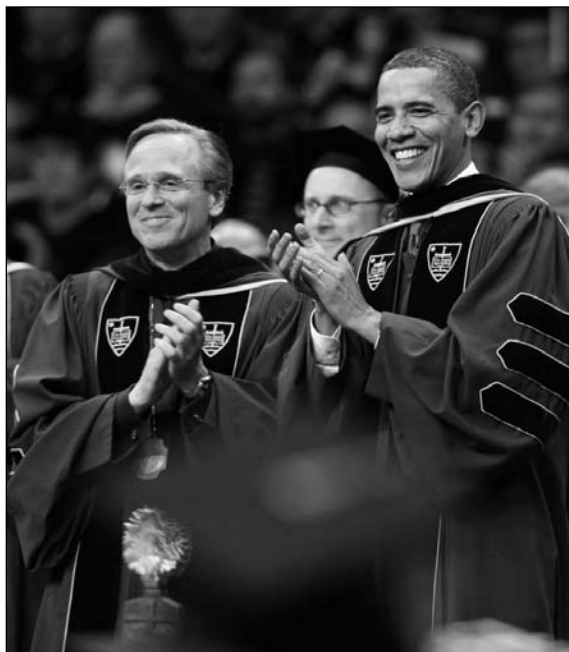
He criticized the Indiana university’s decision to confer “an unnecessary and unearned honorary law degree on a man committed to upholding one of the worst Supreme Court decisions in our nation’s history: *Roe v. Wade*.” The 1973 ruling lifted most state restrictions on abortion.

“There was no excuse — none, except intellectual vanity — for the university to persist in its course,” the archbishop said. “And Father Jenkins compounded a bad original decision with evasive and disingenuous explanations to subsequently justify it.”

Noting that Mario Cuomo, then governor of New York and a Catholic supporter of keeping abortion legal, spoke at Notre Dame 25 years ago “to outline the ‘Catholic’ case for ‘pro-choice’ public service,” Archbishop Chaput said, “Father Jenkins’ explanations, and President Obama’s honorary degree, are a fitting national bookend to a quarter-century of softening Catholic witness in Catholic higher education.”

“Together, they’ve given the next generation of Catholic leadership all the excuses they need to baptize their personal conveniences and ignore what it really demands to be ‘Catholic’ in the public square,” he added.

Bishop Finn said in the interview with *Catholic Key* editor Jack Smith that the church can never dialogue about “the rightness or wrongness of abortion — this is an intrinsic evil.”



CNS PHOTO/CHRISTOPHER SMITH

**Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, president of the University of Notre Dame, and U.S. President Barack Obama applaud during the commencement ceremony at the University of Notre Dame. May 17. Obama was the commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient.**

“We’re fighting for the right to exercise a rightly formed conscientious difference with public policy,” he said. “We shouldn’t underestimate the danger of dragging our feet in this effort.”

“If we are not ready to make a frontal attack on the protection of conscience rights, the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and the primacy of authentic marriage, we will lose in these areas,” Bishop Finn said. “If we sit back and allow ourselves to be lulled into a false sense of peace and cooperation in regards to these things, then we lose these battles and, later, wonder why.”

Bishop Finn noted that at one point in his talk Obama called the views of supporters and opponents of abortion “irreconcilable.”

“And at that moment, it would seem to me that the dialogue came to a screeching halt,” he said. “The president shut the door on dialogue by saying that there was not going to be any change in his position on abortion and he understood that there was not going to be any change in the church’s position on abortion. To me, that was the lesson of the day. I am glad that Mr. Obama was so clear.”

In a brief entry on his blog, Bishop Robert N. Lynch of St. Petersburg, Fla., urged close attention to the commencement talk by Judge John T. Noonan, a former recipient of the university’s Laetare Medal who spoke instead of Harvard Law professor Mary Ann Glendon, who declined the 2009 medal because of the controversy over Obama.

Noonan’s words “make a lot more sense than 90 percent of the rhetoric in the last few weeks,” Bishop Lynch wrote.

In his talk Noonan compared the debate over life issues to the 19th-century debate over African-Americans’ rights that long had respected leaders Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass on opposite sides.

“Debate is not now about to close. At its center are the claims of conflicting consciences,” he

said, adding that differing consciences should be met with love no matter how vexing they may be.

“To satisfy that frustration by shunning or denouncing your unseeing companion will accomplish little beyond expressing your exasperation,” Noonan said.

Also commenting on the talks in an entry on the Archdiocese of Washington’s official blog was Msgr. Charles Pope, pastor of Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Parish in Washington, who said the controversy over the honorary degree given to Obama by Notre Dame was “not about being nice,” but “about whether a Catholic institution should honor someone who is vigorously and uncompromisingly pro-abortion.”

Msgr. Pope compared the church’s stance on abortion to its views on Communion for those who are not Catholics.

“In the same way that Communion actually means something and is not just an old ritual, bestowing an honorary doctorate of (laws) means something,” he said. “It means we honor the recipient’s understanding of and interpretation of the law. But we do not honor an interpretation of law that says it is legal to kill thousands of innocent people every day.”

Another Washington priest found much to praise in Obama’s speech, however.

“President Obama did exactly what he needed to do at Notre Dame,” said Jesuit Father Thomas J. Reese, senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University, in an entry for *The Washington Post/Newsweek* magazine blog, “Georgetown/On Faith.”

“He challenged the students to take on the problems of the day, he spoke beyond them to a wider audience of Catholic citizens and presented a demeanor that contrasted with those who tried to paint him as a demonic, anti-life fanatic,” Father Reese added.



DIANE FREEBY

**Father Camillo Tirabassi greets the first Communicants as they enter church for May Crowning. The second graders, along with seventh and eighth graders, dressed up for the occasion. May Crowning is one of the many traditions Father Tirabassi cherishes at Corpus Christi.**

## Father Camillo Tirabassi, 50 years a priest, to retire

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — “You shouldn’t have any more children. Just have an abortion!”

That’s what friends of Angelica Tirabassi told her when she learned she was pregnant with her sixth child. Only this was back in 1931, well before the unrest that followed *Roe v. Wade*, the U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. It’s why Father Camillo Tirabassi, current pastor of South Bend’s Corpus Christi Parish, believes today’s battle over abortion is so critical.

“My mom told me that story so many times, with tears in her eyes,” recalls Father Tirabassi. “She said if she’d done that, she’d never have had a son that’s a priest. People think because there are other issues, abortion can’t be the most important. I can’t see those arguments.”

Never one to shy away from speaking the truth, to adults in the pews, athletes on the field or children in Catholic school, Father Tirabassi reflects on his 50 years in the priesthood. His jubilee is May 30, a few weeks before he is scheduled to retire.

Thanks to his mother’s “yes,” Father Tirabassi grew up with older brothers Al, Nick and Lou paving the way. Only his mother and sisters, Mary and Elizabeth, attended Mass with him as a child. He says his father, Camillo, later became a daily communicant.

“My dad was a man who was very strict,” remembers Father Tirabassi. “But he was so proud. When I came home, he would not let me go out of the house without my collar on. He wanted everyone to know that I was a priest. And he wanted everyone to know that he was the father of a priest.”

Ordained in 1959 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, Father Tirabassi has shared his gifts with at least six parishes and several schools. His first assignment was

at St. Joseph Parish in Fort Wayne, where he served as assistant pastor for four different pastors, including Bishop Joseph Crowley. Father Tirabassi says he learned a lot during those 14 years, teaching religion and being involved with the sports program at Central Catholic High School. After a five-year assignment as pastor of St. John Bosco in Churubusco and Immaculate Conception in Ege, Father Tirabassi landed at Mishawaka’s Queen of Peace in 1978. During that time, he brought a Catholic connection to the local public high school.

“The principal at Penn High School was Catholic,” recalls Father Tirabassi. “I introduced myself to him and he said, ‘You know, Chris Geesman is a member of Queen of Peace. He’s head of the Penn football team. Maybe you can get involved with the football program.’ So I talked to Chris and he said, ‘Why don’t you be our chaplain?’”

This was before anyone had a problem with prayer in public school.

“I was always there for practices and games,” says Father Tirabassi. “I’d lead the prayer before the game. And the kids all responded, whether they were Catholic or not.”

After 10 years at Queen of Peace, Father Tirabassi was assigned to his current position as pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend. As he wraps up his 21st year, Father Tirabassi says there is one thing that really makes Corpus Christi stand out: The Holy Hour program.

When Bishop John D’Arcy sent him to Corpus Christi, he told Father Tirabassi to be sure to keep the young program going. That’s exactly what Father Tirabassi did, becoming a member himself. He says he’s never regretted it for a minute.

“Because of all I receive, that’s why,” explains Father Tirabassi.

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## Cardinal, congressmen urge action by Obama on conscience protection

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of the U.S. bishops' conference and two members of Congress have called on President Barack Obama to make good on something he said in his May 17 speech to University of Notre Dame graduates, namely that he wished to "honor the conscience of those who disagree with abortion."

In a May 22 statement, Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago said he was grateful for Obama's promise to support conscience clauses.

At a May 19 press conference in Washington and in a letter sent that day to the president, Reps. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., and Chris Smith, R-N.J., urged Obama to forgo rescinding the Bush administration's conscience-protection regulation. They also asked Obama to "commit to defending conscience protections in future rule-making."

In his statement, Cardinal George said health care profes-

sionals and institutions "should know that their deeply held religious or moral convictions will be respected as they exercise their right to serve patients in need." He noted that since 1973 federal laws have protected the conscience rights of health care providers.

Protecting conscience rights "will strengthen our health care system and enhance many patients' access to necessary life-affirming care," the cardinal said.

He said he welcomed working with the administration and other policymakers to advance goals Obama has set out for reducing abortions.

"A government that wants to reduce the tragic number of abortions in our society will also work to ensure that no one is forced to support or participate in abortion," Cardinal George's statement said, "whether through directly providing or referring for abortions or being forced to subsidize them with their tax dol-

lars."

Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services proposed rescinding the conscience clause that gives federal protection to the conscience rights of health care providers.

The rule, which took effect two days before Obama took office, codifies three longtime federal statutes prohibiting discrimination against health professionals who decline to participate in abortions or other medical procedures because of their religious or moral objections.

The letter from Sensenbrenner and Smith to Obama stressed that the president should use all the tools at his disposal "to keep conscience protections in place and reduce the number of abortions in the United States."

"The religious and moral views of health care workers should be respected,"

**PROTECT, PAGE 5**

## Eighth graders gather for Mass with bishop at cathedral

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Students, faculty and parents filled the pews at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception joining Bishop John M. D'Arcy and parish priests from Fort Wayne and the surrounding area for the 2009 eighth-grade graduates' liturgy Mass on May 21. The Catholic Schools Office reports 538 students were on hand to celebrate the traditional event.

One representative from each eighth-grade class processed in with priests, Jim Fitzpatrick, master of ceremonies, and Bishop D'Arcy. Various students participated in the special Mass parts and music.

In his homily, Bishop D'Arcy reflected on the Gospel from Mark reminding students to be mindful of the presence of the risen Savior in their every day lives as they leave the eighth grade and go on to Catholic or public high school.

"It is very important you

believe that Jesus Christ is alive. He loves you. He wants to help you and he wants to be near you," Bishop D'Arcy stressed.

Bishop D'Arcy also recalled Pope John Paul II's words from Jesus, "Do not be afraid. I am with you," as he challenged students to be a witness for Jesus Christ during the rest of their lives. Bishop D'Arcy closed his remarks instructing the graduates to recite in unison his favorite prayer for the young, "Lord, help me, teach me, to find my vocation in life."

After Superintendent of Catholic Schools Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger's congratulatory comments and thank yous and just before the recessional, principals from each of the schools gathered at the altar to offer a special prayer for their students asking God to "send his Spirit upon them to guide them through their high school years" as the group parted ways from this grade school chapter in their lives.



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Parish schools took turns posing their class in front of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception before the eighth-grade graduates' liturgy Mass on May 21. Students from St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne, are in this photo.

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# EWTN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and I don't know the answer to that."

Bishop D'Arcy also was asked to address a comment President Obama made at the commencement about faith: "Remember too that the ultimate irony of faith is that it necessarily admits doubt. It's the belief in things not seen," Obama said. "It's beyond our capacity as human beings to know with certainty what God has planned for us or what he asks of us."

Bishop D'Arcy replied, "It's against Catholic teaching on faith. I gave a course in the seminary — I taught it for years — on faith. One of the characteristics of faith is it's certain. And (President Obama) says there's no certainty in faith."

"It's obscure. That's also a characteristic," Bishop D'Arcy instructed.

"Cardinal Ratzinger has written on this ... in his great book, 'Introduction to Christianity,' (and refers to) the unbelief in the believer — the man in the Gospel, 'Lord, I believe, help my unbelief,'" Bishop D'Arcy added. "But certitude is one of the characteristics of faith and it's based on the Divine Giver, the one who gives us the grace. And faith is based on (God's) word, so of course, it's certain — obscure, but certain. Bad theology Mr. President."

On the notion of the seamless

garment, of which Father Jenkins and President Obama discussed in their speeches, Bishop D'Arcy said, quoting Pope John Paul II from "Evangelium Vitae," that the rights to health care, to a home, the rights for food and clean water, "only have value ... if you have the right to life."

Bishop D'Arcy added, "And that's the thing about this president and his invitation to Notre Dame. He has opposed consistently in his life and in these decisions he has made — the Mexico City policy on foreign affairs and so forth on those decisions. He changed laws, which protected the unborn child, and then Notre Dame gave him a doctorate of laws."

Arroyo asked Bishop D'Arcy if he felt Notre Dame had given up its Catholic identity through this act. Bishop D'Arcy responded: "There's a lot of beautiful things at Notre Dame: the sacramental life of the children, the young people; the theology department so strengthened in recent years; you go into that basilica and so many (students) going to confession. But truth is truth, and I think something precious was lost."

"It's under the protection of Our Lady on the dome," Bishop D'Arcy said. "And I think we have to pray to her and pray to the good Lord to take care (of it). They lost something special."

When asked if Father Jenkins' mention of President Obama's ambitious goals across a sweeping agenda such as extending health care coverage to the millions who don't have it, improving education — especially for those who most need it — and promoting renew-

able energy for the sake of the economy, security and climate outweigh the church teaching on the sanctity of life, Bishop D'Arcy said, "Those are goals. The Catholic Church and I certainly support many of them, but do they outweigh in just good Catholic ethics, in Catholic moral theology, do they outweigh (President Obama's) opposition to something that is intrinsically evil — the taking of the life of the unborn child who has no constituency except people of good will, except sometimes the Catholic Church? And I think that is the error there. It does not outweigh it in my judgment."

On a discussion of dialogue, Bishop D'Arcy said, "Dialogue is always a search for truth. Pope John Paul says in 'Ex Corde Ecclesiae' ... that freedom is always subjected to truth. Dialogue is to find truth. Dialogue is never an end in itself."

One theologian, Father Robert Barron, the Francis Cardinal George Chair of Faith and Culture at University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill., has pointed out, noted Bishop D'Arcy, that "dialogue became a fetish there."

"There wasn't a dialogue Sunday as far as I can see," Bishop D'Arcy said.

"If some good comes from it, I'm all for it," Bishop D'Arcy said. "I did not see it. The price paid is too great. ... I love Notre Dame with my whole heart. It's been a privilege to be associated with it, but they paid too great a price."

# PROTECT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Sensenbrenner said during the press conference. "Workers should have the right to refuse to participate in an abortion procedure without the fear of losing their job or being discriminated against."

In his speech at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, Obama called on people with differing views on abortion to find common ground.

"Let's work together to reduce the number of women seeking abortions by reducing unintended

pregnancies, and making adoption more available, and providing care and support for women who do carry their child to term," he said.

"Let's honor the conscience of those who disagree with abortion, and draft a sensible conscience clause, and make sure that all of our health care policies are grounded in clear ethics and sound science, as well as respect for the equality of women," he added.

Smith noted that he and Sensenbrenner were simply asking the president to make sure "that his deeds match his words."

He said the president could act on the words of his commencement speech by stopping the

efforts of his administration to rescind current conscience regulations. "Protecting conscience is the truly pro-choice position and respects the diversity of opinion in our society as well as the sanctity of life," he added.

Dr. David Stevens, president of the Christian Medical Association, said in a May 18 statement that if Obama is "truly concerned about finding common ground, he should meet with doctors and patients who would be affected" by the lack of a conscience-protection clause.

He said the regulation was needed to protect doctors, nurses and other health care professionals from discrimination based on their religious beliefs.

## World Apostolate of Fatima Honors Jubilarians

On Saturday, June 13, 2009, The Fatima Apostolate will honor the jubilees of 15 priests, living and dead, who have honored Our Lady of Fatima in a special way during their priesthood.

Guests are:

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Father Robert Traub (70)*    | Father Camillo Tirabassi (50)  |
| Father Herman Schnurr (70)** | Father Laurence Tippmann (40)  |
| Father Paul Miller (65)      | Msgr. James Wolf (40)          |
| Father Raymond Balzer (60)   | Father Bosco Perera (40)       |
| Father William Peil (60)     | Father Lourdino Fernandes (40) |
| Father Paul Bueter (50)      | Father Steve Colchin (25)      |
| Father Thad Kwak** (50)      | Father Paul McCarthy (25)      |
| *Years a priest              | **Deceased                     |
|                              | Father Bruce Piechocki (25)    |

As well as all priests and deacons.

Father Schnurr served locally as Spiritual director 1991-98  
St. Jude Church • 2130 Pemberton Drive

Rosary 7:50 am - Mass 8:15 am - Celebrant Msgr. Wm Lester  
Catered breakfast to follow Mass (Breakfast reservations required before June 7, 2009) Cost: \$6 per adult, \$3.25 child 4-9 (3 years and younger, free) Send name, address and payment to:  
Mr. James Momper, 8032 Westwood Drive, Fort Wayne 46818  
(For more information, call Emma Momper (260) 625-3281)



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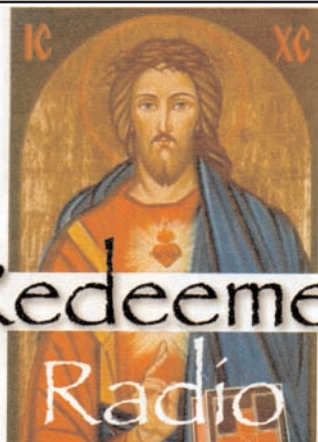
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## Obama nominates New York Latina to Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Barack Obama has nominated federal appeals court Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court, and if she is approved, the New York native of Puerto Rican descent would become the first Hispanic to serve on the high court. Obama announced his choice of Sotomayor, 54, at a brief event at the White House May 26. If confirmed by the Senate, she would join the court when the next term opens in October, replacing retiring Justice David Souter. At the White House announcement, Sotomayor described herself as “an ordinary person who has been blessed with extraordinary opportunities and experiences.” Sotomayor has been a judge on the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals since 1998, nominated to that post by President Bill Clinton. Before that she spent six years as a U.S. District Court judge in New York, nominated to that position by President George H.W. Bush in 1991. She also served as an assistant New York County district attorney and worked in private practice. In announcing his choice, Obama called Sotomayor “an inspiring woman,” who “has never forgotten where she began,” describing her childhood in a housing project in New York’s South Bronx section, where she was born in 1954. Her parents moved to New York from Puerto Rico during the Second World War. Obama noted that Sotomayor’s mother had been in the Army during World War II, beginning a family tradition of public service and high aspirations. Sotomayor’s father, who had only a third-grade education and spoke little English, died when she was 9. That left her mother often working two jobs to be able to afford to send her two children to Cardinal Spellman Catholic School, Obama said. “They had the only set of encyclopedias in the neighborhood,” he said. Her success in high school led to a scholarship to Princeton University, where she graduated at the top of her class, and Yale Law School, where she was editor of the law journal. A notice on the Web site of Cardinal Spellman said she graduated from the New York archdiocesan school in 1972. Sotomayor is divorced and has no children. It is unclear if she is a practicing Catholic. If she is, she would become the sixth Catholic on the current court, joining Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito.

## NIH plan for embryonic stem cells called objectionable, obsolete

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The National Institutes of Health’s draft guidelines for embryonic stem-cell research support “a course of action that is both morally objectionable and, increasingly, scientifically obsolete,” the general secretary of

## SRI LANKANS TAKE COVER UNDER UMBRELLAS



CNS PHOTO/DAVID GRAY, REUTERS

Sri Lankans take cover under umbrellas as they participate in a street parade in central Colombo May 22. The parade of more than 200,000 people was part of celebration of the end of the war.

the U.S. bishops’ conference said in comments to NIH. Msgr. David J. Malloy submitted the 11-page comments on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops May 22, four days before the end of a 30-day period of public comment on the proposed guidelines. Calling the draft guidelines “more permissive than any policy approved in the past by any branch of the federal government,” Msgr. Malloy said NIH “is missing an enormous opportunity to show how sound science and responsible ethics can not only coexist but support and enrich each other.” The draft guidelines — drawn up at the request of President Barack Obama after his March 9 executive order overturned President George W. Bush’s ban on federal funding of research involving the destruction of human embryos — 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.

## Pope names Philadelphia auxiliary bishop to head Saginaw Diocese

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Philadelphia Auxiliary Bishop Joseph R. Cistone, 60, to head the Diocese of Saginaw, Mich. The appointment was announced in Washington May 20 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to

the United States. Bishop Cistone succeeds now-Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, who was named April 21 to head the St. Louis Archdiocese. He will be installed the sixth bishop of the Diocese of Saginaw July 28, the fifth anniversary of his episcopal ordination.

## Poll shows Americans, Catholics in particular, give pope high marks

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (CNS) — Americans overall and American Catholics in particular hold Pope Benedict XVI in high regard, according to a Marist College poll conducted in partnership with the Knights of Columbus. Sixty percent of Americans reported they have either a favorable or very favorable impression of the pontiff while 76 percent of Catholics hold the same view, the telephone poll of 2,078 people found. At the same time, 20 percent of Americans and 11 percent of Catholics told interviewers they have an unfavorable or very unfavorable view of Pope Benedict. The results of the poll were released May 19. It was conducted March 24-31 by the Marist College Institute of Public Opinion, which is in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Results for Americans overall have a margin of error of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points. For Catholics, the margin of error is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points. By a margin of more than 4 to 1 — 73 percent to 17 percent — Catholics said the pope

was good for the Catholic Church. Another 10 percent were unsure. A majority of Americans — 57 percent to 21 percent — held the same opinion while 22 percent were unsure.

## TV stations airing religious shows at risk of losing PBS affiliation

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Public television stations may be confronted by a hard choice later this year: drop their religious programming or risk losing their affiliation with the Public Broadcasting Service. The PBS board of directors will meet June 16 to consider stricter enforcement of a 1985 policy directing PBS member stations to air “noncommercial, nonpolitical and nonsectarian” programs. PBS was accepting comment from its stations through the end of May on the issue. According to an e-mail from Jennifer Lawson, general manager of WHUT, one of three PBS affiliates whose signal includes the Washington area, there are “fewer than five” PBS stations that air religious programming. Three air Catholic programming. Another PBS affiliate in Salt Lake City airs shows on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. WHUT has aired a Mass for shut-ins since 1996, when Washington’s CBS affiliate said it would no longer air the Mass as a public service and wanted \$1,500 for the 30 minutes of airtime. However,

WHUT has notified the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington, Va., which co-sponsor the program, that — regardless of how the PBS board votes in June — it will drop the Mass for shut-ins after the July 26 telecast.

## Bishop urges focus on biblical roots of Catholic immigration position

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (CNS) — U.S. Catholics have a difficult time accepting church teaching about just immigration laws, said Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto, chairman of the board of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, known as CLINIC. He urged Catholics to look to the Bible to better understand the church’s teaching on immigration and its long-standing support for the rights of immigrants. In an interview with the *Colorado Catholic Herald*, newspaper of the Colorado Springs Diocese, he also said that current immigration laws have unintended consequences that are detrimental to public safety and economic development. “The irony of tough immigrant enforcement on the border is that it compels many people to stay in the country when they might otherwise return home,” he said while he was in town for the annual convening of CLINIC May 20-22.

## Baltimore Archdiocese investigates possible miracle in Seelos cause

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Go home and prepare to die. That’s what Mary Ellen Heibel’s doctors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington told her May 11, 2004, after they discovered that the cancer that had attacked Heibel’s esophagus in 2003 and then a lymph node later that year had spread throughout her body. Given about six months, the longtime parishioner of St. Mary in Annapolis underwent a new form of chemotherapy at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore as a palliative treatment to extend her life. But doctors warned it would only postpone the inevitable. At the suggestion of a Pittsburgh priest, Heibel began praying a novena in 2005 to Blessed Francis X. Seelos, a 19th-century Redemptorist pastor of her parish who died of yellow fever in 1867 in New Orleans. One week after she began the novena at her parish, Heibel’s cancer disappeared. When Dr. Michael Gibson, her doctor at Hopkins, called with the news, Heibel couldn’t believe it. Told by doctors that the unexplained healing could not be the result of chemotherapy, Heibel is convinced that Blessed Seelos interceded on her behalf. “I know this had to be a miracle,” she told *The Catholic Review*, newspaper of the Baltimore Archdiocese. Archdiocesan officials are currently investigating whether Heibel might just be right.

## St. Louis parishioner named valedictorian at Heritage

NEW HAVEN — Ranked No. 1 in his class of 139, Mitchell Robert Wyss has been declared valedictorian for the Heritage High School Class of 2009. A member of St. Louis Besancon Parish, Wyss has resided in New Haven all his life.

The youngest child of Chris and Angie Wyss, he plans to major in chemical engineering at Trine University in the fall. Wyss hopes to continue on with graduate school at the University of Illinois. Wyss envisions that he will stay in state and start a family while pursuing his career as a chemical engineer after his schooling.

During his high school years, Wyss enjoyed courses like earth space science, physics and calculus.

He will most miss Friday night football games and will always remember how he pulled into first position his final trimester after ranking second in his class all four years.

"My advice to younger students would be to start strong, end strong and stay focused all four years. You never know what could happen," explained Wyss.

With a new ministry program just starting, Wyss has attended the Sunday night monthly youth Masses at St. Louis. He was also involved in the dance marathon at Heritage this spring to raise money for Riley's Children Hospital and enjoys recreational sports and "hanging out with his friends" in his free time.

Wyss's faith has been an important part of his high school years and especially after being involved in a car accident his junior year.

"My faith has gotten me through the down times like when I broke my leg in the crash and had to regroup," Wyss said.

"I would like to thank my family, my friends and my teachers for supporting me and encouraging me to keep going," Wyss concluded. — Michelle Castleman

## Hessen Cassel Knights distribute Tootsie Rolls

FORT WAYNE — Each year members of the Knights of Columbus distribute Tootsie Rolls at various locations throughout Indiana for the benefit of the intellectually challenged. This year was no exception and members of Knight of Columbus Council 12379, at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel collected more than \$1,000 for the effort.

The numbers for this year are still being tallied but during the 2008 event, more than \$240,000 was collected statewide. Some of the state recipients are ARC and Special Olympics.

## St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School students named state handwriting winners

FORT WAYNE — Three students from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## SISTER MARY GERTRUDE ANN RETIRES FROM TEACHING



PROVIDED BY CHRISTINA KORSON

Sister of Notre Dame Sister Mary Gertrude Ann is retiring after 51 years of teaching at the end of this school year. For the last 18 years she has taught first grade at St. Jude School in Fort Wayne. To honor her all students in grades 1-8, currently attending St. Jude, who have been taught by Sister Mary Gertrude Ann, offered her a flower last week to make a gratitude bouquet, with the waiting students lining the hallway there. The 104 participating students are pictured with Sister Mary Gertrude Ann, who stands at right in second row, outside the school following morning Mass. A print of the photo, matted with signatures of all the grateful students, was presented to Sister Mary Gertrude Ann at a surprise cake and punch reception that was held in her honor on May 15.

Seton School were named the 2009 State Handwriting Winners in the National Handwriting Contest sponsored by Zaner-Bloser Educational Publishers. Third grader, Payton Head, Evan Raymer, fourth grade, and Terese Schomogyi, fifth grade, were the recipients of this award. These students will be recognized at the school's award ceremony at the end of the year. Payton Head, this year's third-grade winner, was the 2008 National Champion for her grade level.

## Women invited to spend a week at Indiana monastery

FERDINAND — The Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand are offering a free stay June 26-July 2 to single Catholic women, ages 18 to 40, who are interested in learning about religious life.

The theme for the week-long experience at Monastery Immaculate Conception will be "Sharing Our Stories." Participants will join in the prayer and community life of the Ferdinand Benedictine sisters, take part in dis-

cussions and meet other women who are considering religious life.

There is no charge for the week, which begins at 7 p.m. EDT Friday, June 26, and runs to 1 p.m. Thursday, July 2. For information call Sister Agnes Marie Dauby or Sister Michelle Sinkhorn at (800)-738-9999 or e-mail vocation@thedome.org.

Registration is also available online at [www.thedome.org](http://www.thedome.org), where there is more information about the vocation program of the Ferdinand Benedictines.

## School Sisters of St. Francis celebrate jubilee

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Sixty six U.S. School Sisters of St. Francis will celebrate milestone anniversaries of service as women religious on June 20. Three associates of the School Sisters of St. Francis will also celebrate 25 year jubilees. The following School Sister served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend:

Sister Clarella Werth celebrates 70 years as a School Sister of St. Francis. She was born in Schoenchen, Kan. She has a bache-

lor's degree from Alverno College in Milwaukee, Wis., and has lived her religious ministry in education and music. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, sister served as teacher and organist at St. Rose of Lima School and Parish in Monroeville from 1957-1962. Sister resides in Campbellsport, Wis.

## St. Jude distinguished alumni award recipient announced

SOUTH BEND — The Board of St. Jude Catholic School has named Julie Flanagan as its second annual recipient of the National Catholic Educational Association Distinguished Graduate Award. According to the NCEA's Web site, this distinction honors "graduates of Catholic elementary or middle schools who have made a contribution to American life and/or the Catholic Church. The recipient must have graduated from the Catholic school at least 10 years prior to presenting the award." Nominations were solicited from parishioners and school families. The board was unanimous in its

recommendation of Flanagan.

Flanagan attended St. Jude as a child, graduating to Riley High School in 1972. She received her initial degree in education from Indiana University in Bloomington, with graduate degrees and certifications from IUSB and Butler.

Flanagan taught at St. Jude from 1980 through 2002, initially under principal Gary Jaronik, and later, Judi Cole. She began in fifth-grade homeroom and middle school math, then later moved to eighth-grade homeroom.

Flanagan's fondest memories of St. Jude as both a student and teacher included special activities such as assemblies, dances, special Masses, projects, science fairs, playground kickball games and retreats. She recalls, "It felt like being a part of a family, so you really wanted everyone to succeed."

Flanagan will speak to the graduating eighth-grade students of St. Jude on June 1.

For more information about St. Jude School and its programs, please visit [www.stjudeschool.net](http://www.stjudeschool.net).

## Hessen Cassel supports Women's Care Center

FORT WAYNE — Members of Knights of Columbus Council 12379 at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Church hosted a pancake and sausage breakfast for the benefit of the Women's Care Center of Fort Wayne on May 17 in the parish hall. Net proceeds from the event amounted to more than \$800. In addition St. Joseph School conducted a rummage sale and many infant items were collected for the Woman's Care Center as well. St. Joseph Knights thank all who participated and made the event a success.

## St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth students receive Carson Scholarship

FORT WAYNE — Two students at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School and one alumnus were awarded Carson Scholarships. Mark Hellinger, son of Mark and Karen Hellinger, is currently a seventh-grade student. Nancy McNamara, daughter of Dan and Julie McNamara, is in the eighth grade. Samantha Rahrig, an alumni of St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School, has also been given this honor.

## Mass time corrections

- St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude, South Bend — Masses are Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8 and 10 a.m.; weekdays, Tuesday through Friday at 8 a.m.

- St. Catherine of Siena at Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lakeville — Masses are Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and Sunday at 9 a.m.; weekdays, Tuesday at 7 a.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8 a.m.; Adoration and Benediction on the first Friday of the month at 7 p.m.; and confession on Saturday from 3:45-4:15 p.m.

# A salute to the JUBILARIANS



**Father Robert Traub, senior priest, celebrates 70 years**

FORT WAYNE — At age 96, with 70 years of priesthood on the record, his vision is nearly gone and his hearing is on notice, but all the lights are on upstairs and Father Robert Traub has no trouble recalling that as a third grader in Muncie, Ind., he knew he would probably be a priest.

It was the influence of priests, sisters and serving at Mass that incubated this idea, and now, having been a priest for longer than many people live, Father Traub, without hesitation, states that he enjoyed every assignment, including 12 years at Hammond Noll High School, where he taught history, English, Latin and religion.

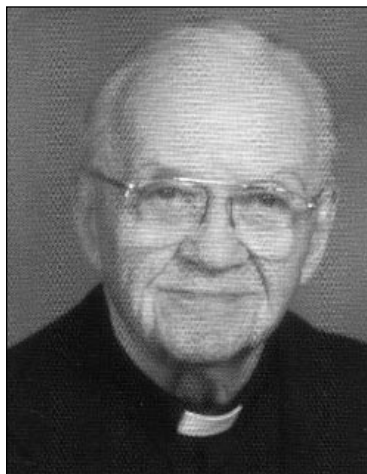
Father Traub was ordained with 11 others by Bishop John F. Noll on June 2, 1939 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. One by one, his classmates have all passed on, with many of them returned to the cathedral for their final rites.

Father Traub's first assignment was to go to the University of Notre Dame for one year to get an Indiana teacher's license. He then went to St. Joan of Arc in Kokomo, then the Diocese of Fort Wayne.

Father replaced two priests who left Hammond Noll High School for military service in WWII.

After 12 years of teaching, he returned to pastoral work at Bluffton, Besancon, Huntington and finally at St. Jude, Fort Wayne, where he served as chaplain at Parkview Hospital and answered all emergency calls for 17 years.

Father Traub will celebrate an anniversary Mass at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 28, at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne. A reception will follow in the church hall.



**Father Thomas Doriot celebrates 60th anniversary**

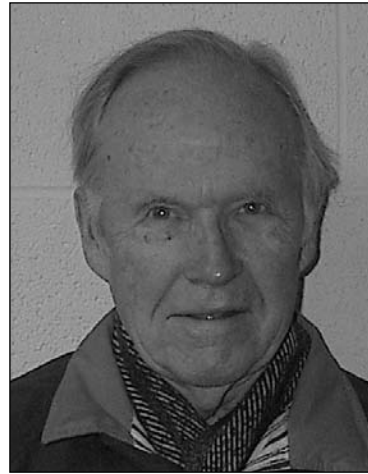
SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Now retired in the diocese of Sacramento and celebrating the 60th anniversary of his ordination, Father Thomas E. Doriot, enjoys California because he can visit with his sister Jean, who also resides in Sacramento as a retired Sister of Providence.

Father Doriot, who had the unique experience of becoming pastor of the church where he was baptized, St. Patrick in Fort Wayne, credits his vocation to the example set by his parents, Julius and Margaret (McCarthy) Doriot.

His first assignment, and his favorite, was at Holy Angels Church in Gary.

"Those were the days," he recalls, "when Forty Hours was celebrated on a regular basis." Father Doriot later served as assistant pastor at St. John the Baptist in New Haven, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and Sacred Heart, Fort Wayne.

While pastors were ill, he filled in at Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn and St. Stanislaus Church, New Carlisle. His final assignment as an assistant was at St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart, and he later served as pastor St. Mary of the Assumption, South Bend, St. Michael, Plymouth and retired from St. Patrick in Fort Wayne. Father Doriot still celebrates Mass on a daily basis and observed a special ceremony and social with other jubilarians and Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto on Memorial Day.



**Father William Peil celebrates 60 years**

FORT WAYNE — Over 50 years ago, when the Diocese of Fort Wayne split and the western portion was made the Diocese of Gary, Father William Peil, a native of Fort Wayne, was caught at the western split. He and his brother, Daniel, were one of the six sets of priest-brothers who were caught in the diocesan split, and Father Peil is the sole survivor of these priest-brother sets.

Father Peil grew up at St. Mary's Parish in Fort Wayne. He was part of the charter class of Central Catholic and attended there from 1938-1942.

Father Peil was ordained to the priesthood on June 11, 1949 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. His first Mass was celebrated at St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne, his family's parish at the time.

Upon retirement, Father Peil returned to Fort Wayne and he currently resides at Saint Anne Home.

He still makes monthly trips to Gary to play bridge there with three priest friends. He is also a member of the St. Francis Bridge Club in Fort Wayne. His other hobbies are table tennis and working his radio-controlled sailboat and airplane.

Writing has special appeal to Father Peil. He publishes "A Tract for our Times" on current issues. Occasionally, his works are featured in *Today's Catholic*. He has also authored a series of seven booklets called the Rainbow Series that focuses on various facets of living a Christian life in the Catholic Church.

Father Peil celebrated his jubilee May 19 at the Gary cathedral where the jubilarian priests celebrated Mass and enjoyed a dinner afterwards.



**Father Balzer celebrates 60th jubilee to the priesthood**

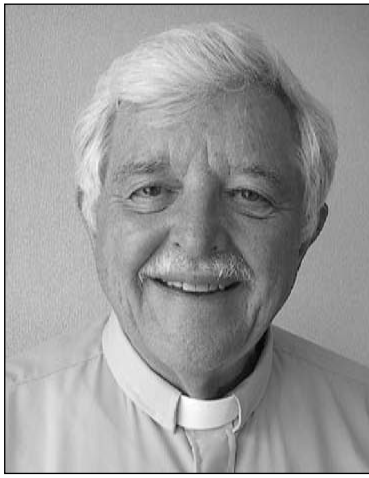
FORT WAYNE — "Forty years a priest — how blessed can a person be? It hardly seems possible that so much time has slipped by since that great and glorious day, June 4, 1949, when I was ordained to the holy priesthood." This quote was penned 20 years ago by Father Raymond Balzer in a memoir entitled "Reflections," in which he accounts the days leading up to his ordination into the priesthood.

Ordained by Apostolic Delegate Most Rev. A.G. Cicognani at Pontifical College Josephinum in 1949, Father Balzer has served the diocese as an assistant and pastor at many parishes. As pastor, he served at St. Patrick, Lagro; St. Mary, Huntington; St. Jude, South Bend; St. Patrick, Fort Wayne; St. Michael, Plymouth; St. Rose, Monroeville and Immaculate Conception, Auburn.

Today, Father Balzer is preparing to celebrate 60 years in the priesthood. Although he officially retired 10 years ago, Father Balzer continues to serve God by assisting with Mass, on occasion, at Saint Anne Home and providing spiritual guidance to those who cross his path on a daily basis.

Father Balzer was asked what he has been doing since retirement in 1999. He says, "When I retired I volunteered to spend a year with the Precious Blood Fathers. I enjoyed the experience because my older brother became a missionary priest near Celina, Ohio. Since then, I enjoy watching sports, such as tennis and football (especially Notre Dame football)."





**Father Paul Bueter celebrates 50 years in priesthood**

FORT WAYNE — The first 50 years of priesthood have gone by quickly for Father Paul Bueter. Retiring from shepherding the parishioners of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw in January, this jubilarian has ministered to Hispanic Catholics both here and abroad.

A native of Fort Wayne, Father Bueter was born in 1933 to Raymond and Annette Bueter, the third of five children. His family was parishioners of St. Jude Parish, where he attended elementary school.

Father Bueter entered Our Lady of the Lake Minor Seminary in Syracuse following high school graduation in 1951, and continued his studies at St. Mary Major Seminary in Baltimore.

Ordained into the priesthood on May 30, 1959 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception by then Bishop Leo A. Pursley, Father Bueter served as associate and pastor of several area churches including St. John the Baptist in South Bend, St. Bavo Parish in Mishawaka, St. John the Evangelist in Goshen and Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Warsaw. Other assignments include consultant to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and vicar for the Elkhart area.

Father Bueter's journey in priestly service took a unique turn in 1965 when he offered his service to the Hispanic population in Latin America, serving in peasant areas for 16 years in Panama. He was called back to the U.S. in 1981 to pastor at St. Bavo.

Of his assignments Father Bueter says, "They all had their good points." His joy has always been to minister to the people in his charge "through the Eucharist."



**TIRABASSI**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"You learn quickly that it's your time not so much to pray to Jesus, but to listen to what Jesus has to say to you. And I really believe that. Many, perhaps all, my good thoughts of things that happen in the church ... homilies and this kind of thing ... come from the Holy Hour program."

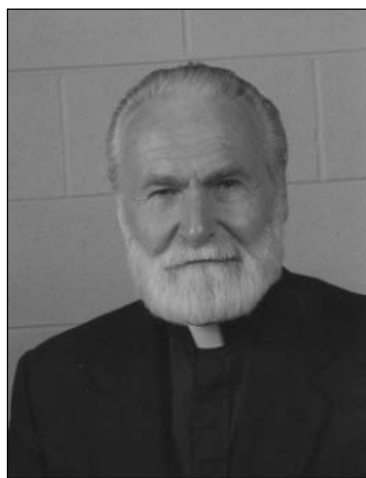
Corpus Christi is also a place where the rosary is prayed before each weekend Mass, and after Mass on weekdays, part of Father Cam's effort to make Mary a part of parish life.

"The rosary's been very important," says Father Tirabassi. "Especially in lieu of the fact that we just celebrated Easter, and to get to Easter you have to go through Good Friday. On Good Friday, you know, Jesus gave his mother to John. In giving Mary to him, he also gave his mother to us."

In retirement, Father Tirabassi says he will be in residence at South Bend's Holy Family Church. He will also continue his work as chaplain at Saint Joseph's High School and as a member of the School Board.

According to Father Tirabassi, things have changed a lot in 21 years. He remembers when students were too timid to say hello to a priest in the hallway, and smiles talking about how today's kids don't hesitate to walk up and ask if they can make their confession. Father Tirabassi attributes that to better Catholic education.

Father Tirabassi will say his golden jubilee Mass June 7 at 3 p.m., followed by a dinner with parishioners and friends later that evening. The weekend before, he plans to have a pizza party with the young people he holds so dear.



**Father Sienkiewicz celebrates 50th jubilee**

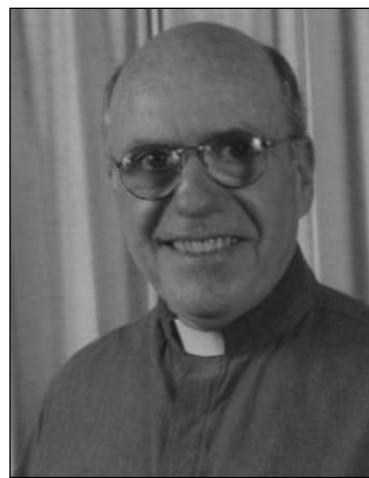
THREE OAKS, Mich. — Father Matthew Sienkiewicz, retired since 1995, resides in Three Oaks, Mich.

Born in 1923, Father Sienkiewicz was the last of Julius and Julia Sienkiewicz' four children. He attended Sacred Heart Grade School in Chicago and Tilden Technical High School and Allied School of Mechanical Trades in Chicago.

His interest in a religious vocation grew gradually "as I lived through the many personal and public situations, conditions and experiences during time spent as a layman. Reading the good news and trying to live it out in daily living prompted me to think of becoming a priest," he said.

Father Sienkiewicz was ordained May 30, 1959 by Bishop Leo Pursley at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

50 YEARS, PAGE 14



**Father Larry Tippmann celebrates 40th jubilee**

FORT WAYNE — Father Laurence Tippmann feels blessed to have always been assigned in his 40 years of ordained priesthood to parishes with schools. He entered the seminary at age 24 after discerning various other professional paths. He says of his vocation, "If I became a priest, I could have something to give for everyone."

Ordained May 31, 1969, Father Tippmann was assigned to St. Michael's Parish in Plymouth. In 1972, he was assigned to St. Matthew's Cathedral and it was there that he also taught at Marian High School in Mishawaka.

Father Tippmann spent the next six years at Queen of Angels Parish in Fort Wayne, where he enjoyed being involved in school programs and taking the students on picnics to nearby Franke Park. He was then

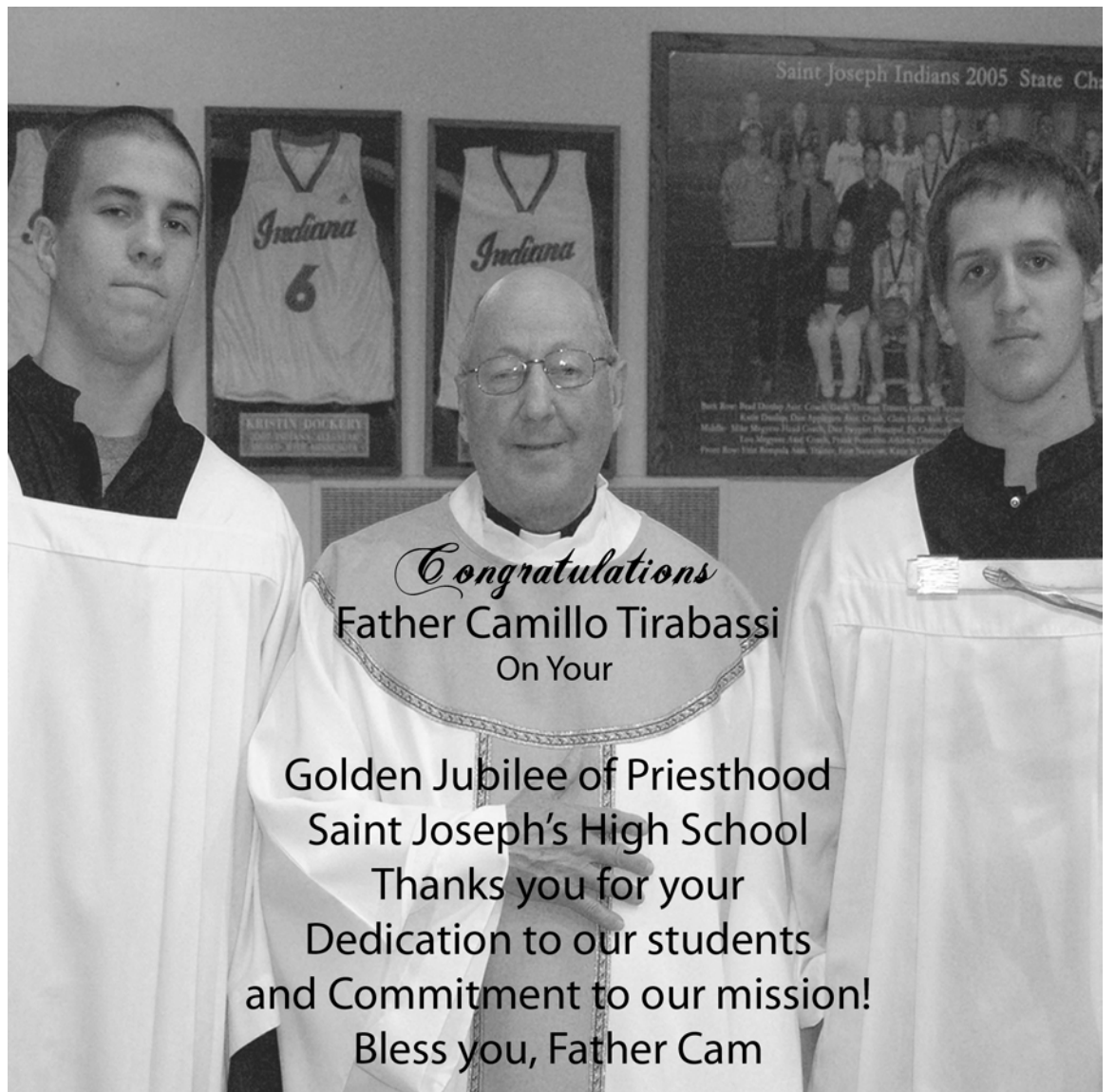
assigned to St. Charles Borromeo Parish for less than a year, before he was offered his first assignment as pastor of St. John the Evangelist in Goshen, where he remained until 1987. St. Joseph Parish on Brooklyn Avenue was his final assignment from which he retired in June 2001.

In addition to teaching at Marian High School, Father Tippmann taught at Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers High School. He also served on the diocesan marriage tribunal, first as advocate for the plaintiff and then as judge of the Court of First Instance. It was later that Father Tippmann was one of the three judges to serve on the tribunal.

Even though retired, Father Tippmann continues to celebrate Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne every Sunday. He, along with his brother, started two homes for recovering addicts — Andrew Center for men in the former St. Andrew Church and Rose Home for women, where he provides counseling and serves on the board. He is also involved in the ongoing renovation of the MacDougal Chapel.

Relaxation comes in the form of his two horses or snow skiing in the Rocky Mountains.

Father Tippmann will celebrate his 40th year of priesthood with other jubilarians on June 13 at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne followed by breakfast at the Scout Conference Center (Thermodyne) with family and friends.



*Congratulations*  
**Father Camillo Tirabassi**  
On Your

**Golden Jubilee of Priesthood**  
**Saint Joseph's High School**  
Thanks you for your  
Dedication to our students  
and Commitment to our mission!  
Bless you, Father Cam

*with thanks and best wishes to three former pastors celebrating jubilees*

Father Raymond Balzer ~ 60  
Father Thomas Doriot ~ 60  
Father Jeffery Largent ~ 25

**ST. PATRICK PARISH**  
FORT WAYNE



CONGRATULATIONS  
to  
Father Lourdino Fernandes  
as he celebrates the  
40th anniversary of  
his ordination to the  
priesthood of Jesus Christ.  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
KENDALLVILLE

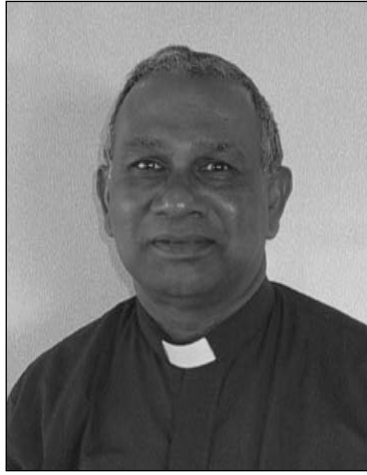
CONGRATULATIONS  
from St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne  
*and prayerful best wishes are extended  
to jubilarians who served at our parish.*  
**Msgr. James Wolf - 40 years - Pastor**  
**Father Thomas Doriot - 60 years - Ass't Pastor**  
**Father Jeffery Largent - 25 years - Deacon**  
*Ad multos annos!*

St. Bavo Parish  
in Mishawaka  
sends prayers  
and congratulations  
with best wishes to  
**FATHER PAUL BUETER**  
as he celebrates  
50 years of priesthood.



*St. Joseph Parish  
Bluffton  
sends best wishes to  
jubilarians  
Father Robert Traub  
and  
Father Stephen Colchin*

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish  
and St. Joseph School, Decatur  
*are pleased to honor a native son*  
**Father Stephen Colchin**  
*as he celebrates his silver jubilee  
as a priest of Jesus Christ!*



### Father Joseph Perera celebrates 40 years

GENEVA — The lush farmlands east of Geneva are a long distance and a world away from Father Joseph Bosco Perera's native land of Sri Lanka. This beloved pastor of St. Mary of the Presentation in rural Geneva is celebrating his 40th year of ordination to the priesthood this year.

A native of "the beautiful land of Sri Lanka," Father Perera has been the pastor of St. Mary for seven of the past 10 years that he has served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

He tells *Today's Catholic* that the faith is what is most similar between Catholics in his home country and Catholics in America; but "the culture and way of life" between the two countries are the most different.

He says his own faith was nurtured by the traditional Catholics of Sri Lanka.

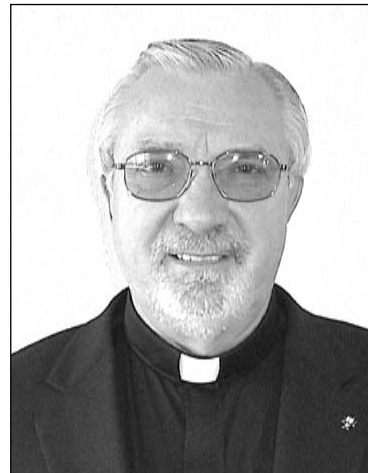
Ordained to the priesthood on May 7, 1969 in his homeland of Sri Lanka, "preaching and teaching the word of God" is what Father Perera says he likes most

about being a priest.

On May 17, the parish held a dinner for Father Perera. A parishioner composed a song to the melody of "A Few of My Favorite Things" and the choir sang the song for their pastor. Parishioners and nearby Amish neighbors contributed food for the dinner. And Father Perera prepared a rice dish from his native Sri Lanka.

Religious education instructor Nancy Subler noted that her class made cards for Father Perera. Subler tells *Today's Catholic* of one student's note: "You are the only priest I have gotten to know so well. I am praying for you and thank you for telling us funny stories and telling us about Jesus. And thanks for the chocolate bars."

Father Perera's plans are to celebrate with the other diocesan jubilarians this year. A special Mass and dinner is usually scheduled in the fall.



### Msgr. James J. Wolf celebrates 40 years

WARSAW — Msgr. James J. Wolf will celebrate his 40th year

as an ordained priest on May 31.

James J. Wolf was born on Jan. 21, 1940 in Fort Wayne, to Walter J. and Esther B. Wolf. One of six children, Msgr. Wolf attended Central Catholic High School. He entered St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, to study chemical engineering. The seeds of his vocation to the priesthood developed through influence from other priests that he met there. He says, "I didn't choose the priesthood, God chose me."

After graduating from St. Joseph's, Msgr. Wolf spent the first two years of his seminary at Kitchner, Ontario, Canada and then five years at Mount St. Mary's of the West in Cincinnati, Ohio.

After his ordination, Msgr. Wolf served in: St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend; St. Mary's, Decatur; St. Anthony's, South Bend; St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and as co-rector of the cathedral, Fort Wayne, with Msgr. J. William Lester. While serving at the cathedral, Father Wolf was appointed monsignor. In 2000, Msgr. Wolf was assigned to Sacred Heart Church in Warsaw.

"Having a dedicated staff both at the church and school and parishioners who give of their time and talents so freely has been such a blessing," says the jubilarian.

When time permits, Msgr. Wolf enjoys skiing, a hobby that he says he wishes he had taken up earlier in his life, only having taken up the sport when he was 35 years old. Sports and reading are other hobbies that interest Msgr. Wolf, as well.

Msgr. Wolf will celebrate his jubilee Mass with family and friends. He said the celebration would be simple but joyous. Our Father's House will provide a luncheon following the Mass.



## Father Bruce Piechocki

### *Celebrating 25 years in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ*

Thank you Father Bruce, for your labors  
in His vineyard, and in particular  
for being our celebrant in the  
Chapel of the Good Shepherd  
in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center.

- Cathedral Books & Gifts
- The Office of Family Life
- The Diocesan Business Office
- The Diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry
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- The Catholic Schools Office
- The Office of Catechesis
- The Office of Spiritual Development / Evangelization
- Catholic Charities
- The Marriage Tribunal
- Diocesan Services Agency
- The Office of Vocation
- The Office of Communications
- The Office of Worship
- The Development Office
- The Office of Youth Ministry
- The Office of Diocesan Archives
- Today's Catholic

## Father Lourdino Fernandes celebrates 40 years of priestly service

KENDALLVILLE — The state of Goa in India is 40 percent Catholic and can trace its evangelization to St. Francis Xavier. This is the region where Father Lourdino Fernandes was born in 1943.

“My village was almost 95 percent Catholic,” he says. “So I was brought up in an entirely Catholic environment.”

Father Fernandes describes his childhood: “My parents and grandparents were strongly rooted in faith. They prayed for vocations every day when we prayed the family rosary and prayed that one of their children may join the priesthood. They were very religious and spoke highly of their priests and were very generous towards them.”

At the young age of seven, Father Fernandes became an altar boy, and at his ninth-grade retreat at the boarding school he attended, a preacher mentioned, “many in the north of Goa and the rest of India had not heard of Christ because of the lack of priests to preach the word of God. That thought stuck in my heart and never left me and I joined the diocesan seminary for the Diocese of Bombay after I passed grade 10 at the age of 15.”

He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Bombay, India, on Dec. 20, 1969, after completing the 10-year training course in St. Pius College, the Bombay diocesan seminary.

“Being a priest is the greatest privilege,” Father Fernandes says. “I could have never deserved it. I thank the Lord for his choice of me as a priest and

for giving me the grace to respond to his call. I enjoy celebrating the Eucharist and preaching the word of God.

“My most humbling as well satisfying moments have been when celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation,” he adds. “There is nothing more fulfilling than to assure a person that God loves him/her and that God forgives him/her and to experience a relief on the person’s face when assured that God’s love for him/her is unconditional. To see a person leaving with the assurance of God’s peace is something wonderful.”

Of the 11 years that Father Fernandes has been in the United States, 10 1/2 of those have been serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. He has been the pastor of Immaculate Conception in Kendallville since 2004.

Father Fernandes says that Catholic life in the Diocese of Bombay, a large metropolitan city, is organized very much the same manner as in the U.S., but Catholics in India “take their faith very seriously and the attendance at Sunday worship is very strong and fervent. Their participation is very enthusiastic and energetic. They readily join in the singing and other responses. They are generous towards the church. The attendance even at the two or three daily Masses every parish has is very large.”

He adds, “Novenas on the occasions of important feasts are very well attended and becomes another opportunity at catechesis. There are a lot of activities around the parish and the priest is often overworked.”

Father Fernandes will celebrate a Thanksgiving Eucharist with parishioners and other priest friends from the diocese followed by a dinner.



## Father Steve Colchin is silver jubilarian

NEW HAVEN — Fortunately for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, a young Stephen Colchin happened to travel past Saint Meinrad Archabbey every day while building Patoka Lake just southeast of Jasper as chief of the survey section for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It was at this same time in his life, that Decatur native Colchin began contemplating a career move in a different direction.

During a one-year leave of absence from his position and after taking a series of six different battery tests, he became one of 54 applicants vying for 48 spots in the School of Theology under Father Daniel Buechlein, now archbishop of Indianapolis.

“I remember secretly hoping they would not choose me,” admitted Father Colchin, who recalled searching for signs to support his decision. In 1979, his application was accepted at St. Meinrad.

Stephen Edward Colchin was ordained a priest on June 9, 1984, by Bishop William McManus at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne at the age of 37.

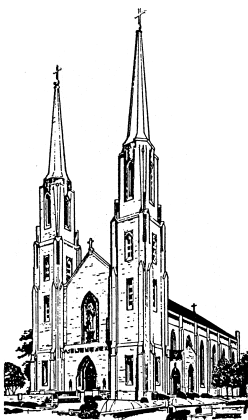
Born on Oct. 22, 1946, the second child of Hillis and the late Mark Colchin, Father Colchin has an older brother, Mark, younger siblings — Michael, Rose (Schnepf), Fredrick and Paul, and 10 nieces and nephews. He attended St. Joseph, Decatur and graduated in 1965 from Decatur Catholic. He holds an associate degree in civil engineering technology and a bachelor of science degree in land survey engineering from Purdue University. Hoping

to be a pilot one day, Father Colchin also spent four years in the Air Force.

Father Colchin enjoys wood-working, reading short stories and traveling.

As a deacon, Father Colchin first went to St. Charles Borromeo, where he was assigned during the retirement of Father Hession and start of the Father Seulzer era. From 1988-1991, Father Colchin teamed up with Father Derrick Sneyd at St. Thomas the Apostle in Elkhart. It was during these years that Father Colchin was invited to join Mike Hintz’s seminary class on a study tour of Israel. St. Joseph, Bluffton, became Father Colchin’s new home in 1991 before being moved to St. Louis-Besancon Parish in 1997. In 2003, Bishop John M. D’Arcy asked Father Colchin to also shepherd St. Rose Parish in Monroeville.

In honor of his silver anniversary, Father Colchin will offer a Mass of thanksgiving on Sunday, June 7, at 9 a.m. at St. Rose Parish with a brunch immediately following, and a second Mass at St. Louis at 2 p.m. with a potluck afterwards.



## Congratulations Monsignor Wolf on your 40th Jubilee.



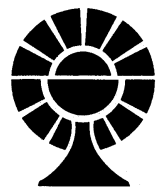
Thank you for your many years at  
The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception!

## With fond memories of Father Paul McCarthy

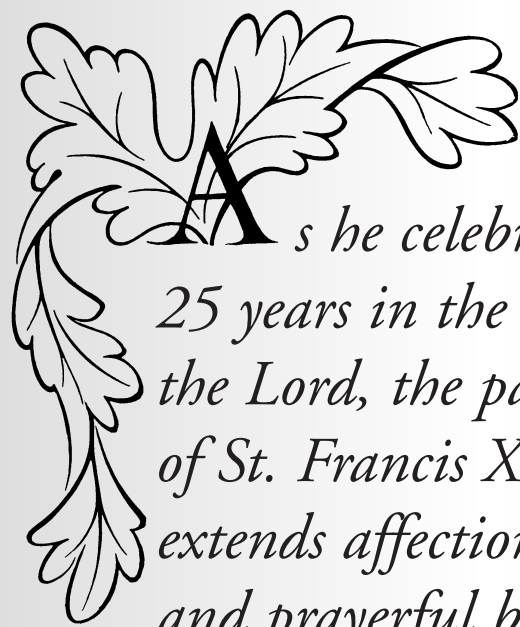
the parish family of  
St. John the Baptist

NEW HAVEN

rejoices with him as he celebrates  
his silver anniversary of the priesthood.



Once again, we thank Father McCarthy  
for his efforts in redecorating our church.



As he celebrates  
25 years in the vineyard of  
the Lord, the parish family  
of St. Francis Xavier, Pierceton,  
extends affection, appreciation  
and prayerful best wishes for  
continued blessings to

**Father Bruce Piechocki**

Congratulations to all our Jubilarians  
from  
TODAY’S CATHOLIC



### Father Largent celebrates 25 years of priesthood

MISHAWAKA — Father Jeffery Largent can only characterize his 25-year ministry one way: "Great," he said from the parlor of the rectory at St. Monica Catholic Church in Mishawaka.

"I wouldn't change a thing."

That doesn't mean it hasn't been without its struggles, though.

A cancer survivor for six years, Father Largent cannot teach school the way he used to because the cancer attacked his throat. Through God's grace and with treatment, Father Largent recovered.

Serving at St. Monica for five years now, Father Largent says people refer to him as the funeral priest and also the wedding priest.

He presides over several funerals each month for people he's come in contact over his 25 years in ministry.

But, he admits, he's also the wedding priest "because everyone wants to get married in the beautiful church," referring to St. Monica.

Despite his busy funeral and wedding schedule, Father Largent

said he continues to try to meet with students and teach at least once per week. He has spent much of his career teaching — a seven-year stint at Bishop Luers in Fort Wayne and 10 years at Culver Academies in Culver.

A graduate of North American College, a seminary in Rome, Father Largent says the first 25 years of his ministry has flown by and he's looking forward to the next 25, though he doesn't have any definitive plans of his own.

"Whatever the bishop assigns me to — we don't have any plans," he said with a laugh.

Father Largent first began to feel the call to ministry as a schoolboy while attending St. Anthony in South Bend. He was head altar boy and the parish priest at the time was involved with the students. Interestingly, his classmate was Mary Hesburgh, Father Ted Hesburgh's

niece. Father Hesburgh, led the University of Notre Dame for 35 years, and he encouraged Father Largent to become a Holy Cross brother. However, his parish priest at St. Anthony encouraged him to become a priest for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. He finally decided on the diocese.

"I didn't know much about Holy Cross, so I chose the diocese," said Father Largent, 51.

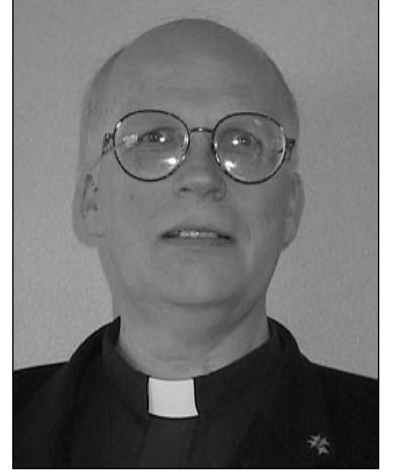
Since his ordination, Father Largent said ministry hasn't changed much and the people he ministers to haven't changed much either, though the family dynamic has altered the way he does ministry. Because more and more families are single-parent families, he has to deal with issues regarding kids earlier than he did 25 years ago.

"They have one set of rules at one home and another set of rules at the other home," he said. "We try to bring consistency, but sometimes we don't know all the stuff."

Despite this, he said he's changed too.

"You always get more wise when you get older," he said. "Every young person wants to go out and save the world, but then you realize that you just do the best you can. What's that corny phrase — let go, let God."

Celebrations for Father Largent's jubilee are scheduled after Mass on Aug. 2 at St. Monica as well as on Aug. 9 at St. Mary's in Fort Wayne, where he started his ministry.



### Father Paul McCarthy celebrates 25 years of priestly service

NEW CARLISLE — After 25 years in ministry, Father Paul McCarthy asks himself and others one question: "The main thing is did you do everything you could," he said from the parlor of the rectory at St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church in New Carlisle. "Did you come to God in holiness?"

Holiness and a family style of ministry is perhaps the most important markers of Father McCarthy's past 25 years in ministry.

"The greatest need in ministry is holiness and faithfulness because that is our first vocation — for everyone to be holy," he said.

He believes that God places particular burdens on each priest's heart, and the holiness of those in ministry and lay people lays heavily on his.

## St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen

### Congratulates

## Father Paul Bueter

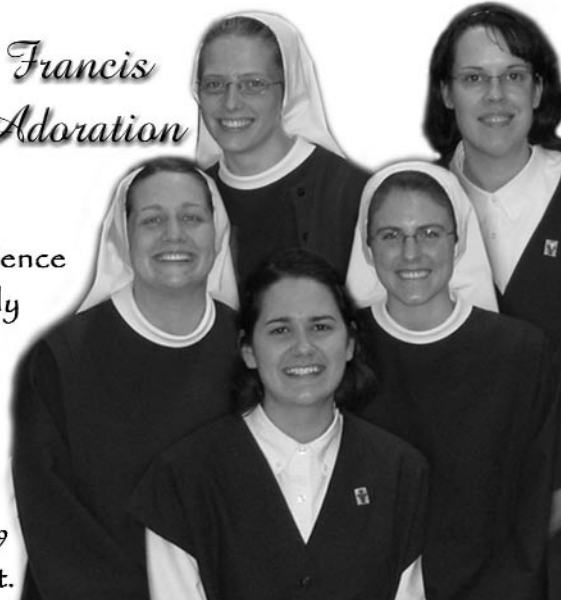


**as he celebrates  
the 50th anniversary  
of his ordination**



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Come and experience our daily prayer, study and work schedule and meet other young women who share your desire to follow Christ.



High School Come and See: June 18-20, 2009  
Women (age 18-35): Call to arrange a visit.

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### Congratulations to Father Joseph Bosco Perera, OMI Beloved Pastor of St. Mary of the Presentation as he celebrates 40 years of priesthood!

Celebrating  
60 Years in  
Business!



**Berne Ready Mix**

[www.bernereadymix.com](http://www.bernereadymix.com) Berne, Indiana

With admiration and respect,  
the members of  
**St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne**  
salute three jubilarians

**FATHER PAUL BUETER 50 years**  
**MSGR. JAMES WOLF 40 years**  
and

**FATHER LAURENCE TIPPMANN 40 years**  
*who found the roots of  
their priestly vocations at*  
**ST. JUDE GRADE SCHOOL**



*AD MULTOS ANNOS*

Oftentimes, priests begin to follow their own thinking, which Father McCarthy, 57, believes causes confusion for people.

"It is unfair to people," he said. "I pray that priests be all on the same page."

Pastor of St. Stanislaus for two years, Father McCarthy attended seminary at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hale Corners, Wis., and along with St. Stanislaus has served in New Haven, South Bend and Huntington over his 25-year tenure.

Father McCarthy said he knew definitively at 17 that God was calling him to be a priest.

"For my part, I did what many fellows do and resisted for a number of years," he said.

At first, he said he resisted because he was a shy teenager and realized that if he became a priest he'd have to stand in front of people and talk. Later, whenever he made any changes in his life the call was renewed.

"There was also a time I was going to get married and that's when the call was most intense," he said, adding that he finally heeded the call and went to semi-

nary when he was 27. A talk with a priest who was a vocations director helped change his mind.

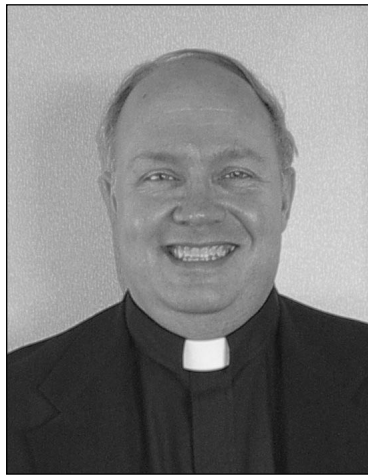
"There was no definitive moment, but I finally had the grace to say yes," said Father McCarthy, who was born in South Bend, attended Little Flower Catholic Church and as a child went to school at Saint Mary's Campus School, which no longer exists. He later graduated from Indiana University-South Bend.

For the future, Father McCarthy said he has no plans of his own.

"I just plan to continue to do the work I'm assigned to," he said.

In the more immediate future, however, the St. Stanislaus congregation is planning a jubilee celebration for Father McCarthy after the Sept. 26 Mass later this fall.

From there, Father McCarthy said he will continue getting to know the people of his parish and trying to understand where they are in their particular lives.



### Father Bruce Piechocki is silver jubilarian

FORT WAYNE — "It doesn't seem like 25 years," says Father Bruce Piechocki of his life in the priesthood. "Time has flown by. And even knowing the difficulties, I'd do it all again!" he adds with conviction.

The South Bend native was born to Louis and Susan in 1956. His family attended St. Casimir Parish, where he began his Catholic education. Following graduation from Saint Joseph's High School, Father Piechocki attended Holy Cross Junior College and continued his stud-

ies at the University of Notre Dame. He entered Saint Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad in 1979.

Bishop William E. McManus conferred holy orders to Father Piechocki on June 9, 1984, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. His assignments have included serving as associate pastor of the cathedral and assistant to the chancellor, associate pastor at St. Mary Parish in Decatur, administrator of St. Mary Parish in Culver, associate pastor of St. Adalbert Parish in South Bend and administrator of St. Augustine Church in South Bend.

In 1989 Father Piechocki moved to Washington, D.C., to attend the Catholic University of America for two years. Although he enjoyed his stay and studies there, he reports, "I tend to like the parish assignments. In that setting you get to touch peoples lives and be with them in good times and times of struggle."

Father Piechocki was appointed to the South Bend Marriage Tribunal part-time in 1991 as he served simultaneously as associate pastor at St. Adalbert Parish. And in 1994 he became the adjunct judicial vicar for the tribunal.

He has also served on the Presbyteral Council and in the College of Consultors.

Currently Father Piechocki serves as administrator of St. Francis Xavier Church in Pierceton as well as completing his 15th year on the marriage tribunal.

Father Piechocki attributes his love of the priesthood not only to his Catholic education but contact with a number of priests over the years. His most endearing efforts as priest, he says, are, "saying Mass and hearing confessions." He also gathers with campers at Jellystone Park in the summers to celebrate Mass with them.

As for the future of this faithful and devoted man, he intends to serve in "whatever the bishop tells me."

Celebration plans for the silver jubilarian include a special Mass on June 14, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Pierceton, with a gathering following Mass in Columbia City.

He will celebrate again with an afternoon Mass on July 12 in South Bend at his native parish, St. Casimir. A dinner-reception will follow.

## St. Anne Home Retirement Community offers congratulations to three residents celebrating jubilees



**Father Robert Traub**  
**70 years**



**Father Raymond Balzer**  
**60 years**



**Father William Peil**  
**60 years**

On the occasion of his  
**SILVER JUBILEE**  
**TO THE PRIESTHOOD**  
the parish family of  
**St. Louis Besancon**  
offers prayers and congratulations to  
**Father Stephen Colchin**  
and include in their thoughts  
**Father Robert Traub**  
on his 70th anniversary

The staff and parishioners of  
**ST. ROSE PARISH,**  
Monroeville  
and the school children of St. Joseph school  
*extend blessings and best wishes to*  
**Father Stephen Colchin**  
*as he celebrates the silver jubilee*  
*of his ordination to the priesthood*  
*Kindest thoughts and prayers are offered also to*  
*Father Raymond Balzer, celebrating 60 years.*

## BALZER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

When asked what drew him to the priesthood, Father Balzer replies, "all of the good examples set forth by my parents, the parish priest, sisters and my hometown of Beaver Falls, Pa. There is a special closeness in this town."

When asked what he likes best about being a priest, he says "Serving the church! The priesthood is not a privilege, but a life of service."

A jubilee celebration has been planned for June 4, and Father Balzer is looking forward to spending time with friends and family.

Currently, Father Balzer lives at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community where he has resided since May of 2005.



*With appreciation and prayers  
for four jubilarians who are  
fondly remembered as good shepherds at*  
SAINT MICHAEL PARISH - PLYMOUTH



**Father Raymond Balzer - 60 years**  
**Father Thomas Doriot - 60 years**  
**Father Matthew Sienkiewicz - 50 years**  
**Father Laurence Tippmann - 40 years**

*"You are a priest forever"*



The parish family of  
CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

shares the joy with

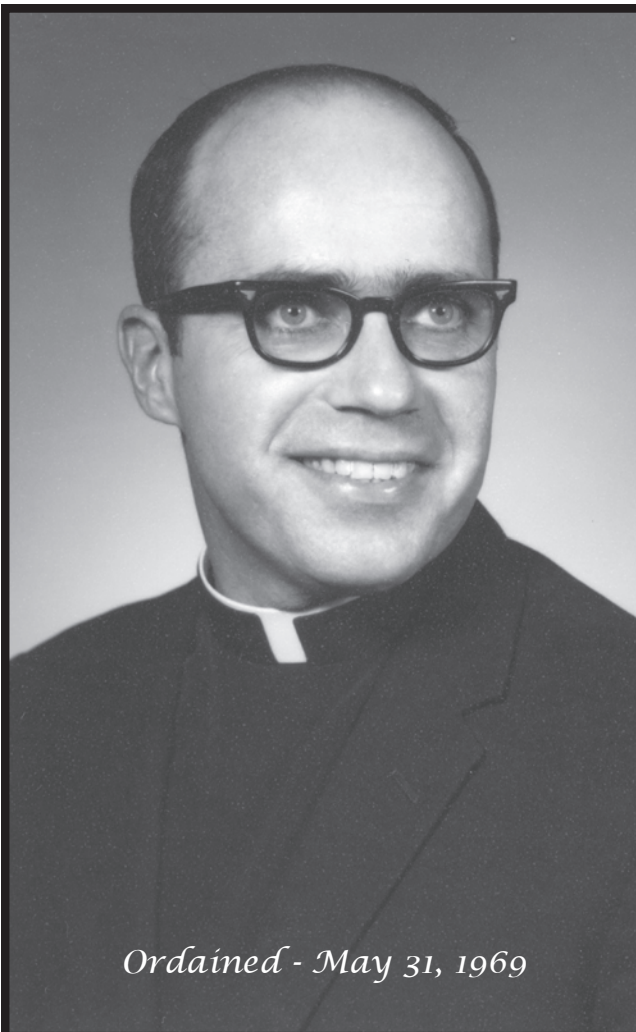
**Father Camillo Tirabassi**

as he celebrates 50 years of priesthood  
among those who are so close to his heart.

The faithful of  
St. Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend  
offer congratulations to jubilarians

**Father Matthew Sienkiewicz** & **Monsignor James Wolf**  
(celebrating 50 years) (celebrating 40 years)

with appreciation for their  
years of service at St. Anthony's



*Congratulations  
Father Larry  
Tippmann!*

*Celebrating  
40 years in the  
Priesthood*

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*Ordained - May 31, 1969*

# 50 YEARS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

His assignments have been at St. Jude, South Bend; St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne; St. Adalbert, South Bend; and St. Michael, Plymouth, all as an assistant pastor. He was appointed pastor at St. Hedwig, South Bend. In 1986, he was appointed to Catholic Charities in Fort Wayne. He also served as associate pastor of St. John, Fort Wayne; St. Mary, Decatur; and St. Anthony, South Bend.

Father Sienkiewicz told *Today's Catholic*, "I always thank God that

he made me a priest, before Vatican II, during Vatican II and after Vatican II — that I was able to see the vast changes in the church." He said, with Vatican II, "the church was given back to the people."

His favorite assignment was working with social and interracial work in South Bend in the late 1960s and early 1970s. He enjoyed his work with ecumenical issues, the charismatic movement, the abortion issue and working with African-Americans in the community.

He lived at St. Hedwig Church during this time, was later appointed pastor of St. Hedwig.

Father Sienkiewicz plans to celebrate his anniversary with his family.

*Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to*

**Father Laurence Tippmann**



*as he celebrates 40 years of priesthood.*  
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MINISTERING IN NORTHERN INDIANA SINCE 1842

## EDITORIAL

## Possible mergers indicate need for priests

Some weeks ago, Bishop John M. D'Arcy released a report on the future of the parishes in our diocese. Advised by a committee of priests who studied our parish situation in depth, Bishop D'Arcy articulated possible mergers of parishes in the future. The purpose of this report is to articulate a plan by which the faithful in our diocese would be better served by a more equitable distribution of priests.

No doubt this announcement was hard for some to hear. It is painful to consider that one's parish, where one was married or where one's children were baptized, could be merged with another parish.

Certainly, the bishop takes no joy in considering such possibilities, but as he himself said in his statement, "It is incumbent upon me, especially given my knowledge of the diocese, to face what must be done, by at least initiating those changes which need to be made for the better pastoral care of our people ..."

### Some realizations

This report calls forth two realizations. First, it calls forth to all of us the precious gift which the priesthood is. By virtue of this gift, despite the weakness and the unworthiness of the priest himself, the Lord Jesus brings forth the Eucharist, preaches the word of God, gives pastoral leadership, and works as shepherd and healer through the other sacraments. In a word, no priest, no Eucharist. No priest, no public proclamation of the word of God in a parish community. No priest, no pastoral governance.

The preciousness of this gift puts responsibility on all of us to promote among our young people listening hearts, hearts ready to hear the Lord and to respond generously if he should call them to priesthood. In this issue of the diocesan newspaper, we celebrate those men who have faithfully given their lives to the Lord and to the Lord's flock as priests for 25 years, for 50 years, and beyond. May they serve the Lord faithfully for years to come.

The second realization which this report calls forth is the understanding of the selflessness to which we are all called. Certainly the difficulty that one might have — and even the anger which might well up in one — at the possibility of such a major change to one's parish is an authentic response. This is a response rooted in great love and devotion toward the place and the community through which the Lord has nourished the life of faith.

It is rooted in authentic attachment to the place and the community in which one entered into the major events of the life of faith — baptism, first holy Communion, confirmation, marriage, the burial of loved ones. And yet, we are reminded that we are a pilgrim people, that this world is not our true home, and that the attachments that we have in this life, even though beautiful, must serve this reality.

### Greater selflessness

Concerning our own parish then, we may be asked for a greater selflessness, to an openness of heart so that more people may be brought the holy Eucharist, that God's word might be more effectively preached, and that more may be faithfully shepherded by the priests that we have. This is the motivation behind this report, and in this consideration, even though painful, it is the primary thing that should be kept before the eyes of all of us — bishop, priests and people.

### Some housekeeping

*Today's Catholic* is seeking names of young men who will earn Eagle Scout awards in 2009. If you know of a young man who has earned this award in 2009 and has not already been featured in *Today's Catholic*, please contact us by June 12. Please send names and information about the Scout project and parish to Tim Johnson, editor, at editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org We plan to feature these awardees in the July 5, 2009 issue of *Today's Catholic*.

**Today's Catholic editorial board** consists of Kay Cozad, Fred and Lisa Everett, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

# COMMENTARY

TODAY'S CATHOLIC welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification. Today's Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today's Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

## A thank you and an apology

First of all, as a member of St. Matthew's Cathedral Parish, I want to thank Bishop John M. D'Arcy for the magnificent example of Christian witness he has given during the Obama commencement debacle. As he nears the end of his time as our bishop, he has, like the bridegroom at Cana, apparently saved the best for last.

Second, as a faculty member at Notre Dame, I want to apologize to Bishop D'Arcy for the breathtaking-

ly shameful manner in which he has been treated by the administrators of my university. They think the bishop is out of touch. But the fact is that they themselves have lost touch with the faithful Catholics in the pews, the ordinary people who put faith in Jesus Christ at the very center of their lives — the families with lots of kids, including handicapped kids; the people who have spent years helping women with problem pregnancies, both before and after the birth of their children; the people who take care of one another in emergencies; the younger idealistic "JP2" Catholics — in

short, the very people who have been quietly building an impressive culture of life in our country right under the noses of those who have led Our Lady's university astray.

These people do not not have to reassure everyone that, despite appearances to the contrary, they are "unambiguously pro-life." They just are pro-life. And they instinctively recognize a great bishop when they see one.

Alfred J. Freddoso  
Oesterle Professor of Thomistic  
Studies  
University of Notre Dame

## Obama and Notre Dame

BY FATHER ROBERT BARRON

Consider myself something of a Notre Dame man. I attended the University of Notre Dame my freshman year, just before entering the college seminary. This was 1977-78, the year that the football team, under the coaching of Dan Devine and the quarterbacking of Joe Montana, won the national championship and the basketball team, led by Digger Phelps, made it to the final four.

In the fall and winter of 2002-03, I spent a wonderful sabbatical at Notre Dame, teaching a course in the Doctrine of God to undergraduates and commencing research on a book project while residing at Moreau Seminary.

But more than that, I believe in the ideals of the university, first articulated by Father Sorin and his companions and reiterated down through the last century and three quarters by the great heroes of the place.

And that is why I was particularly chagrined to learn that Notre Dame invited Barack Obama to be its commencement speaker and resolved to grant him an honorary degree in law. President Obama is, obviously, a man of many virtues and accomplishments, and a decent human being, but he holds to a public position — legal protection for practically unlimited access to abortion — that is directly repugnant to Catholic moral teaching and anthropology.

To make matters worse, President Obama's advocacy of the Freedom of Choice Act makes him the most radically pro-abortion president in our history. The prohibition of the direct killing of the innocent is, on the church's reading, the undebateable foundation for the ethical enterprise itself, the "sine qua non" of any coherent moral discourse.

Therefore, to dispute this prohi-

bition is far more than to take an incorrect stance on a particular issue; it is to stand athwart the very structure of moral logic itself. To claim that there are circumstances under which an innocent life can be taken — or what is worse, to grant legal protection for such an action — is therefore tantamount to complete moral relativism, and this is why the church feels so strongly about abortion. If innocent life can be attacked, then, in principle, anything goes.

The critics mistake this for "one issue" politics; it is, in fact, taking a stand against a fundamental ethical indifference. And this is why I join a swelling chorus of those who say someone who holds to the pro-choice position as fully and enthusiastically as the president does should not be given a platform at a university that claims a Catholic heritage and identity.

One great counter-argument to my position is based upon the notion of academic freedom and runs as follows. At any university worthy of the name, the free exchange of ideas must be tolerated as the condition for the possibility of coming to authentic knowledge. Therefore, even those intellectual positions that one finds unappealing or objectionable must, in the context of the university, be allowed expression in the public forum. Thus, if Notre Dame — or any other Catholic university — aspires to be taken seriously in the secular academic milieu, it cannot allow ecclesiastical orthodoxy to compromise its identity as a seat of higher learning. The first problem with this argument is that it is hypocritical. Anyone even vaguely associated with the secular academy knows that it is governed by a fairly strict ideological orthodoxy and marked by many forms of censorship, both explicit and implicit. If you think I'm exaggerating, try arranging for a speaker on a secular campus who advo-

cates colonialism, apartheid, the subordination of women to men, or the denial of basic rights to gays. Mind you, I'm against these things as well, but I think it's duplicitous to find one kind of orthodoxy perfectly acceptable and another inherently objectionable.

The second and more fundamental problem is that it assumes that, at a Catholic university, the values of the secular academy ought to position those of the church. As Pope John Paul II argued, Catholic institutions of higher learning come out of the heart of the church and exist to serve the church's mission. Therefore, the values that belong properly to the university-free inquiry, open conversation, the exchange of ideas-should be fostered, but they must be situated within the framework provided by the beliefs and practices of the church. If the church's teaching does not position the ideals of the university, the ideals of the university will position the church's teaching. There is no third option.

My fear is that, by honoring Barack Obama, Notre Dame demonstrates that it is a university first and Catholic second. And if that is the case, Notre Dame will go the route of myriad other formerly religiously affiliated universities which are now irretrievably secular: Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Northwestern, Duke, the University of Chicago, to name just a handful of the most prominent. And that would be a terrible loss to the church.

**Father Robert Barron** is the founder of Word on Fire Ministries (www.wordonfire.org) He is also the Francis Cardinal George Chair of Faith and Culture at University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill.

# Thinking about moral absolutes

When Pope Benedict XVI visited the United States in April of 2008, I had the chance to attend the opening ceremony at the White House South Lawn. As I listened to President Bush's welcoming remarks to the pope, I was caught off guard by one line in particular, a powerful statement that seemed almost too philosophical to be spoken by a United States president: "In a world where some no longer believe that we can distinguish between simple right and wrong, we need your message to reject this dictatorship of relativism and embrace a culture of justice and truth."

The president was expressing how we live in a time of history marked by moral relativism. This is the belief that there really is no right and wrong, just your opinion and mine about right and wrong, and we should simply "agree to disagree" and learn to get along. That is to say: you may believe that abortion, same-sex marriage and embryonic stem-cell research



## MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

BY FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

are fine, and I may not, but there's really no point in arguing, since everything is relative anyway — morality is up to me and you to decide individually. In such a view, there are no moral absolutes or universals, and morality shifts freely with each person's perspective.

Ultimately, however, this position is neither reasonable nor logical.

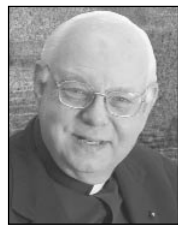
If morality were merely about your and my moral opinions, the results would be disastrous. If I believe racism against blacks and the institution of slavery built upon it are wrong, but you believe they're okay, can we both go our merry ways and live according to

our own morality? Clearly not, and the United States had to undergo a terrible civil war to address this very question. If I believe serial murder and rape are wrong, but you believe they're okay, can we both go off and live according to our own positions? Clearly not, since both positions cannot be true.

These obvious examples illustrate what each of us already knows, namely, that in the real world "relative" truth doesn't work. Suppose you and I each drive towards an intersection with a traffic light. If it were up to you and me to make up our own minds about what color the light is, without any reference to its real color, there would certainly be a lot of accidents at our intersections. What many fail to realize is that the moral world works similarly. Many people's moral lives are crashing and burning because they fail to respect the non-arbitrary markers of the moral roadmap

BIOETHICS, PAGE 17

# The bearers of divine love



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Pentecost Jn 15:26-27

This weekend the church celebrates the great feast of Pentecost. It corresponds with, and builds upon, an ancient Jewish feast. As such, it is the only Jewish feast still, albeit indirectly, commemorated by the church.

The Jewish feast celebrated the gathering together of the Hebrew people into one nation, God's Chosen People.

Acts again is the source of the first reading. It is a passage abundant in meaning. First, the believers are assembled together. They hear a noise similar to a strong wind, an image the Old Testament used on occasion to indicate the presence of God. Then, tongues of fire appear. Fire was another image found in the Old Testament to describe God's presence. (The burning bush, seen by Moses on Sinai, was one such appearance of God in fire.)

All received the Holy Spirit. The apostles then went into the public. In Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost were devout Jews from everywhere. There was no common language. Yet everyone was able to understand what the apostles were saying. And, the apostles were speaking about God.

First Corinthians provides the

next reading.

The reading is frank. Faith is God's gift. No one can sincerely and earnestly say that Jesus is lord, unless prompted by the Holy Spirit. The same Holy Spirit gives believers many gifts. All have special talents and instincts.

Everything comes together in the common vocation to love God, in Christ, and to serve God.

No accidentals mar the absolute unity among all people who love the Lord. Ethnicity means nothing. Gender means nothing. Advantage, in the earthly sense, means nothing.

As its last reading, the church proclaims a passage from the fourth Gospel. It is a Resurrection Narrative, and it is very compelling in its lesson for us.

The disciples had locked the doors. They quivered and retreated in their fear. The barred doors meant nothing to Jesus. He simply passed through them and stood amid the disciples.

He bid them to be at peace. He showed them the marks of the crucifixion. He had survived Calvary. He truly had died, but had risen again to life. With such power to protect them, the disciples had no cause for fear.

Then, the Lord breathed on the disciples, employing another Old Testament symbol of transmitting divine power. He then empowered the disciples to forgive sins.

### Reflection

This weekend, the church celebrates Pentecost. In so doing, it celebrates its own identity as the instrument by which Redemption reaches humans, and the one vine from which Christians receive the nourishment of eternal life and bond with God in Jesus. It celebrates its own beginnings.

The church is not simply an organization. It is the body of people whose faith bonds them with Christ and therefore with each other. They share the one life of Christ, given them in grace. They share the Holy Spirit.

Theologians call this great company "The Mystical Body of Christ."

As a body, the believers represent Christ on earth. In this body of believers, they live with Christ, hearing the Word, receiving the grace of the sacraments. Their holy lives bear witness to the Lord, obedient unto the death of the cross, risen to everlasting life.

We are the bearers of divine love. Indeed, as awesome as it is, we bear the Lord into our world.

In this body, Jesus still speaks, through those whom the Lord commissioned to teach us, namely the apostles.

First Corinthians calls us to be open to the Spirit. And, it calls us all to remember that we individually, and in the community of the church, must continue the redemption of Christ, with its mercy, justice and peace.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1ab,24ac, 29bc-30,31,34 1 Cor 12:3B-7,12-13

**Monday:** Tb 1:3;2:1a-8 Ps 112:1-6 Mk 12:1-12

**Tuesday:** Tb 2:9-14 Ps 112:1-2,7-9 Mk 12:13-17

**Wednesday:** Tb 3:1-11a,16-17 Ps 25:2-9 Mk 12:18-27

**Thursday:** Tb 6:10-11;7:1bcde,9-17;8:4-9a Ps 128:1-5 Mk 12:28-34

**Friday:** Tb 11:5-17 Ps 146:2,7-10 Mk 12:35-37

**Saturday:** Tb 12:1,5-15,20 (Ps) Tb 13:2,6-8 Mk 12:38-44

## CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

Pentecost was traditionally the second most important Christian feast after Easter. This quiz looks at this feast.

### 1. Where do we learn about Pentecost?

- a. From the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans and reply by Clement
- b. From John's Gospel and from Acts
- c. From Acts (in the Christian era) — it is also in the Old Testament

### 2. Pentecost is derived from the Greek number 50. Why?

- a. It celebrates the time when the church achieved 50 members.
- b. It was a Jewish feast 50 days after Passover.
- c. It was 50 years after the birth of Jesus.

### 3. What the first sign to the apostles that something unusual was happening?

- a. There were tongues of fire.
- b. There was a noise from the sky like a strong wind.
- c. They began to speak in tongues.

### 4. Why were "tongues" (languages) significant?

- a. Although all Jews spoke Hebrew, the use of Latin and Celtic allowed outreach to Gentiles.
- b. It was believed that a bilingual person was holier than a monoglot.
- c. The Jews from the Diaspora spoke a variety of languages.

### 5. What phenomenon shows that this linguistic ability was not merely natural?

- a. The apostles' voices were high pitched like an angel's.
- b. Rather than just a series of languages, everyone heard their own.
- c. The Romans had banned a number of these languages as subversive.

### 6. The gathered Jews did not expect the apostles to speak to them so easily because the apostles were all:

- a. men
- b. Jewish
- c. Galilean

### 7. Of the list of places where the Jewish pilgrims were from, which is now the name of a continent?

- a. Asia
- b. Africa
- c. Europe

### 8. They also came from two places that are now Arabic speaking North African countries. Which of these is not one?

- a. Ethiopia
- b. Egypt
- c. Libya

### 9. One readily offered answer for the apostles' exuberance was that they

- a. were high on incense.
- b. were drunk from too much wine.
- c. were intoxicated by coca leaves.

### 10. St. Peter explained this could not be true because

- a. it was only nine o'clock in the morning.
- b. it was forbidden to bring alcohol at Pentecost.
- c. intoxicants had no effect on followers of Jesus.

### 11. Peter preached a powerful sermon; what was the result?

- a. Many chose to join the church.
- b. He was taken out and crucified upside down.
- c. The Romans revoked his citizenship.

### 12. Peter had told his listeners to do this:

- a. Give 10 percent of their money to him.
- b. Repent and be baptized.
- c. Read the Bible.

### 13. How many took him up on that?

- a. 12, one from each tribe
- b. 144,000
- c. about 3,000

### 14. Pentecost was traditionally also known as

- a. Whitsunday
- b. Second Easter
- c. Kyrie Elision Sunday

### 15. Where did that name come from?

- a. from the white garments of the newly baptized
- b. from the habit of finishing off Easter baskets and left over eggs
- c. from the mercy prayer that began the liturgy

### ANSWERS

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



# A day in the life of a sister

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

On most weekdays I set my alarm for 6 a.m. — hard for me because I am not a morning person. Rarely do I get up at the first beep. After I come to some semblance of consciousness, the first thing I do is thank the Lord for a new day. Then I make my bed, get a cup of coffee, which is usually made by Sister Theresa who is one of the early birds in our local community, and then join the rest of our sisters for Morning Prayer at 7 a.m.

After our prayer together, each sister goes her separate way because the five of us each has a different job, or what we call, our ministry.

I usually leave the house a little later because I do my private prayer before I head to Saint Mary's. I find that morning is the best time for me because I tend to get very busy and never know what the day will bring.

After I pray, I eat breakfast, get

dressed and then I get on my way to work.

Currently I work in the communications department of the Sisters of the Holy Cross where I primarily do writing and editing for internal and external communications. I also freelance for *Today's Catholic* and write a regular column that appears in this newspaper and in other Catholic newspapers around the country.

Like many other religious groups of sisters, most of us don't get away with doing just one ministry. My extracurricular ministries include serving as the local coordinator for our Holy Cross Associates, sitting on several boards and committees, such as Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center Foundation Board. I am also chaplain for the Saint Mary's College softball team, am involved in the Cursillo movement and belong to the Church of Our Lady of Loretto choir.

Getting back to my day, during the week I worship at the 11 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Loretto at

Saint Mary's.

After Mass I normally eat dinner with the community, take a long walk and then get back to work in the communications department. After work, unless I have another commitment, I go home for supper. We take turns grocery shopping and cooking. In a typical evening at home I watch a little television, especially sporting events, do jigsaw puzzles, read, surf the Internet, etc. I usually save the weekends for cleaning and doing other things around our house. When I am in the mood, I write poetry.

In my earlier life I struggled with the decision that we no longer had to wear a habit. I worried that people would not recognize us as religious women. Well, all my worrying was in vain. Somehow people just seem to know. I would like to think that it is our actions, not what we wear, that speak of who we are — people whose mission in life is to spread God's love and live the Gospel.

# That all-too-fallible Vatican newspaper

William George Ward was a mid-19th century English Catholic convert from Anglicanism and a controversialist of the take-no-prisoners variety. Having been intellectually convinced of the truth-claims of the Catholic Church, Ward's approach to church authority might be characterized as "in for a dime, in for a dollar" — or, in his case, "in for a tuppence, in for a pound." Thus, in his most famous locution, he wished he "had a papal Bull to read every morning with (the) *Times* at breakfast" — a one-liner frequently cited by progressive Catholics as the epitome of the mindless authoritarianism we were all supposed to have gotten over, after Vatican II.

How odd, then, to find the Catholic left citing the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, as if its op-ed pieces were the 21st century version of William Ward's daily papal decree.

Thus E.J. Dionne Jr., in a recent *Washington Post* op-ed, cited an April 29 essay in the *L'Osservatore* by an Italian journalist, Giuseppe Fiorentino, as decisive evidence that "the Vatican" (presumably including the pope) was nowhere near as upset with Notre Dame's award of an honorary doctorate of laws to President Barack Obama as the American bishops who had criticized Notre Dame's decision. *Time's* Amy Sullivan, who once attempted the intellectual card trick of arguing that you could be pro-life and pro-choice at the same time, wrote in *Time's* Web edition on May 16 that the Fiorentino article, having appeared in an "official newspaper published under the authority of the Vatican's Secretariat of State," suggested that "the Vatican" (presumably

including the pope) was telling the American bishops to "chill out."

Mr. Dionne, Ms. Sullivan, may I introduce Mr. Ward?

The notion that everything appearing in *L'Osservatore Romano* is a) vetted by the Secretariat of State and b) reflects the settled views of "the Vatican" (presumably including the pope) is so transcendently silly that it is barely worth refuting. Yet refuted it must be. *L'Osservatore Romano* has a time-honored way of signaling when an editorial reflects the view of "high authority," placing three dots, or periods, at the end of the editorial in question — which happens only on the rarest of occasions. Otherwise, the only "authority" in question is the argumentation of an article's author. Mr. Dionne and Ms. Sullivan may or may not know this — although Dionne, who once did some good work for the *New York Times* in Rome, certainly ought to. However that may be, the fact remains that, unless and until something is signaled as official and authoritative in *L'Osservatore Romano*, it is neither. Commentary appearing in the Vatican paper does not operate (to borrow from Justice William O. Douglas) within a "penumbra formed by emanations" from the papal magisterium.

Take, for example, the case of an editorial in *L'Osservatore Romano* that appeared shortly after John Paul II's second pilgrimage to Poland, during martial law in 1983. The editorial claimed that the pope's trip had been a valedictory for Solidarity and Lech Walesa; that was all over, and the church in Poland would now sidle into position as the quasi-official opposition to the Jaruzelski government. The papal apartment was furious and did everything possi-



GEORGE WEIGEL

## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

ble to signal in the weeks following that the editorial in no way reflected John Paul's own views about Solidarity, Walesa, or the appropriate role for the church in a post-martial law Poland.

*L'Osservatore Romano*, in other words, completely misrepresented the pope's convictions — and in an editorial, not in some commissioned essay like Fiorentino's.

That notorious editorial did, however, reflect the views of some papal diplomats in the Secretariat of State, who thought Solidarity was destabilizing and dangerous — a fact that completes the rough analogy to the Fiorentino article and the current situation. It is no secret to anyone familiar with the Holy See that the default positions at the lower levels in the Secretariat of State reflect the default positions in western European foreign ministries on matters American. Today, that default position is Obamaphilia. To confuse this default position with the judgment of the Catholic Church and the pope on the Obama administration's policies, however, is to make a very serious analytic error — and a cheap political point.

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

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for May 31, 2009

Acts 2:1-11

Following is a word search based on the First Reading for Pentecost Sunday: the disciples gathered in the Upper Room in prayer. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PENTECOST	TOGETHER	SUDDENLY
WIND	ENTIRE HOUSE	TONGUES
AS OF FIRE	DEVOUT JEWS	JERUSALEM
SOUND	CROWD	(WE) HEAR
SPEAKING	PARTHANS	MEDES
ELAMITES	ASIA	EGYPT
CYRENE	ROME	ARABS

## ON FIRE

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

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# BIOETHICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

guiding our human journey. They've slipped into thinking that they can make up their own rules as they go along, and that it's all relative to their own desires or circumstances.

In the movie "Schindler's List," much of the action takes place in a Nazi labor camp. The camp commandant decides to take a young, Jewish girl to be his personal maidservant. At one point in the film, this girl has a private and very disturbing conversation with another man, Oskar Schindler, the protagonist of the film. With deep fear in her voice she says to him, "I know that someday my master will shoot me." Schindler at first can't believe what he is hearing, and he does his best to reassure her that the commandant is really quite fond of her. But she insists, "No, someday he will shoot me." She then speaks of what she had witnessed the previous day. She had seen him walk out of his quarters, draw his gun, and shoot a Jewish woman who was walking by with a bundle in her hand. She described the woman: "Just a woman on her way somewhere. No fatter, or thinner, or slower, or faster than anyone else; and I couldn't guess what she had done (to provoke him). The more you see of the commandant, the more you see there are no set rules that you can live by. You can't say to

yourself, 'If I follow these rules, I will be safe.'"

Father Raymond Suriani, commenting on this famous scene from the movie noted how this girl was absolutely correct: In a world of moral confusion, in a world of moral relativism, there can be no safety, and, consequently, no peace. She understood that in the "world" of that Nazi labor camp, right and wrong had been blurred to such an extent, that she couldn't determine what was "right" even in the mind of the commandant. What pleased him at one moment might not please him in the next. And if he happened to have power, or to have a gun in his hand when he wasn't pleased, she knew she could easily end up being his next victim.

There are certain important truths and universal moral absolutes, which speak powerfully to us as humans about how we must relate to ourselves, to others and to society. We can draw strength from the prophetic and protective voice of the church, which speaks tirelessly to us of these moral absolutes and points out the threat to our humanity posed by every agenda of relativism.

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.

# Sports

**FIVE KNIGHTS COMMIT TO USF TRACK AND FIELD PROGRAM** The University of Saint Francis has announced that five members of the Bishop Luers High School track-and-field team have committed to continue their education and track and field at USF starting in the fall of the 2009-10 school year. The Bishop Luers students are Austin Carteaux who plans to major in business; Nichole Wellman who plans to major in education; Amy Swygart who plans to major in nursing; Jennifer Byrd who plans to major in nursing; and Heather Thelen, who is undecided on a major.

## Raiders crowned again at CYO city meet

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Despite soggy conditions, track and field competition for the Catholic Youth League (CYO) teams culminated on Saturday morning, May 16, at Bishop Luers with the running of the much-anticipated city meet.

For the boys' squads, St. John, New Haven performed an impressive "three-peat" winning in 2007, 2008 and once again in 2009. The Raiders also dominated in 1999, 2000 and 2005 winning three other coveted crowns over the past decade.

Taking first in just two events, it was the second and third place spots that really added up and were most crucial for the Raiders.

"Our work ethic made the difference today," explained Coach Greg Lawrence, whose team scored points in every event but two.

"This group was hardworking, fiercely competitive and a lot of fun," summarized Lawrence.

Blue ribbons came for the Raiders when Jake Britton won the high jump and was the lead off runner on the winning 4x100-meter relay team along with fellow eighth graders — Robbie Lake, Weston Painter and Jeff Heaton.

St. Jude took the runner-up spot in the meet courtesy of winning performances from Gus Schrader, Luke Palmer, Luke Miller, Conner Werling and Ben Toenges.

On the girls' side, it was all St. Jude outscoring the second place team from St. Charles, 109-88.

The Eagles got wins from their 4x200-meter relay team of LeeAnn Moeller, Maria Mettler, Ciara Feipel and Shai Warfield. Warfield also won the hurdles and placed second in the 100-meter dash and long jump. Mettler got a blue ribbon in the discus throw as did Feipel in the 200-meter dash while Karen Eckrich turned in the fastest time for the 1,600-meter run.

The Cardinals were paced by first place finishes in the 4x100 relay (Rachel Gibson, Tori Houk, Leah Stetzel and Ali Tippmann), the high jump (Taylor Sordelet) and shot put (Emily Elsassner). Tippmann had an outstanding day also winning the 100- and 400-meter dashes. The reigning champ's time of 62.38 for one lap was the lone record-breaker for 2009 erasing the time of 63.9 held by fellow Cardinal, Ann Davis, from 1984.

### Girls 100-meter hurdles

Shai Warfield	St. Jude	18.74
Keirsten Baumgartner	SJSE	18.81
LeeAnn Moeller	St. Jude	20.04
Stephanie Schenkel	St. Vincent	20.44
Annie Till	St. John-NH	20.58
Tori Houk	St. Charles	20.84

### Boys 100-meter hurdles

Karson York	St. Charles	16.78
Nick German	St. Vincent	16.95
Jake Britton	St. John-NH	17.55
Jeremy Gladieux	St. Vincent	18.08
Gus Schrader	St. Jude	18.11
Jeff Heaton	St. John-NH	18.81

### Girls 100-meter dash

Ali Tippmann	St. Charles	13.37
Shai Warfield	St. Jude	13.93
Kate Eifrid	St. John-FW	14.07
Keirsten Baumgartner	SJSE	14.27
Mary Cerajewski	St. John-FW	14.40
Dominique Effinger	St. Vincent	14.90

### Boys 100-meter dash

Brenden Gonzales	St. John-FW	12.45
Robbie Lake	St. John-NH	12.72
Andrew Spencer	St. Jude	12.74
Jake Leonard	St. Vincent	13.19
Luke Palmer	St. Jude	13.29
Karson York	St. Charles	13.42

### Girls 800-meter run

Addie Reimbold	SJSE	2:33.14
Leah Stetzel	St. Charles	2:38.45
Alexis Giocca	St. Vincent	2:54.62
Gabrielle Acree	St. Charles	2:56.83
Melanie Ruich	SJSE	2:57.53
Casey Baldus	St. John-FW	2:59.53

### Boys 800-meter run

Nick Deiser	SJSE	2:25.71
John Wellman	St. John-NH	2:26.22
David Shank	St. John-FW	2:28.08
Trey Casaboro	SJSE	2:31.29
Sean McManus	St. John-FW	2:33.72
Caleb Kruse	St. Vincent	2:36.39

### Girls 4x100-meter relay

St. Charles Borromeo — 58.84: 1) Rachel Gibson; 2) Tori Houk; 3) Leah Stetzel; 4) Ali Tippmann
--

### Boys 4x100-meter relay

St. John, New Haven — 52.55: 1) Jake Britton; 2) Robbie Lake; 3) Weston Painter; 4) Jeff Heaton
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PROVIDED BY ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, NEW HAVEN

**St John, New Haven boys were crowned the CYO track and field champs from the city meet held May 16. St. John, New Haven performed an impressive "three-peat" winning in 2007, 2008 and once again in 2009.**

### Girls 400-meter dash

Ali Tippmann	St. Charles	1:02.38
Gara Feipel	St. Jude	1:05.35
Allison Coffin	St. Vincent	1:07.86
Hannah Sanders	St. Jude	1:11.26
Alexis Giocca	St. Vincent	1:12.59
Madison McCarthy	St. John-NH	1:13.55

### Boys 400-meter dash

Gus Schrader	St. Jude	1:00.05
Matt Harris	SJSE	1:00.92
Nick Deiser	SJSE	1:01.76
Kenny Gase	St. Vincent	1:02.89
Mark Berghoff	St. Charles	1:04.49
Nick German	St. Vincent	1:06.79

### Girls 200-meter dash

Gara Feipel	St. Jude	29.98
Mary Cerajewski	St. John-FW	0.32
Kate Eifrid	St. John-FW	30.79
Allison Coffin	St. Vincent	31.02
Nancy McNamara	SJSE	31.06
Dominique Effinger	St. Vincent	31.48

### Boys 200-meter dash

Brenden Gonzales	St. John-FW	25.63
Robbie Lake	St. John-NH	26.93
Jake Britton	St. John-NH	26.96
Jordan Bly	St. Vincent	28.01
Ben Toenges	St. Jude	28.03
Trey Casaboro	SJSE	28.82

### Girls 1,600-meter run

Karen Edrich	St. Jude	6:24.55
Leah Stetzel	St. Charles	6:32.16
Ellie Kayser	St. John-NH	6:39.44
Emily Miller	St. Jude	6:43.17
Elizabeth Kuras	St. John-FW	6:51.75
Amanda Wilder	St. Vincent	7:02.66

### Boys 1,600-meter run

Luke Miller	St. Jude	5:16.70
Luke Martinez	SJSE	5:34.82
David Shank	St. John-FW	5:41.36
Greg Tippmann	St. Charles	5:44.93
Jacob Kohlmeyer	St. Charles	5:45.70
Sean McManus	St. John-FW	5:54.18

### Girls 4x200-meter relay

St. Jude — 2:06.59: 1) LeeAnn Moeller; 2) Maria Mettler; 3) Gara Feipel; 4) Shai Warfield
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### Boys 4x200-meter relay

St. Jude — 1:59.65: 1) Gus Schrader; 2) Conner Werling; 3) Luke Miller; 4) Ben Toenges
--

### Girls discus throw

Maria Mettler	St. Jude	63-03
Morgan Kinniry	St. Vincent	57-00
Hannah Vanek	St. Charles	53-05
LeeAnn Moeller	St. Jude	50-10
Emily Elsassner	St. Charles	50-00
Georgia Baldus	St. John-FW	47-09

### Boys discus throw

Luke Palmer	St. Jude	114-02
Blake Bowers	St. Vincent	110-00
Jeff Heaton	St. John-NH	104-04
Weston Painter	St. John-NH	93-01
Cameron Messman	St. Charles	92-00
Aaron LaMaster	SJSE	80-07

### Girls long jump

Gara Feipel	St. Jude	13-06.00
Shai Warfield	St. Jude	13-05.00
Keirsten Baumgartner	SJSE	12-09.00
Nancy McNamara	SJSE	12-04.00
Kate Eifrid	St. John-FW	12-02.00
Tori Houk	St. Charles	11-09.50

### Boys long jump

Brenden Gonzales	St. John-FW	16-09.25
Andrew Spencer	St. Jude	15-11.50
Matt Harris	SJSE	14-01.75
Jake Leonard	St. Vincent	14-01.00
Robbie Lake	St. John-NH	13-11.00
Gus Schrader	St. Jude	13-10.00

### Girls high jump

Taylor Sordelet	St. Charles	4-08.00
Allison Coffin	St. Vincent	4-04.00
Megan Coffin	St. Vincent	4-02.00
Maria Mettler	St. Jude	4-02.00
Madison McCarthy	St. John-NH	3-10.00
Elizabeth Romary	St. John-FW	3-10.00

### Boys high jump

Jake Britton	St. John-NH	5-00.00
Austin Pearson	St. Charles	5-00.00
Nick Deiser	SJSE	4-10.00
Trey Casaboro	SJSE	4-08.00
Andrew Spencer	St. Jude	4-08.00
Nick Burrell	St. John-FW	4-06.00

### Girls shot put

Emily Elsassner	St. Charles	28-06.00
Abbey Wharton	St. John-NH	25-00.00
Stephanie Schenkel	St. Vincent	24-08.00
Allison Butler	St. Vincent	24-07.00
Hannah Vanek	St. Charles	24-00.00
Hannah Sanders	St. Jude	19-05.00

### Boys shot put

Luke Palmer	St. Jude	37-05.00
Jeff Heaton	St. John-NH	36-09.00
Ian Barton	St. Charles	36-00.00
Weston Painter	St. John-NH	34-06.00
Jeremy Gladieux	St. Vincent	30-03.00
Chad Wyss	St. Therese	29-11.00
/St. Aloysius		29-11.00

# 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.

## FUNDRAISERS

**Dancing and dining with the stars**  
South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary will have dancing and dining with live music by Driving Reign in the school gym, 735 W. Calvert, Saturday, June 13, from 6-10 p.m. Multi-cultural food booths will include: Hungarian, Polish, Mexican, Soul Food, Italian and American.

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

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

**Most Precious Blood Parish announces Funfest**  
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish will have a funfest May 29 and 30. On Friday from 5-10 p.m. a picnic with Big Eyed Fish baskets and music by Jim Didier and friends will be held. On Saturday festivities include carnival games, bingo, silent auc-

tion, beer tent and chicken dinners. Teen dance from 7-10 p.m. Music by Loose Change from 8-11 p.m. in the beer tent. Admission is free.

**Silver Hawks night with fireworks**  
South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School will attend the Silver Hawks baseball game Friday, May 29, at Coveleski Stadium, 501 W. South St. at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Order a ticket voucher at [www.ourlady-ofhungary.com/SilverHawks.htm](http://www.ourlady-ofhungary.com/SilverHawks.htm) and redeem at the gate. Bring a blanket to sit on the lawn and students will be invited to participate in the fun on the field.

**Luers Loot**  
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will be hosting a sale, Luers Loot, in the wrestling room on May 30 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Christ Child Society plans garage sale**  
Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a garage sale Friday, June 5, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Queen of Angels Activity Center, 1500 W. State Blvd. Proceeds benefit needy children in the area.

**St. Jude Eaglemania**  
Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish will have Eaglemania Friday, June 5, from 5-11 p.m. Children's games, food tent, talent show and beer garden.

**Benefit dinner hosts Lou Holtz**  
Fort Wayne — The Women's Care Center will host a dinner and silent auction with speaker Lou Holtz Tuesday, June 2, at 5:30 p.m. at the Grand Wayne Center. Tickets are \$250. For reservations, call (260) 424-9377 or online at [www.womenscare-center.org](http://www.womenscare-center.org). To donate an auction item, call (260) 432-3282.

## MISC. HAPPENINGS

**Central Catholic alumni celebration**  
Fort Wayne — Central Catholic High School Alumni Association will have a celebration Saturday, June 27. Mass by Bishop Felipe Estevez, '64, will be at 5 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Dinner, music and fellowship follow at the Grand Wayne Center. Reservations are \$40 per person and should be sent to Carol Venderley, 8224 Becketts Ridge, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. For information call Leanne at (260) 485-0290.

**Little Flower Holy Hour**  
Fort Wayne — Father James Seculoff will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, June 2, at 7:15 p.m. to pray for vacations. Father Seculoff is the pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in New Haven.

**Catholic author signs 'Prelude to the Playoff' book**  
Mishawaka — Catholic author Jim Stack will have a book signing on Saturday, June 6, from 1-3 p.m. at Borders on Grape Road in Mishawaka. Stack will be signing "Prelude to the Playoff," which mixes "football, family and fan ego" and "gives South Bend, Indiana, a chance to show

## REST IN PEACE

<b>Angola</b> Karen L. Reynolds, 57, St. Anthony de Padua	Christina J. Wiwi, 26, Most Precious Blood	George K. Pierpont, 85, St. Bavo
<b>Avilla</b> Roman J. Brite, 91, St. Mary of the Assumption	Donald B. Kiep, 85, Queen of Angels	Robert R. Sells, 68, St. Bavo
<b>Donaldson</b> Sister Rosemary Wagner, PHJC, Catherine Kasper Home Chapel	Carlene L. Samczyk, 75, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	<b>Monroeville</b> Lynn F. Meyer, 70, St. Rose of Lima
<b>Fort Wayne</b> Charlotte Lauer, 84, St. Patrick	<b>Mishawaka</b> Patricia Ann Kline, 67, Queen of Peace	<b>Wabash</b> Robert J. Alexander, 66, St. Bernard
	Jeanette M. Soltys, 79, Queen of Peace	<b>Walkerton</b> Olivia Pizzo, 85, St. Patrick
	Maurice A. Bogaert, 84, St. Bavo	

itself as more than the most famous of gridiron datelines," writes former *South Bend Tribune* sports editor and columnist Bill Moor. See the Web site [www.ultimatetweaker.com](http://www.ultimatetweaker.com) for information.

**Vacation Bible School announced**  
Roanoke — Rome: Paul and the Underground Church Vacation Bible School Program will be hosted by St. Joseph Parish this summer, June 22-25 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. All are welcome and there is no cost to participate. Contact Sarah Maloy at (260) 437-7761 for information.

**Corpus Christi procession**  
Elkhart — A Corpus Christi procession will be Sunday, June 14, at 3:30 p.m. starting at the St. Thomas parking lot. The procession will walk to St. Vincent de Paul Parish via Main St. Benediction will follow at St. Vincent.

**Daughters of Isabella to meet**  
South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572, will honor 50- and 25-year members with a luncheon at 1 p.m. Monday, June 1, at Logan Center, 2505 E. Jefferson Blvd. Members are asked to bring paper products to be donated to Hope Ministries. A meeting will follow.

**German Mass and dinner**  
Fort Wayne — St. Peter Church, 500 E. DeWald St. will celebrate

a German Mass Sunday, June 7, at 11 a.m. Father Charles Herman will be the celebrant. German hymns will be sung by the Fort Wayne Mannerchor and Dammchor under the direction of Greg Vey. Following Mass a German dinner of bratwurst, sauerkraut, potato salad, dessert and beverages will be served in the pavilion. The dinner will be \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12 and children under 6 are free.

**First Saturday devotions**  
Fort Wayne — First Saturday devotions will be Saturday, June 7, at the following locations: Fort Wayne — St. Joseph, 7:15 a.m.; St. Charles, 8 a.m.; Sacred Heart, 7:30 a.m.; New Haven — St. Louis Besancon, 8:10 a.m.; St. John, 6:55 a.m.; Arcola — St. Patrick, 7:15 a.m.; Garrett — St. Joseph, 8:40 a.m. Call (260) 749-9396 to have your listing added.

**Catholic Networking offered**  
Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network will meet Friday, June 5, at the Chamber of Commerce, 826 Ewing St. Mass will be at 7:30 a.m. with Father Chau Pham from St. Patrick. Breakfast and meeting will follow. Keynote speaker will be Dave Steffen from The DeHayes Group. Tickets must be purchased online at [www.the-catholicbusinessnetwork.com](http://www.the-catholicbusinessnetwork.com) by June 3. Cost is \$15, members are free. No walk-ins allowed.

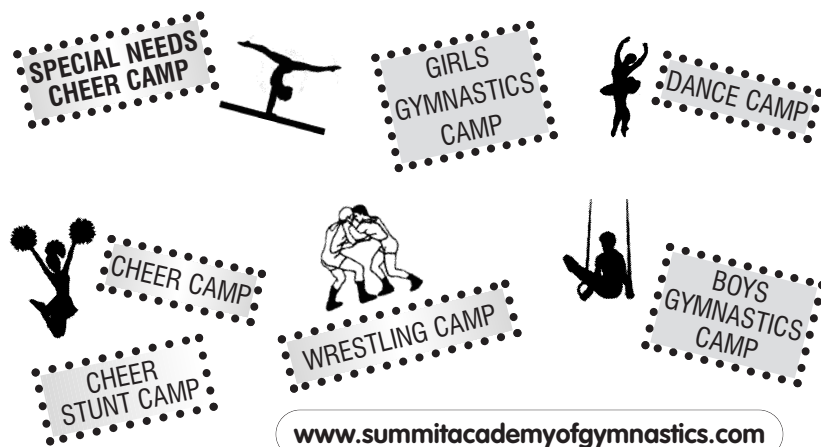
## JOB OPENING

Bishop Dwenger High School has a full time job opening for a life sciences teacher licensed in the State of Indiana in Secondary Education, beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. Qualified candidates should contact Assistant Principal Jason Schiffli at (260) 496-4709. You may mail your resume directly to Jason Schiffli's attention at 1300 E. Washington Ctr. Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46825, or e-mail it to [jschiffli@bishopdwenger.com](mailto:jschiffli@bishopdwenger.com).



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Visit [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org) for a complete calendar of events in the diocese.

## ON THE GO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the community.

"The idea to first do this as a fund-raiser in 2007 came from the fact that I wanted to continue to increase my running mileage. I ran the Sunburst 5K in 2006, which was the greatest distance I had ever run up until then. Father Nate had run marathons before. Many St. Joseph parishioners are runners. Having people pledge per mile is a common practice that other organizations do to raise funds, so we thought to do the same for the needs of St. Joseph Church and School. As for donating 10 percent of the proceeds to a charitable agency in the community, we felt that it would model good stewardship for our parishioners, while also giving us an additional cause to run for," said Father DeRiso.

Of course both priests would like to raise some money for the community, but also have their own personal goals for these races.

"Our goal is to finish ... and to survive," said Father DeRiso. "Last year, we completed the marathon in five hours. If I could complete this year's marathon in 4.30, I'll be pleased. That's my secondary goal."

The priests have received a great amount of support from the community in the last few months.

"I have been training for the 100-mile ride with several parishioners who are going to do the ride as well," said Father Wills. "Since January, I have been doing indoor training on spinning bikes with Tim and Trish Maher. Tim is a cycling guru who has helped me plan my training and encouraged me to do this ride. We've had to do a lot of planning for the longer training rides ... I have many pastoral responsibilities to juggle, but they have six kids. Clearly, they have me beat in terms of busyness."

According to Father DeRiso, "The people of the parish have been great. They have been our inspiration from the beginning. They encourage us and cheer us on. In fact, it was a St. Joseph parishioner who first introduced us to the running group of which we have been a part for the last two years. I could not be where I am today, running-wise, were it not for the support and camaraderie of the people in my running group."

Each of the priests have found many wonderful things about this event besides just raising money.

"In the past several years that we have done this, I've always been particularly touched by how willing people are to support their priests. Or maybe they're just willing to pay to see us in pain," jokes Father Wills. "This fund-raiser is both a literal commitment to fund-raising for St. Joseph Church and School, but it's also a symbolic act of being willing to 'go the distance' and lay down our lives for Christ's church as we seek to do with our priesthood. Whether it



LISA KOCHANOWSKI

**Holy Cross Father John DeRiso, with running shoes and seated, and Holy Cross Father Nathan Wills, with his bike in the back, pose with students of St. Joseph School in South Bend, the oldest school in the city. The St. Joseph Parish priests will participate in the "On The Go For St. Joe! Run and Ride, 2009" to raise funds for the school and the Christ Child Society.**

is running or riding or trying to live the Christian life well, we rely on the help of God and are strengthened and supported by the church."

"The best part has been the friends we have made in the running and cycling communities, and the satisfaction of knowing that we have helped to raise money for not only the St. Joseph Church and School community (which is first and dearest to our hearts), but for other worthy organizations that do so much good in our community," said Father DeRiso. "The hardest part has been running four days a week beginning at 5:30 a.m., and doing long Saturday morning runs beginning at 4:30 or 5 a.m., in order to be back in time to preside at the Saturday morning 8 a.m. Mass, followed by holy hour and confessions beginning at 8:30 a.m. This was especially challenging in the middle of winter, when you're running outside at that hour and the temperature is five degrees. You quickly learn to dress appropriately."

Father DeRiso hopes to send multiple messages to the parish families with this unique fund-raising project.

"Not only are we hoping that our church and school families will make a pledge to help us raise money in support of the mission of our St. Joseph community, but we have found that this annual event

also helps to build up the spirit of our community. Furthermore, we hope to model, in a subtle way, healthy living for the children of our school, including the importance of regular exercise and a healthy diet. Finally, in giving 10 percent of the funds raised to the Christ Child Society, we are hoping to convey to people the importance of supporting charitable agencies that serve the poor and needy in our community," said Father DeRiso.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to this cause can make a donation on the parish Web site at [www.stjoeparish.com](http://www.stjoeparish.com). St. Joseph School is a ministry of St. Joseph Parish and is the oldest school, public or private, in South Bend. The school is K-8 school with an enrollment of approximately 440 students. They are asking for pledges from people who are members of St. Joseph Parish, and also from families (Catholic and non-Catholic) who send their children to the school, but who are not parishioners of St. Joseph.

"Ultimately, we do this out of love; love for the Lord and his church, and for the people and mission of St. Joseph Church and School. In the final analysis, that's the only thing that gets me out of bed and hitting the pavement at 4:30 in the morning," said Father DeRiso.

## Feast of Corpus Christi



• Eucharistic Adoration  
in Church 1 - 5 PM

• Eucharistic Procession  
with the Blessed Sacrament  
and Benediction 5 - 6 PM

**Homilist - Father David Voors  
Sunday, June 14, 2009**

St. Jude Church - Fort Wayne • [www.stjudefw.org](http://www.stjudefw.org)



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**Conference Retreat**

The Gospel of Paul

Author Michael Fonseca and Fr. John Scott

July 12-17, 2009

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Individual Spiritual Direction  
With: Sr. Patricia Belting, PHJC or  
Sr. Nancy Raboin, PHJC  
July 12-19, 2009

**12 Step Retreat**

Men's and Women's  
August 7-9, 2009



**Icon Painting Retreat**

A Brush With God: Holy Family Icon  
Rev. Peter Pearson  
August 9-14, 2009

Lindenwood is located 40 miles from South Bend and 75 miles from Fort Wayne in Donaldson on Lake Gilbraith. Call 574-935-1780 or visit [www.lindenwood.org](http://www.lindenwood.org)

A Ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ