



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Catholic School Office sees changing of the guard

BY KAY COZAD



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Catholic Schools Office Superintendent Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, Associate Superintendent of Personnel Rebecca Elswerky and Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Mary Ann Bachman have departed their positions as of the end of June. A reception was held June 24 in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center.

FORT WAYNE — The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will bid a fond farewell to three of its top officers this summer. Superintendent Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, Associate Superintendent of Personnel Rebecca Elswerky and Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Mary Ann Bachman departed their positions at the end of June.

Father Kempinger leaves his post as superintendent of schools after three years at the helm. He stepped into the position after serving as associate superintendent in South Bend for two years under former superintendent Michelle Hitte, who will be interim superintendent this fall. The position had Father Kempinger overseeing the Catholic schools of the diocese, with visits to the schools and supporting the principals with crisis situations. He also advised Bishop John M. D'Arcy on educational matters.

Father Kempinger was ordained into the Congregation of Holy Cross in 2001 and has worked in this diocese all nine years of his priesthood.

He is currently completing his coursework for his doctorate in educational leadership, with a minor in higher education administration and hopes to complete his comprehensive exams and dissertation soon.

Father Kempinger, who resided part-time in South Bend at Moreau Seminary and at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne, will be moving full-time to the seminary where he will be on the formation staff working with the first-year seminarian candidates with their discernment to the priesthood.

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**Diocesan offices
closed**
Friday, July 3

**No publication
next week**
Next issue July 19

Bishops support D'Arcy's 'pastoral concern' for Notre Dame

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Meeting in executive session in San Antonio, the U.S. bishops expressed "appreciation and support" for Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend especially for "his pastoral concern" for the University of Notre Dame.

In a two-sentence statement made public June 22 in Washington, the bishops also affirmed Bishop D'Arcy's "solicitude for (Notre Dame's) Catholic identity and his loving care for all those the Lord has given him to sanctify, to teach and to shepherd."

The statement made no direct reference to the controversy over the university's

decision to have U.S. President Barack Obama as commencement speaker May 17 and to give him an honorary degree or to a recent call by the board of directors of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities for the bishops to revisit their 2004 statement, "Catholics in Political Life."

That document states: "The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions."

More than 50 bishops voiced their disap-

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ENVELOPE IN LAST WEEK

In last week's issue of Today's Catholic, an offering envelope was

inserted into the newspaper requesting readers to



help us finance a portion of the production and delivery costs of this newspaper to all registered Catholic homes in the diocese. Your offering gives you a share in the works of evangelization throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. If your envelope was misplaced any envelope will do. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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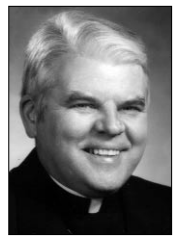
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After busy weeks, looking forward to vacation time on the back porch



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

From San Antonio to Boston

I flew from the severe heat in San Antonio, Texas, to Boston. I arrived at St. Monica's Church, hard by the Atlantic Ocean. Greeted by some friends of Msgr. Tom McDonnell, I found it very moving. The next day, I celebrated the Rite of Christian Burial before a full church of friends. Tom would have been just as pleased by the presence of waitresses from the local restaurant as he was about the mayor of the city, the former ambassador of the Vatican, and the president of the State Senate, various office holders and members of the press. So many priests, religious sisters, his friends of a lifetime.

Painful, but also very beautiful. They say a priest has no family. Do not believe it. How fitting that we buried him one day after beginning the Year for Priests, started by Pope Benedict XVI.

A church of contrasts

Back late Saturday, to prepare for St. Aloysius, Yoder.

This magnificent parish, small in size, but large in heart, where we celebrated the 150th anniversary of this parish. Father Dominique Carboneau — a gifted pastor, who among other things, has taught art in the school, and is an outstanding carpenter, has worked with the people for the restoration of this beautiful country church. A brand new altar built by Dave Meyer, a parishioner. The church has been painted by parishioners and fully restored. It was a joy to celebrate Mass there. Among those concelebrating was Father Jason Freiburger — a son of the parish, and Msgr. Bill Lester, who served there as pastor for awhile, as he has served in so many parishes throughout the diocese. Msgr. Bill is now on dialysis, which occupies him three days a week, but was in good form on Sunday.

We consecrated the new altar with the singing of the Litany of Saints, and afterwards, a splendid dinner, as only a country parish can do.

The parish had just lost a splendid senior parishioner, Connor Loesch. I had a visit with his wife, Ann, who is the director of religious education, and spoke about her great loss. She and Connor are the parents of seven, including Carl Loesch — the outstanding principal of Marian High School.

Altogether, a splendid day at Yoder. A contrast to a painful day in South Boston, but it shows the continuing vitality, as well as the diversity, of the church.

Congratulations to Father Dominique, who along with being a master carpenter is a scholar of the noted theologian, Bernard Lonergan, SJ.

Speaking of smaller parishes

On the feast of Corpus Christi, I was privileged to join Father Pius N. Ilechukwu for the eucharistic procession. It is splendid that the procession of the holy Eucharist on the feast of Corpus Christi is growing in our parishes. I carried the monstrance around the small town and many people followed. As is required, Benediction was given at three outside altars, and then we returned to the old country church. After this, I celebrated the 11 a.m. Mass, and joined the people for lunch. A splendid day at St. Patrick's with a priest from a far away place, who is strengthening the parish with his presence, his fine homilies and his sense of humor.

Catechesis and prayer

Last fall, we started a program in Fort Wayne for the adult instruction of our Hispanic Catholics. It took place at our Noll Center, and on Saturday afternoon, I celebrated Mass in Spanish for those who completed the certificate program. A tip of the hat to Jim Tighe, co-director of the Office of Catechesis and his assistant, Christina Emilian, for shepherding this group through this course. All instructions

Parish, South Bend. Jake is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood on Oct. 31, 2009, along with Deacon Fernando Jimenez. He presented a talk on holiness, as seen in the Gentiles to the Romans. I celebrated Mass on Sunday morning, and then gave a conference based on the call of the apostles in the New Testament. Two of the young men were students at Notre Dame; some were from Purdue and the University of Saint Francis, altogether an impressive group. In the discussion, I asked what had touched them most in the retreat. One young man, a Notre Dame student, said it was Matt Coonan's talk based on the document "Gaudium et Spes," that you only find yourself by making a gift of yourself to another. This, as you know, is a great theme of Pope John Paul II. How wonderful that this theme was grasped as central to those considering a priestly vocation.

Where did these names come from? I wrote to all the priests in the diocese, and they collaborated by sending me many names, and then each one received a full invitation. Please keep praying that the good Lord will send us young men of good quality to consider this demanding, but beautiful life.

Over to St. Pius X, Granger, then for a cookout with our priests in the South Bend-Elkhart area, to compliment one held earlier in Fort Wayne. Off then, to Fort Wayne to prepare for vacation at home. By the way, everybody's been telling me for many years that I should have a driver. With the close collaboration of my assistant, Maureen, this is developing. Chris Lapp, a Dwenger graduate and former seminarian, has been driving me on the longer trips between our two cities, and sometimes the seminarians have done this as well. It does make it a little easier. I will be off on Wednesday, July 1, to my hometown of Brighton, Mass. I will miss lunch with Msgr. Tom McDonnell, and his joyful

analysis of church and world; but I hope I can find his grave and pray there. Also, prayer at the grave of my dear parents and at the grave of my dear sister, Mary, in New Hampshire, and Mass in her parish for her husband and children, I hope. A visit to Falmouth and Cape Cod, and Mass at St. Patrick Church for my sister, Joan, and her family. Also some prayer at the beautiful St. Mary's Chapel on the grounds of Boston College.

To Hull on the Atlantic Ocean for a day walking the beach with priest classmates and a special fish dinner prepared by Msgr. Pete Martocchio.

Also some nights at Fenway Park for the first-place Red Sox.

Most of all, some time on the back porch of the home purchased by my dear father and mother in 1944 for \$7,500. I think they are in the house with me there when I am home, and they are.

Three blessed weeks. I shall be praying for you all; and as always, look forward to coming back.

See you then.

Painful, but also very beautiful. They say a priest
has no family. Do not believe it. How fitting that we
buried him one day after beginning the
Year for Priests, started by Pope Benedict XVI.

were given in Spanish, and were based on the Spanish translation of the Catechism for Adults, put together by the American bishops.

The continued instruction of Hispanic Catholics and helping to form them into missionaries and disciples is a great obligation for the future.

A retreat for candidates

What a joy to take part in a retreat for perspective candidates for the priesthood, and how wonderful that this was put together entirely by our seminarians. Matt Coonan, a graduate of Bishop Dwenger, preparing for third theology at the Josephinum Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, was the director. Several of our seminarians were present. There were 10 perspective candidates; that is, young men, all high school graduates, who are considering the seminary. A very impressive group. Among those speaking to them along with Matt, were Father Jason Freiburger, of St. Vincent, Fort Wayne, and Deacon Jake Runyon, of St. Matthew co-Cathedral

Closing Pauline year, results of tests on apostle's tomb revealed

BY CINDY WOODEN

ROME (CNS) — Closing the year of St. Paul, Pope Benedict XVI announced that tests done on the presumed tomb of the apostle revealed the presence of bone fragments from a human who lived between the first and second century.

"This seems to confirm the unanimous and uncontested tradition that they are the mortal remains of the Apostle Paul," the pope said during an evening prayer service June 28 at Rome's Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

The basilica has long been held to be the burial site of St. Paul, but because of the destruction and rebuilding of the basilica, the exact location of the tomb was unknown for centuries. Vatican officials announced in December 2006 that several feet below the basilica's main altar and behind a smaller altar, they had found a roughly cut marble sarcophagus beneath an inscription that reads: "Paul Apostle Martyr."

Because part of the sarcophagus is buried beneath building material, Vatican officials determined they could not dig it out to open and examine the contents.



CNS PHOTO/TONY GENTILE, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI waves as he arrives to celebrate a Mass marking the feast of St. Peter and Paul in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican June 29.

Initially they tried to X-ray it to see what was inside, but the marble was too thick.

Pope Benedict said a "very tiny perforation" was drilled into the marble so that a small probe could be inserted in order to withdraw fragments of what was inside.

In addition to traces of purple linen, a blue fabric with linen threads and grains of red incense, he said they found bone fragments.

The bone fragments "underwent a carbon-14 analysis carried out by experts who did not know their place of origin," the pope

said, adding that the results "indicate they belong to a person who lived between the first and second century."

Before beginning the evening prayer service, Pope Benedict descended the steps at the foot of the basilica's main altar and prayed before a small window that allows the public to see a portion of the sarcophagus.

In his introductory remarks, the pope said the 2008-2009 commemoration of the 2,000th anniversary of St. Paul's birth was an opportunity to help Christians rediscover St. Paul's writings, "which exhort us to

preach the word in every age and to be irreproachable in healthy doctrine. If we want to receive the crown of justice, we must continue to fight the good fight and keep the faith."

From personal experience, St. Paul knew that conversion was a life-long process and that Christians are called to become new people in Christ, not just in the way they behave, but also in the way they think and the way they look at the world, Pope Benedict said in his 25-minute homily.

"The world always is looking for something new because, rightly, it is not content with concrete reality," he said.

But Christians learn from St. Paul that the newness they are looking for, the newness that will save them and save the world, is a mature faith in the Gospel.

"In recent years, 'adult faith' has become a widespread slogan. Frequently it is used to mean the attitude of those who no longer listen to the church and its pastors, but autonomously choose what to believe and what not to believe," he said.

Too often, he said, expressing an opinion contrary to the teaching of the church is described as being courageous.

"In reality, however, one does

not need courage for this because one always can count on public applause. Instead, courage is needed to adhere to the teaching of the church even when this contradicts the ideas of the modern world," the pope said.

"It is part of adult faith, for example, to defend the inviolability of human life from the first instant, radically opposing the principle of violence, including in the defense of the most defenseless human creatures," he said.

"Recognizing the marriage of one man and one woman for their entire lives as the order established by the Creator and reestablished by Christ is part of adult faith," the pope said.

"Adult faith does not allow itself to be pushed here and there by every breeze," he said.

Pope Benedict said the life and writings of St. Paul also emphasize the fact that Christ died for all men and women of all cultures and all times.

"The crucified Christ embraced the entire universe in every dimension. He takes the world into his hands and carries it up to God," he said.

"We pray that the Lord will help us recognize something of the vastness of his love. We pray that his love and truth will touch our hearts," the pope said.

CSO

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"I'm excited about that. We have 10 candidates next year," says Father Kempinger.

The outgoing superintendent is proud of his association with the diocesan schools and looks back at the planning and feasibility studies done as being an important step in the improvement of the system. He is also proud of the building of St. Pius X School as well as Father Bill Schooler's nomination for the National Catholic Educational Association's Distinguished Pastor Award.

He will miss the "wonderful people, office staff and the principals and the wonderful gifts they bring to their schools." He enjoyed getting to know and collaborate with area superintendents and those from around the country as well.

For the incoming superintendent Father Kempinger offers, "It's important to listen. You'll have good people around you. Don't be afraid to step out of the box. If something could be done better — do it!"

Father Kempinger's associate superintendent Rebecca Elswerky came to her position in March of 2001 after serving as a teacher within the diocese and then assistant principal at St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne.

Her duties within the schools office have included responsibility

for licensing, internships, mentoring, new principal and new employee inservicing, assistant principal and lead teacher inservicing, policy and procedure, the Prospective Principals Program, inservicing for new principal interview and selection, collaborative efforts with various colleges and universities including the University of Saint Francis, the University of Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College, Holy Cross College, as well as other colleges.

Elswerky has seen many changes during her tenure in the schools offices. The schools, she reports, are working to be more cutting edge with innovation in technology, providing and understanding various programs to help better meet all student needs and promoting awareness of state regulations.

Of her role in the Catholic school system she says, "I believe in the Catholic school system and how it works."

Though she will miss the people she worked with she looks forward to the new adventure she and her family have before them in Lexington, Ky., where her husband accepted a new position. Her hope is to work at the secondary level in administration, but she is open to anything educational.

For future diocesan central office employees, Elswerky encourages entering with "the knowledge that those you serve and those you work with are tremendously dedicated, committed and compassionate educators." She adds, "Enjoy, encourage, laugh and be flexible."

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Mary Ann Bachman, stationed in South Bend, has worked with Title 1 and 4 requests and writing federal plans for the schools within the diocese as well as quality assurance and supporting the school personnel whenever they need it, since August of 2007. As a veteran teacher of 21 years and three years of administration duties as assistant principal at Corpus Christi School, Bachman brought not only her professional expertise but her love of Catholic education to the position.

She has enjoyed learning each new task required by the position saying, "There was a huge learning curve for me. I took over responsibilities I'd never had before."

Bachman has been encouraged with the work the schools have undertaken for their accreditation reviews saying, "There's been a lot of work toward that end with a lot of sharing between schools as they get ready. It's important — we're all in this together." Local and diocesan-wide meetings and workshops, she says, have been helpful.

For the future, Bachman will assume the role of principal at St. Adalbert School in South Bend. Though she will miss her work in the schools office and particularly her administrative assistant Joyce Baranowski — her "right and left arm and a huge help" — she is looking forward to working with the students once again.

A farewell reception was held for the three on June 24 following a Mass at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

D'ARCY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

proval of Notre Dame's invitation to Obama and decision to give him an honorary degree, with some saying it violated the letter and spirit of "Catholics in Political Life."

Critics of Obama said his support of legal abortion and embryonic stem-cell research also made him an inappropriate choice to be commencement speaker at a Catholic university.

Bishop D'Arcy boycotted the commencement, saying Notre Dame's decision to honor Obama had caused a "terrible breach ... between Notre Dame and the church."

In a telephone interview with Catholic News Service June 22, Bishop D'Arcy said he had asked to make a presentation to the bishops on the Notre Dame situation and the bishops' response to his remarks "touched me very deeply."

"It was very strong and very positive," he said. "It far surpassed anything that I'd expected."

Bishop D'Arcy said he could give no details about his presentation but said he thought the bishops "understood the situation better" after his report.

Dennis Brown, spokesman for the University of Notre Dame, told CNS June 22, "Like the U.S. bishops, Notre Dame also has

great appreciation and respect for Bishop D'Arcy.

"We have tried to foster a positive relationship with him through the years, and we always have held him in the highest regard," he added.

Two bishops interviewed at the San Antonio meeting by the *National Catholic Reporter* said they see a need for dialogue with U.S. Catholic university presidents about this issue and left open the possibility of revisions to "Catholics in Political Life."

"The 2004 statement is a significant statement, it has to be taken into account, but we're in a continual process of thinking and discernment about our relationship with the political situation, which is constantly changing," Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Curry of Los Angeles, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Catholic Education, told *NCR*.

"It's not a matter of faith and morals in the sense that we're defining something," he said. "It's a matter of how we react to a constantly moving situation in the country."

Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, also indicated a need for dialogue in a separate interview with *NCR*.

"Something happened that's been disruptive, and that says to me we need to sit down and talk this through to come to some better understanding," he said. "I don't think anyone felt good about what took place."

Bishop D'Arcy, local religious leaders issue challenge to donate blood this summer



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop John M. D'Arcy donated blood at the American Red Cross June 24 with other religious leaders from the Fort Wayne community.

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — Bishop John M. D'Arcy and other religious leaders from the Fort Wayne area donated blood on June 24, to help “kick off” the Red Cross promotion of encouraging people to consider donating blood during the summer.

Earlier in June, Bishop D'Arcy sent a letter to be read at all diocesan churches. In it he states, “I myself, these past six years, have donated blood; and it is my hope that you will also donate. Even if you have never given blood, I encourage you to spend an hour of your day saving a life,” he said.

According to the American Red Cross, every two seconds someone

in America needs blood. That's about 38,000 units of red blood cells each day. Currently, blood centers across the country face shortages of particular blood types to supply hospital patients because people are busy — not thinking about or considering giving blood.

Persons at least 17 years of age, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds in good general health may be eligible to donate blood. That amounts to 50 percent of the current population of the United States, and yet only 5 percent of eligible donors actually donate.

For more information or to make a blood donation appointment, potential donors are asked to call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543).

Liturgy, immigration, marriage among issues at USCCB spring meeting

SAN ANTONIO (CNS) — Liturgical matters, immigration reform and same-sex marriage were among the topics discussed by the U.S. bishops in public sessions at their June 17-19 spring meeting in San Antonio.

But the bishops also devoted time — in executive session — to the recent controversy over the University of Notre Dame's decision to award an honorary degree to U.S. President Barack Obama. They emerged from the meeting with a two-sentence affirmation of Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Ind., for his “pastoral concern” for the university.

The only two liturgical texts receiving definitive approval from the bishops in San Antonio were a Spanish-language Lectionary and a Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life.

The Mass for life, first proposed nearly 20 years ago by Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York, passed by a 183-2 vote, with three abstentions. The Spanish-language Lectionary was approved on a 181-2 vote, also with three abstentions. Both now go to the Vatican for confirmation.

But five sections of the Roman Missal being prepared for use in English-speaking countries failed to get the necessary two-thirds votes of the Latin-rite U.S. bishops during the meeting.

With 244 Latin-rite bishops in the United States eligible to vote on the questions, the required two-thirds was 163. With 189 eligible bishops attending the meeting, only 134 voted to accept the first section, Masses and prayers for various needs and intentions.

On four subsequent translations, the votes also failed to reach two-thirds, meaning the 55 bishops not present will be polled by mail on all five parts. That process is expected to take several weeks.

The items that failed to pass contain the Order of the Mass II; prefaces for various occasions; votive Masses and Masses for the dead; solemn blessings for the end of Mass; prayers over the people; and eucharistic prayers for particular occasions, such as for evangelization or ordinations.

On immigration reform,

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago wrote on behalf of the full U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to urge President Barack Obama and Congress to enact comprehensive reform before the end of 2009.

“It has been clear for years that the United States immigration system requires repair and that reform legislation should not be delayed,” said the USCCB president in a prepared statement. “I would ask President Barack Obama and congressional leaders of both parties to work together to fashion and enact comprehensive immigration reform legislation before the end of the year.”

He also urged “respect and observance of all just laws” and said the bishops “do not approve or encourage the illegal entry of anyone into our country.”

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, of Louisville, Ky., chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Defense of Marriage, reported to his fellow bishops about the challenges in meeting their priority focus on marriage, especially the quick rate at which states and courts have been taking up legislation that legalizes same-sex marriage or prohibits it.

Six states now recognize marriage between same-sex couples, Archbishop Kurtz said, and others are considering the same type of laws or a range of others “allowing everything but marriage,” that would give new legal rights to civil unions.

He said the key points that the ad hoc committee is focusing on to support marriage are:

- That marriage is inherently related to sexual differences and the complementarity of men and women.

- That marriage is for the good of children, who are themselves “a great good of marriage.”

- That marriage is a unique bond reserved to men and women by nature.

- That same-sex marriage has negative effects on religious rights.

The bishops also heard brief reports from their conference vice president, Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., about their other four priorities: faith formation and sacramental practice;

the life and dignity of the human person; cultural diversity in the church; and promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

In other actions, the bishops in a 135-2 vote approved a recommendation from their Committee on Budget and Finance to keep the 2010 assessment on dioceses to fund the work of the USCCB at the 2009 level of just over \$10 million. The vote was open only to bishops who head dioceses.

But Archbishop Kurtz, chairman of the committee, warned that he would probably be asking for an increase for 2011 when that assessment comes up at the bishops' November meeting in Baltimore.

The assessments are calculated for each diocese based on a formula that includes offertory income, registered households and contributions to three national collections.

The bishops also approved funding of \$450,000 for the New York-based John Jay College of Criminal Justice to complete a study of the causes and context of clergy sex abuse of minors. Commissioned by the bishops in the 2002 “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People,” the study is expected to be completed by December 2010.

During their executive session, the U.S. bishops expressed “appreciation and support” for Bishop D'Arcy especially for “his pastoral concern” for the University of Notre Dame.

In a two-sentence statement made public June 22 in Washington, the bishops also affirmed Bishop D'Arcy's “solitude for (Notre Dame's) Catholic identity and his loving care for all those the Lord has given him to sanctify, to teach and to shepherd.”

The statement made no direct reference to the controversy over the Indiana university's decision to have Obama as commencement speaker May 17 and to give him an honorary degree or to a recent call by the board of directors of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities for the bishops to revisit their 2004 statement, “Catholics in Political Life.”

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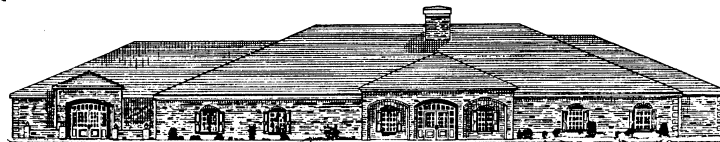
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Pope opens Year for Priests, says they must witness God's compassion

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Formally opening the Year for Priests, Pope Benedict urged all priests to strive for holiness and said the ordained ministry was indispensable for the church and the world.

"The church needs priests who are holy, ministers who help the faithful experience the merciful love of the Lord and who are convinced witnesses of that love," the pope said at a prayer service in St. Peter's Basilica June 19.

At the same time, in an apparent reference to cases of priestly sex abuse, he warned of the "terrible risk of damaging those we are obliged to save."

"Nothing makes the church and the body of Christ suffer so much as the sins of its pastors, especially those who transform themselves into 'robbers of sheep,' either because they lead them astray with their private doctrines, or because they bind them in the snares of sin and death," he said.

Thousands of priests packed the basilica for the evening prayer service, which was preceded by a procession of the relic of the heart of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests. The pope proclaimed the yearlong

focus on priestly ministry to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the saint's death.

Pope Benedict stopped to pray before the saint's heart, exposed in a glass and gold reliquary. In his homily, he said the French curate's heart was "burning with divine love," a love that priests today need to imitate if they are to be effective pastors.

The liturgy was celebrated on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a day of prayer for the sanctification of priests.

In his homily, the pope said the "essential nucleus of Christianity" is found in the heart of Jesus: the saving love of God that "invites us to step outside of ourselves" and "make ourselves a

gift of love without reserve."

"God's heart throbs with compassion," he said.

He said priests should never forget that they are consecrated to "serve, humbly and

with authority, the common priesthood of the faithful."

"Ours is an indispensable mission for the church and for the world, which demands full fidelity to Christ and unceasing union with him. It demands, therefore, that we tend constantly to sanctity, as St. John Vianney did," he said.

The pope said pastoral formation of priests was certainly important for modern priests. But

even more necessary, he said, was the "'science of love' that one learns only in a 'heart-to-heart' encounter with Christ."

The liturgy closed with adoration of the Eucharist, underlining the central place of the Eucharist in the life of priests. In his final blessing, the pope lifted a monstrance holding the Blessed Sacrament and used it to make the sign of the cross over the assembly.

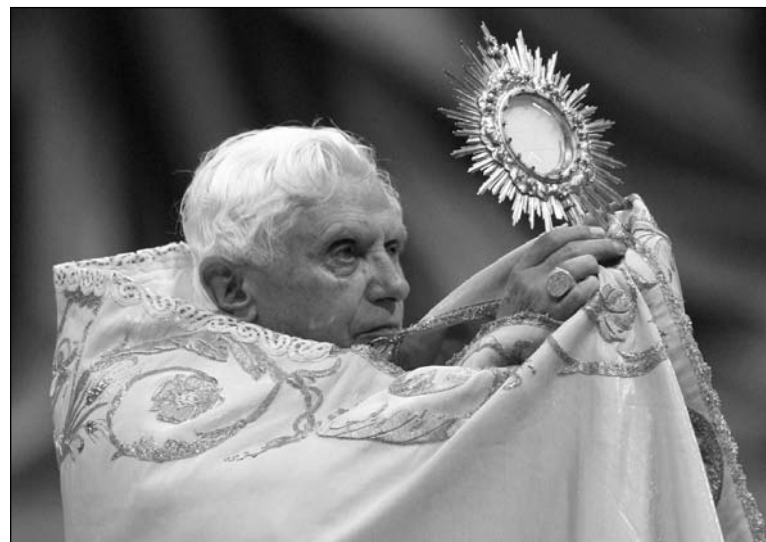
The day before the opening liturgy, the pope issued a six-page letter thanking God for the gifts the majority of priests have given to the church and the world, even while acknowledging that some priests have done great harm.

He said he hoped priests would use the year and its special events to deepen their commitment to their own renewal "for the sake of a more forceful and incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world."

Since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Benedict has given special attention to priests and their ministry, holding frequent and lengthy off-the-cuff discussion sessions with clergy of Rome and other parts of Italy.

He has forcefully condemned the scandal of priestly sexual abuse, most notably during his visit to the United States in 2008. More recently, Irish bishops said the pope was visibly upset listening to their report on decades of abuse suffered by thousands of Irish children in the care of religious congregations.

The pope has many times noted the burdens carried by priests in the modern age, includ-



CNS PHOTO/GIAMPiero SPOSITO, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI holds a monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament during an evening prayer service June 19 in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, formally opening the Year for Priests.

ing their increasing workload and their responsibility to preach and witness to Gospel values in a world that often seems indifferent to them.

The pope has also insisted on improved selection and formation of priests, so that they can live up to the promises made in their vocation — in particular priestly celibacy.

In recent weeks, the Vatican signaled a tougher line on the celibacy issue when a Central African Republic archbishop

resigned following an investigation into priests of his diocese who lived more or less openly with women and the children they have fathered.

According to Vatican statistics, there were 408,024 priests at the end of 2007. The total number of priests has been increasing slightly in recent years, but has not kept pace with the increase in the number of Catholics. The number of Catholics per priest was 1,830 in 1977, and had jumped to 2,810 in 2007.

Read more about local efforts to highlight the Year for Priests in this week's editorial.



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DELIVERY TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN ALLEN COUNTY BEGINS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL THIS FALL

Pope to meet Obama July 10 during audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will welcome U.S. President Barack Obama to the Vatican July 10 for an audience scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. Obama will visit Italy July 8-10 to participate in the Group of Eight summit, a meeting of leaders of the world's wealthiest nations. The meeting will be held in L'Aquila, site of a devastating earthquake in April. After the G-8 summit, the president and his wife, Michelle, are scheduled to fly to Ghana, arriving late July 10. Although Pope Benedict usually meets heads of state and government in the morning, the Vatican agreed to host Obama's first visit to the papal palace the evening before he flies to Africa. It is not clear whether Miguel Diaz, a theology professor tapped by Obama to be the new U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, will be present for the meeting. As of June 23, the Senate hearing for the new ambassador's confirmation was not on the public schedule of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Bishop: Church should not hesitate 'to engage the modern digital technologies'

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — The church's great communications challenge today is to "keep the interest of people who have so many places to turn," Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., told the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management. Bishop Kicanas, vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, addressed the organization's annual meeting June 25 in Philadelphia. The church should not hesitate "to engage the modern digital technologies," which "can be vehicles for communicating," he said. Given recent advances in communications technology, he noted that people today Twitter and blog, they e-mail, use Skype, Blackberries and iPhones, and choose Facebook partners. Still, "communication, while enhanced by technology, rests on the power of the message and the authenticity of the communicator," Bishop Kicanas said. "Technology facilitates the fundamental desire" people have to communicate and engage one another. Bishop Kicanas told the meeting how much he enjoys theater and commented on its relevance for communicators. "Great actors and actresses communicate," he said. "The language of theater needs to be crisp, punctuated with images and to resonate with feeling." Similar qualities are needed in effective church communications, Bishop Kicanas said. "Abstract, theoretical, disembodied language has little place on the stage or for that matter from the pulpit or in most communication by the church," he added.

NEWS BRIEFS

POPE GREETS ARCHBISHOP VIGNERON OF DETROIT



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Benedict XVI greets U.S. Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit after presenting a pallium to him during a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican June 29. During the Mass, 34 archbishops from 20 countries knelt before the pope and received a pallium, a woolen band worn around their shoulders as a sign of their authority and their responsibility as shepherds.

Climate bill must have ample funding to help poor adapt, letter says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A U.S. bishop and the head of Catholic Relief Services called on Congress to ensure "the poorest people and countries on earth" have adequate financial assistance to help them adapt to the effects of climate change. Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., chairman of the bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace, and Ken Hackett, CRS president, made the comment in a June 22 letter to Congress on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. A copy of the letter was released June 25, the day before the House was scheduled to vote on national climate change legislation called the American Clean Energy and Security Act. Bishop Hubbard and Hackett said in general they were encouraged by the measure's provisions aimed at protecting the poor and vulnerable at home and abroad in the latest climate change legislation. They said they approved of "mechanisms put in place to provide adaptation assistance for poor and vulnerable populations internationally." "However, we are deeply disappointed that the funding resources committed to international adaptation fall fundamentally short of what is needed initially and that additional increases

in resources are pushed too far off into the future," they said.

Torture survivors testify at Human Rights Commission hearing

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Torture survivors and advocates implored Congress June 25 to investigate allegations of military torture of war prisoners, saying that the U.S. must be an example for other countries in respect for human rights. The hearing, sponsored by Rep. James McGovern, D-Mass., chair of the Congressional Human Rights Commission, was one of several programs held June 25-27 in observance of the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition's annual Torture Awareness Month. The panel members declared that Congress and President Barack Obama's administration must take concrete action in investigating and prosecuting torture in order to uphold accountability in the world. American-born Ursuline Sister Dianna Ortiz was tortured in Guatemala in 1989; she helped found the coalition in 1998. She was one of the three survivors who testified about problems they see with the U.S. government response to torture allegations. "The journey of survivors, our journey, has not been made any easier by the disturbing possibility

that the Obama administration may believe that it has made an adequate response to human rights abuse of the Bush era," Sister Ortiz said.

New report: 12 million trapped in some form of human trafficking

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Efforts to combat global human trafficking suffered setbacks last year, in part because a bad global economy left more people vulnerable to traffickers, a new report says. The U.S. Department of State released its 2009 Trafficking in Persons report June 16. The annual report documents the efforts of foreign governments to eliminate the most severe forms of human trafficking. The U.S. government defines severe human trafficking as the use of force, coercion or fraud to obtain labor or induce a commercial sex act. Kristyn Williams, interim associate director of the anti-trafficking services program for the U.S. bishop's Migration and Refugee Services, suggested the trafficking report could be "an effective tool" in the prevention of human trafficking worldwide. According to the report, an estimated 12.3 million people are currently trapped in some form of modern-day slavery. The report cited the international economic crisis as a driving factor in the rise of human trafficking. Rising

unemployment rates and falling incomes have left desperate workers vulnerable to manipulation by human traffickers, particularly in underdeveloped countries.

Texas nun recalls Fawcett as 'first-grader with pigtails'

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (CNS) — Sister Patrice Floyd remembers actress Farrah Fawcett as "a little first-grader with pigtails" at Christ the King School in Corpus Christi, Fawcett's hometown. The actress, who first rose to fame starring on "Charlie's Angels," died in Los Angeles June 25 at age 62 after a three-year battle with cancer. A private funeral Mass was to be celebrated for her at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in Los Angeles June 30. A longtime educator in the Diocese of Corpus Christi, Sister Patrice, a Sister of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, said the Fawcett family lived across the street from Christ the King. Though she was raised a Catholic, her faith never seemed to be a topic of her interviews but as she battled cancer she spoke about praying to God and hoping for a miracle. In a documentary about her struggle that she produced and which aired on network television in May, she was often shown holding a rosary during her treatments. Before her death, news reports said a priest came to her hospital room and administered the church's last rites.

Washington archbishop leads prayer service after tragic subway crash

WASHINGTON (CNS) — One day after the deadliest accident in the history of Washington's Metro subway system, Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl gathered with Metro employees to pray for those who died or were injured in the incident. "Confident that God always remembers the good we have done and God is good and gracious, let us remember those who have died ... (and) those who were injured both physically or emotionally," Archbishop Wuerl prayed June 23. "Let us also remember and place before God in prayer the first responders and emergency personnel who came quickly to the aid of the injured and dying." The archbishop led the prayer service in front of Metro headquarters. Hundreds of Metro employees left their desks to attend the brief but emotional service. The service was held in the plaza outside the building, in front of a Metro system logo that was draped in black crepe as a symbol of mourning. Nine people — two men and seven women — were killed June 22 when two subway trains collided between two stations. Among the dead was 42-year-old Jeanice McMillan, operator of the train that struck another train from behind.

St. Catherine of Siena Parish presents the 23rd Annual St. Jude Festival

SOUTH BEND — The 23rd annual festival for St. Jude Catholic Church will be held Saturday, July 11 through Sunday, July 12.

Saturday night is adult night featuring a hog roast dinner, casino games, live music, food and refreshments. Festivities run from 5:30-11:30 p.m. The band "Art and the Artichokes" will perform at 7 p.m.

Sunday is family day and features children's games and amusement rides, Euchre tournaments from 2-4 p.m. and 4-6 p.m., a Polish dinner from 2-4 p.m., and Jetta and the Jellybeans perform from 2-3 p.m.

For more information, call the St. Catherine of Siena Parish office at (574) 291-0570.

Hispanic adult formation program commences in August

FORT WAYNE — The Office of Catechesis and Office of Hispanic Ministry will begin the first session of Educación para el Ministerio (EPEM) on Aug. 22. The two-year diocesan program will serve the Hispanic community providing formation for those who desire a deeper understanding of their Catholic faith.

The integration of catechesis and leadership training will strengthen the participants' foundation to outwardly live their faith through active participation and service within the church. Upon completion, the EPEM class of 2011 will receive a diocesan certification in catechetical leadership.

Classes will be held once a month at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. For more information visit the Office of Catechesis' page at www.diocesefwsb.org or e-mail Lourdes Silva at loudly@aol.com or Christina Emilian at cemilian@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Comienza en el mes de agosto un programa de formación para adultos en español

FORT WAYNE — La Oficina de Catequesis y la Oficina para el Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Fort Wayne-South Bend comenzará un curso de formación catequética y liderazgo para católicos adultos de habla hispana llamado Educación para el Ministerio (EPEM) el 22 de agosto del 2009, de 8:30 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. en el edificio Archbishop Noll en Fort Wayne. Este programa diocesano de dos años proveerá formación para aquellos que quieren profundizar más en su conocimiento de la fe católica e incluirá un componente de destrezas de liderazgo para aquellos que desean participar activamente en el servicio de la Iglesia, en sus parroquias y diócesis. Para

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE ALUMNAE GATHER IN FORT WAYNE



PROVIDED BY TESS STEFFEN

Fort Wayne area alumnae of Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, gathered in June for a luncheon at Pine Valley Country Club. The guest speaker was Jessica Stuijbergen, assistant director of alumnae relations. Stuijbergen shared news about the completion of the new Spes Unica classroom building, current programs and an overview of the upcoming class statistics. Alumnae at the luncheon represented graduates over a 50-year period.

aqueellos que logren completar los requisitos de participación de los dos años los estudiantes recibirán un certificado diocesano en liderazgo catequético. Las clases se llevarán a cabo una vez al mes de agosto a junio. Para mas información visite la página web de la Oficina de Catequesis www.diocesefwsb.org or e-mail Lourdes Silva at loudly@aol.com or Christina Emilian at cemilian@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Catholic Charities reaccredited by council

FORT WAYNE — The Council on Accreditation (COA) has informed Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc. that it has been reaccredited. COA has recognized Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc. as one of these outstanding providers.

COA reaccreditation is an objective and reliable verification that provides confidence and support to an organization's service recipients, board members, staff and community partners. The COA reaccreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of both an organization's administrative operations and its service delivery practices. All are "measured" against national standards of

best practice. These standards emphasize services that are accessible, appropriate, culturally responsive, evidence based, and outcomes-oriented. In addition, they confirm that the services are provided by a skilled and supported workforce and that all individuals are treated with dignity and respect.

COA reviews and reaccredits the entire organization, not just specific programs.

COA congratulated Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc. for their hard work and wonderful achievement and is pleased to have it as part of COA's Community of Excellence.

Waterloo study club celebrates 75 years

WATERLOO — The St. Rose of Lima Study Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Waterloo, met on May 19 at the Bridgewater Grill in Auburn to celebrate its 75th anniversary.

The club was founded on May 29, 1934, by eight ladies who wished to get together and study such topics as Bible history, church history, the lives of the saints, theology and the current "topic of the day" in a commitment to better understand and deepen their

Catholic faith.

Throughout the years, they have continued to pursue this commitment, as well as adding their talents and support to St. Michael Parish through worthwhile projects such as donations for scholarships, meals and food drives and various mission and charitable opportunities.

While waiting for dinner to be served, Rosemary Bender, daughter of Catherine Miller, who was one of the charter members, gave a summary of the club's history, which included a list of all the charter members and their relationships to past and current parishioners.

In addition to Bender, those who attended included Anna Mae Ellert, Venita (Susie) Miller, Gloria Seiss, Bobbie Charleswood, Dolores Keyes, Maggie Miller and Theresa Ford. Honorary members Lenora Schiffli and Ruth Yarlot were unable to attend.

Ancilla College to host placement party and orientation

DONALDSON — Ancilla College will be hosting a placement party and new student orientation on Thursday, July 9 at the Donaldson-based campus.

Prospective students will have the opportunity to gain admission to Ancilla College, register for

classes and attend new student orientation all on the same day.

To gain admission, students will fill out a free application to Ancilla College, submit high school and college transcripts and take the college placement test.

The placement test, which does not have a time limit, will begin at 8:30 a.m. New student orientation will run from 12:30-3 p.m.

This will be the only placement party and orientation available to prospective students in the month of July.

RSVP to (574) 936-8898 ext. 330.

Students receive Good Citizenship award

SOUTH BEND — The Schuyler Colfax Chapter in St. Joseph County of the Daughters of the American Revolution honor an eighth-grade student each year with a Good Citizenship Award.

The Good Citizenship medal is awarded to students who demonstrate the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership and patriotism. The student is chosen by the school faculty.

This year's award winners are Giotto Irons, Christ the King; Erica Veen, Corpus Christi; Christian Riewe, Holy Cross; Jeremiah Briggs, Holy Family; Teresa Rodela, Our Lady of Hungary; Suzanne Durski, St. Adalbert; Sarah Krizman, St. Anthony de Padua; Thomas Favorite, St. Joseph; Kyle Joy, St. Joseph, Mishawaka; Patrick Hunsberger, St. Bavo; Anna Scholl, St. John the Baptist; Ryan McMonagle, St. Jude; Nathaniel Griggs, St. Matthew; and Katherine McMillen, St. Monica.

Sister Ehrlich celebrates golden jubilee

FORT WAYNE — Sister Rose Clare Ehrlich, a member of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes and a native of Muncie, will be celebrating her 50th anniversary of religious profession in Fond du Lac, Wis., with a Mass of thanksgiving on July 12.

Sister Rose Clare's ministry includes 29 years in the fields of general and music education, 15 years in pastoral ministry, nine of which were served as pastoral associate of St. Andrew Parish in Fort Wayne and the last six years as director of liturgy and music in St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Columbia City, and St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton.

As part of her pastoral work, Sister Ehrlich opened the first Rose Home in 1992, a Christian ecumenical home in Fort Wayne for women in recovery from alcohol and drug addictions. She presently serves on the executive board for Rose Home, Inc., which encompasses both the home in Fort Wayne and one in Syracuse.



SISTER ROSE CLARE EHRLICH

Two Missionaries of the Precious Blood ordained

CELINA, Ohio — Missionary of the Precious Blood Kevin M. Scaf was ordained to the priesthood June 13 at Immaculate Conception Church, Celina, Ohio, by Bishop Joseph L. Charron, CPPS. During the same liturgy, Fort Wayne native Vincent Wirtner III was ordained to the transitional diaconate.

"An ordination is God's doing. It is God who has chosen you," Bishop Charron told the two men during his homily. "Do not be afraid. The Lord is with you, walking with you in this ordination, and he will continue to walk closely with you. Be assured, the Lord will provide for you."

Father Scaf will join the religious studies faculty at St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, and serve as the college chaplain. St. Joseph's College is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

Deacon Wirtner is also a licensed practical nurse. He is a graduate of the University of Dayton, and in 2010 will complete a master of divinity degree from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Deacon Wirtner is the son of Vincent and Charlyne Wirtner of Fort Wayne. He will join the pas-



PROVIDED BY THE MISSIONARIES OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Missionary of the Precious Blood Father Kevin M. Scaf is shown with Bishop Joseph L. Charron and Missionary of the Precious Blood Deacon Vincent Wirtner III after ordination June 13 at Immaculate Conception Church, Celina, Ohio.

toral staff of St. John the Baptist Parish, Whiting, for the next year while competing his theological studies.

The Missionaries of the Precious Blood is a religious society of priests, brothers and lay

associates founded in 1815 by St. Gaspar del Bufalo. Society members work as missionaries in parishes in the U.S. and abroad, in education and in a wide range of apostolates, promoting the gift of God's reconciliation worldwide.

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER PARENT PICNIC A SUCCESS



DIANE FREEBY

Despite the threat of rain, this mother and child were among the hundreds who attended "Parenting in the Park" Wednesday, June 17, at Potawatomi Park in South Bend. As part of the Women's Care Center 25th anniversary celebration, moms and dads were invited to attend parenting classes and a picnic with their children. Counselors Beverly Beane and Margarita Rodriguez were on hand to teach classes in both English and Spanish. Parents who attend classes throughout the year earn coupons for baby items at the center's Crib Club.

St. Joseph, Garrett, principal passes the baton

BY KAY COZAD

GARRETT — St. Joseph School bid a fond farewell to Principal Linda Speer last month as she retired from her post as administrator there. Speer has served at St. Joseph for the past 22 years, 16 of those as principal.

A graduate of the University of Saint Francis, Speer earned her degree in education in 1970. After teaching for four years in the DeKalb Central School District, she transitioned to stay-at-home-mom status. She and her husband Philip have raised three children in their rural Auburn home.

While raising her children, Speer earned a master's degree in education from Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW).

Then following a Marriage Encounter weekend with her husband in 1987, where the couples were invited to discover how they might serve the church, Speer took the challenge and approached St. Joseph's then-principal Sister Colette to apply for a teaching position.

"I had already applied to the public schools," says Speer, adding, "I saw the principal walking out of the school and told her I wanted to apply for a job." Unfortunately she was told there were no positions available.

But divine providence intervened and Speer was called to work at the end of summer. "I was called to serve at St. Joe. God works in your life. Trust — and follow him and it'll all work out," says the faithful educator.

Speer held the third-grade teaching position for six years and then in 1993, she stepped into the principal's role. As administrator of the only Catholic school in DeKalb County, Speer feels a deep sense of camaraderie with her staff as they serve the children from three neighboring parishes, St. Michael the Archangel, Waterloo, Immaculate Conception in Auburn and St. Joseph. "We all work together," she says with passion.

During her tenure at St. Joseph this dedicated educator was instrumental in initiating the addition of the kindergarten and preschool programs. The school was also awarded the 2008 Business of the Year by the Garrett Chamber of Commerce. "It's been a good year," Speer reports.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GARRETT CLIPPER, KPC MEDIA GROUP INC.

Linda Speer, principal of St. Joseph School in Garrett, holds the memory book her students and staff created as a retirement gift. Speer retired at the end of June after 22 years of service at St. Joseph.

She is hopeful for the continued success of the school with its eight teachers and additional support staff, and 2009-2010 enrollment of 125 students. Kristine Call, an experienced educator from Decatur will replace Speer as principal in the new school year.

The mission that inspires her staff reads, "Children following God in respect, faith and knowledge." This, she reports, is the call-

ing the school lives by. "Everyone does it here. Not just the kids but the faculty and parents, too," she says.

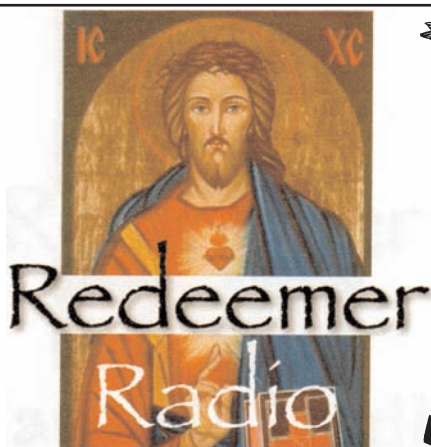
Another part of what makes this school so special is the morning prayer, including morning offering, the pledge of allegiance and a patriot song, the students and staff join in each morning in the gymnasium. "We are a family. Our motto is 'God had made us a family.'" says Principal Speer, adding, "I'll really miss that!"

Principal Speer was overwhelmed at the end of the school year when the entire student body and staff surprised her with a presentation of a memory book. Each student and faculty member had a page with handwritten memories and a photo. The presentation was followed by a popcorn party.

St. Joseph School students, staff, parents and parishioners also joined a farewell celebration held on June 27 in their school gymnasium for their beloved principal. Her last day was June 30.

"I have no regrets," Speer says of her over two decades at St. Joseph School. "I have loved it here. God has blessed me beyond my expectations!"

As for retirement, "We're going to travel," says the excited retiree. She hopes to spend time with her parents and six grandchildren, some of whom reside in Carmel and Tucson, Ariz. Her son is currently expecting the Speers' seventh grandchild.



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St. Anthony Parish joins community effort at SUV, bus crash site

BY KAY COZAD

ANGOLA — What began as a typical Sunday in Steuben County quickly turned into a community endeavor of monumental proportions when a sports utility vehicle (SUV) crashed into a bus along Interstate 69 near Angola. Though over two dozen members of the London Silverback semipro Canadian football team and others who were traveling home from Indianapolis on the bus were injured, and a passenger of the SUV, Beth Smith, wife of PGA Tour golfer Chris Smith, perished, with her children air-vaccated to a Fort Wayne hospital in critical condition, the scene took on a life of its own as emergency rescuers, firefighters, police and volunteers, including an Indiana National Guard troop passing by, teamed to assist those in need.

Kathy and Don Pomeroy, active members of St. Anthony Parish in Angola, were among the first to come upon the accident. "We saw those young men (from the football team) pulling the kids out of the SUV," says Kathy. The Pomeroy's immediately offered their church's parish hall as a shelter for those stranded at the site. "We knew we could open up the parish center. We offered before we called father," she says.

Conventual Franciscan Father Frederick Pasche, pastor of St. Anthony Parish, was not at the parish when the call came in. However, Father Gerard Herman,

a visiting priest in residence there for the summer, opened the hall. He, along with Deacon Friar Andrew Martinez, who will be ordained into the priesthood at the end of July, ministered to the survivors upon their arrival.

"It makes me feel good that the parishioners even thought to bring them here and made arrangements — that they felt the freedom to do it," Father Pasche says, adding, "I felt that they brought out the spirit we're trying to build in our parish — connecting in faith and fellowship."

The Pomeroy's had no difficulty finding volunteers to man the parish hall even though it was Father's Day weekend.

"It was easy to get help," says Kathy. Following a call to the Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) phone tree to elicit assistance, CRHP members arrived at the hall with their Father's Day picnic foods to feed the survivors. "It was a wonderful response," she says.

The Pomeroy's are grateful to St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne for bringing the CRHP retreat experience to their parish. "CRHP was the network we used," says Kathy. "Having CRHP has awoken people to the community of ministry."

Others rallied as well. One parishioner, currently unemployed, bought 35 hamburgers at McDonald's to add to the food service that day. Another brought soda and ice that he had planned to take to the lake. And St. Anthony parishioners Jeff and Christine Reiniche, who own the



TODAY'S CATHOLIC FILE PHOTO

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Angola, served as a Red Cross Shelter for those involved in an SUV and bus crash on I-69 on Father's Day.

local Domino's Pizza Parlor provided pizzas for those at the hall.

The Angola community truly did rally as those who were injured were taken to Cameron Memorial Community Hospital. Others stranded at the crash sight were transported to St. Anthony in two buses provided by the Metropolitan School District of Steuben County.

Red Cross volunteer Jo Milliken, in cooperation with Bill Brown, head of Steuben County Emergency Management, acts as mass care co-chair and feeding chair for the local area. She arrived at St. Anthony Parish hall to find food and paper goods already in use. "To my amazement the ladies of the church had

it all going," she says, adding that Kathy Pomeroy, with her calming demeanor, had the hall organized and was also "giving hugs and kind words and had all her people helping."

Pomeroy ministered to several of the girls who were traumatized by the accident by praying with them and assisting them in the chapel of St. Anthony where they lit candles for those who were injured or deceased.

As the offers to help came in, Milliken took charge of coordinating the effort down to contacting the local Ramada Inn for overnight accommodations and Potawatomi Inn for breakfast service should the team stay overnight. The Red Cross has vendor

agreements with groceries, hotels and churches in place for just these kinds of crisis situations, she says.

Interestingly, St. Anthony has teamed with the Red Cross as one of the available shelters for any crisis. However, the Pomeroy's were not aware of the partnership and offered the hall out of their desire to help.

As for the community effort, Milliken says, "We're fortunate to be working with people in the county in these situations — the fire department, sheriff, police, EMS, emergency response and others — we all work together."

Milliken adds that Father Pasche, who arrived later, was a presence that was much needed. "I can't say enough about the church people," she says.

A bus arrived from Canada to take the Silverbacks and other passengers home that evening. The team assisted with cleanup before they boarded the bus. Milliken reports that there were handshakes and hugs all around as well as grateful goodbyes and more than a few tears.

Unfortunately a precious life was lost that day, but many more lives were changed by the Christian faith in action witnessed there. St. Anthony parishioners and priests, along with the community emergency response teams became a beacon in this crisis. One Silverback member was heard to remark about the kindness shown him, "It's not like we're Canadians or Americans — it's we're all God's children."



PROVIDED BY VICTORY NOLL CENTER

Overall first-place finishers in the June 20 Victory Noll Center 5K Run were women's winner Heidi Blocker, left, and men's winner Brian Fairchild.

Fairchild, Blocker winners in Victory Noll Center 5K

HUNTINGTON — Brian Fairchild and Heidi Blocker were the top finishers in the Victory Noll Center 5K run Saturday, June 20, through the campus of Victory Noll.

Fairchild was the overall winner in 22 minutes, 3 seconds on the course that included both a road section and trail run. Blocker was the top finisher in the women's division in a time of 22:44.

Second overall for the men

was Jonathan Bard in 22:42, with Jesse Brown third in 22:43. Second for the women was Emma Clor in 23:01 with Elaine Yahne third in 23:13.

Women's age group winners included: Ashleigh Miller in the 12-under age group, Blocker (13-19), Mandy Stout (20-29), Sadie Landrum (30-39), Korinna Pearson (40-49) and Debbie Abbott (50-59).

In the men's age divisions, winners were Will Geiger (12-under), Jonathan Bard (13-19), Fairchild (20-29), Jesse Brown (30-39), Matt Emley (40-49) and Neil Brooks (50-59).

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BROTHER CHARLES MCBRIDE, CSC

Holy Cross Brother Chester Freel was installed as the new provincial for the brothers' Midwest Province for the next three years at a missioning ceremony at the conclusion of the Province Chapter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross last Friday, June 19. Pictured with Brother Freel are, from left, Brothers Kenneth Haders, steward; Raymond Papenfuss, assistant provincial and vicar; Chester Freel, provincial; and counselors Brothers Robert Lavelle, Thomas Minta, Richard Gillman and Lewis Brazil.

PRECIOUS BLOOD STUDENTS WIN STOCK MARKET COMPETITION



PROVIDED BY MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD SCHOOL

This spring, students from Most Precious Blood School swept first, second and third place in the Northeast Indiana Stock Market Game. These teams also came in fourth in the Northern Indiana Regional Competition. Students were treated to a celebration luncheon by Fort Wayne Newspapers in May. Pictured are sixth-graders Alena Perez, Kailee Stuller, Cassie Gray, Cameron Kahlenbeck, Noah Coonan, Kenny Greenlee, Sam Sroufe, Isaiah Summers and Joe Sroufe. Ed Wene was unavailable.

BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

This month's featured selection:
"The Day Donny Herbert Woke Up" by Rich Blake

Reviewed by Kay Cozad

This month's book club selection is "The Day Donny Herbert Woke Up," a novel by veteran journalist Rich Blake. The 244-page easy read is based on the true story of a heroic firefighter, Donny Herbert, who lived a relatively quiet life of service to his beloved family and the community at large. Written in nonsequential chapters of past and unfolding present, the author offers the reader a chronicle of childhood events on through Herbert's marriage to his high school sweetheart Linda and subsequent acceptance into the Buffalo Fire Department, where his steadfast servant character shines brightly.

The author, who is real-life cousin to Herbert's wife, Linda and a native of Buffalo, paints a descriptive picture of not only the area surrounding the family's home parish, St. Agatha, but the generations of families that developed the close-knit neighborhoods of the book. Specific street names and directions to well-known areas provide an elaborate foundation on which to build an intimacy with Herbert's family and friends. Exact dates and times form the framework for their life as it unfolds.

The detailed text makes the book difficult to put down, but more intriguing is the virtuous character of both Donny and Linda. Blake's portrayal of each character and their everyday lives leads the reader to the feeling of having known them. Their faith, fortitude and steadfast love is rife throughout the story.

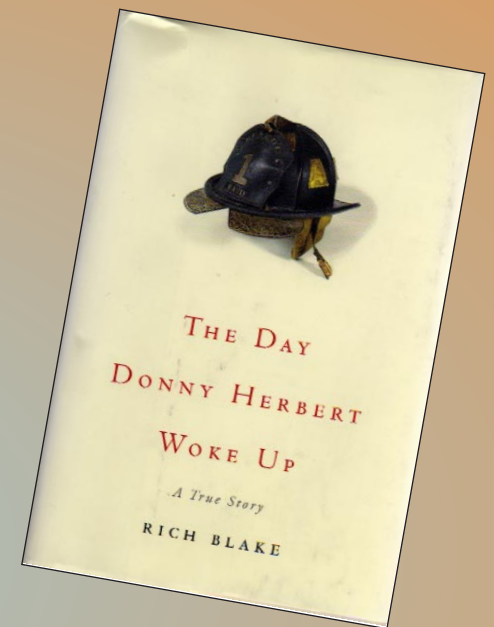
Herbert is an ordinary saint, the guy next door — working for a living, raising his family, supporting his church and assisting any and all who ask for help —

until the unimaginable happens to this loving father of four. Following an agitated and sleepless night, including a prophetic late-night call home, Herbert responds to a structure fire with his unit. In a near fatal accident, he sustains severe head trauma and oxygen deprivation. And for the next 10 years is rendered comatose and unresponsive.

The second half of the book leads the reader through the sometimes tumultuous faith-walk that Linda undertakes as she remains committed to her comatose husband. Her undying love for him keeps her poking and prodding through the years in search of a treatment that will wake her husband from his coma. And all the while she finds an inner strength in the midst of her grief to cling to hope, continue to raise her boys, accept help from others and even forge a respectable relationship with those who oppose her decisions.

After a decade of waiting for Herbert to awaken, it seemed it would take a miracle to bring him back from his comatose state. The miracle they prayed for is anticipated with every turn of the page. But the real miracle is the account of family and community support. Masses, food and prayer offerings, fundraisers and continuous visits give the reader a true sense of hope in humanity. Read "The Day Donny Herbert Woke Up," to discover if the Herberts received their miracle and how God worked good from Donny's decade of silence.

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



Questions for discussion

- Donny Herbert touched many lives before the accident that left him comatose. Which of Donny's virtues do you most relate to? How can you strengthen your resolve to be more like him?
- After the accident Linda and their four boys were forced to live life without Donny's influence. What kept them going back to stand by him? Has there been a situation in your life that calls for such fortitude? Explain.
- What good did you see come out of Donny's accident and Linda's response to it? Does faith play a role in that good? How?

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EAGLE SCOUTS' PROJECTS HELP THE COMMUNITY

Several area teens have earned the rank of Eagle Scout by performing community service projects. They include:

- **Mark Thomas Nau** of St. Charles Parish who conducted a canned food drive;
- **Aaron Charles Hollenberg** of St. Charles Parish who organized a blood drive;
- **Nicholas Ryan Johnston** of St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, who built a hide for Little Turtle wetlands;
- **Andrew David Hentz** of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish who oversaw the matching process of records for Big Brothers and Big Sisters;
- **Andrew Frederick Reichle** of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne who installed a Purple Martin house;
- **Christopher Ryan Winslow** of Knights of Columbus Council No. 4511 who beautified the local animal shelter of Kosciusko County;
- **Jacob Francis Kolton** of Knights of Columbus Council No. 4511 who beautified the front entrance to the Welfare League and built a dog run for the Animal Welfare League;
- **Shawn Michael Konkle** of Knights of Columbus Council No. 4511 who assembled 3,600 care packages for the Indiana National Guard sent to Iraq;
- **Jonathan Mauck** of Elkhart who acquired lapboards and a cabinet for the music classroom at Holy Family School in South Bend;
- **Drew Billings** of Elkhart who built two footbridges for trails at Elkhart Conservation Club;
- **Miguel Canda** of Elkhart who built birdhouses for the Elkhart Conservation Club.

Eagle Scouts drawn to church, service and community

BY TIM JOHNSON

YODER — Four young men at St. Aloysius, Yoder, have earned their Eagle Scout ranking within the last year. All four are recent Bishop Luers High School graduates and attended St. Aloysius School where they were active in the Scouting program — a combined parish program with St. Aloysius, St. Therese and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne.

“The Scout Oath is ‘I, promise to do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight,’” says Jacob Ware, who describes how Scouting helps him build his faith, allegiance to country and service to his community.

Ware earned his award March 25 for a project that contributed to the Eagle Marsh. He built a notice board that was mounted on the side of a barn and built interpretative trail posts.

He and classmate David Rodenbeck received their awards in a Eagle Court of Honor ceremony on May 6.

Rodenbeck’s project involved repairing a drainage problem in the retention pond at St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne. Rodenbeck



Jacob Ware



David Rodenbeck



Anthony Christie



Isaac Larson

completed his board of review on Oct. 29, 2008.

“The road to becoming an Eagle Scout has taught me self discipline and loyalty among others,” Rodenbeck says, “loyalty to my country, to my superiors and most of all to God.”

Rodenbeck says Scouting teaches “self discipline in that I can be true to myself and not follow others, but lead them when the path gets rocky.”

Anthony Christie’s project benefited The Franciscan Center in Fort Wayne. His project in August of 2008 involved an over-the-counter medicine and household necessities drive.

“I executed the drive by hav-

ing a dress down day at Luers in which the students were able to dress down if they brought in an item for the drive,” says Christie.

His project included placing The Franciscan Center barrels at four different CVS stores in Fort Wayne and manned by Scouts for two hours every day during the busiest times. The Scouts handed lists of items needed to customers and provided information about the project. Christie also solicited the assistance of parishioners from St. Aloysius and St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne. With the cooperation of the pastors, parishioners were invited to take a sack and return it a week later filled with items requested.

Isaac Larson’s project involved building an event sign board for the picnic area by the lake at Fox Island in southwest Allen County. He also constructed 52 feet of boardwalk for some low areas on one of the trails on the west end of the lake at the park. Larson was awarded his Eagle on Nov. 19, 2008. The Eagle Court of Honor was held on April 28 with Christie.

Christie notes that every Scout meeting and every event or activity begins with prayer, and every “council has a Catholic Camporee each year.”

As for building a love for country, Christie says, “In Scouting we are taught what the

flag and its different parts stand for. Each meeting and event ends with the retiring of the colors. Each are done in a respectful manner. Scouts are taught how to properly fold, post and retire the colors and dispose of old and frayed flags. Each year, our troop also held a ceremony for Veterans Day in which we collected old flags and disposed of them properly.”

In the community the troop does multiple service projects — highway cleanup, spreading mulch at the parish or school, singing carols at nursing homes — all which contribute to the community and help Scouts earn various ranks.

MATTHEW MILLER THOMAS



Matthew Miller Thomas, son of Michael and Ann Thomas of Fort Wayne, received the Eagle Scout Award at a special ceremony conducted by Troop 2, 6402 and Crew 2802, at the St. Vincent Scout Lodge on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008.

Thomas has served as an assistant patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader. He has also served the varsity team as co-captain and advancement chairperson and the venturing crew as vice president.

Thomas completed the Philmont Trek of 2007 with members of his venturing crew along with adult members. He earned the religious medals Ad Altari Dei and Parvuli Dei, became a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and also helped train scouts to achieve the Climbing merit badge.

For his Eagle service project Thomas helped create a storm-safe area for St. Vincent De Paul School. Thomas organized and coordinated the help of a local window business (Home Guard Industries), St. Vincent de Paul Church, Freedom Windows, Doors and Siding and his fellow scouts to complete this task. The project was completed in 67 man hours. Thomas is a senior at Leo Junior-Senior High School. He enjoys photography and art, and will study commercial art or graphic design in college.

NICHOLAS WILLIAM EHLERS



Nicholas William Ehlers, son of Eric and Mary Ehlers of Fort Wayne, received the Eagle Scout Award at a special ceremony conducted by Troop 2, at the St. Vincent Scout Lodge on Aug. 9, 2008. Ehlers's brother Eric is also an Eagle Scout as is his father and two uncles.

Ehlers joined the troop in the spring of 2003. He held positions as patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader. Ehlers earned the Order of the Arrow and has participated in summer camp program, the Klondike Derby and the Haunted Castle fundraiser.

Ehlers's Eagle project benefitted his home church, the United Methodist Church of the Covenant located on north Coldwater Road in Fort Wayne. The project included the building of a pedestrian bridge over a creek bed and clearing a wooded area for an outdoor classroom. Ehlers organized both fellow Scouts and church youth and adults to perform the labor for the project.

Ehlers is a junior at Canterbury High School, where he participates in the drama program, writes for the school newspaper, and participated in a Spanish immersion program in Guanajuato, Mexico. Ehlers plans to attend college and is interested in a career in writing and journalism.

CHRISTOPHER MARK LOZO



Christopher Mark Lozo, son of Kenneth and Linda Lozo in Fort Wayne, received the Eagle Scout Award at a special ceremony conducted at the St. Vincent Scout Lodge on May 9.

Lozo has served the troop as patrol quartermaster and assistant senior patrol leader and has served on the Varsity Scout Team as team quartermaster. He has received the Ad Altare Dei religious award and is a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. Lozo attended the BSA National Jamboree in Virginia, and Philmont in 2007.

For his Eagle project Lozo and volunteers built five benches for the deck of a building at McMillan Girl Scout camp, located north of Fort Wayne. The Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana-Michiana Council own the McMillan campgrounds.

Lozo is a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School and plays travel soccer year round. His most memorable moments of scouting include skiing in Colorado and hiking in New Mexico. Lozo enlisted in the U.S. Army as a health-care specialist on Aug. 4. Following four years of active duty he plans to pursue a career in the medical field.

NICHOLAS WADE DI RENZO



Nicholas Wade Di Renzo, son of Steven and Sara Di Renzo in Fort Wayne, received the Eagle Scout Award at a ceremony conducted by Troop 2, Team 6402 and Crew 2802, at the St. Vincent Scout Lodge on May 9.

Di Renzo has served the troop as assistant patrol leader, and has served on the varsity Scout Team as team scribe. He has also served on the Venture Crew as vice president and scribe. In 2007 he joined Troop 2 on a 10-day trek at Philmont Scout Ranch. Also, in 2008 he joined Crew 2802 on a backpacking trip to Red River Gorge, Ky.

Di Renzo's Eagle project organized and oversaw the purchase and installation of two new basketball hoops for the St. Vincent de Paul School, Fort Wayne, playground. He also installed markers in the parking lot for school dismissal.

Di Renzo is a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School, where he has been a member of the wrestling and track teams for four years and was named to the honor roll all eight semesters of high school. He plans to study computer graphics technology at Purdue University.

LUKE HATFIELD



Luke Hatfield received his Eagle Award on May 8, 2008. He has been in Boy Scouts since age 12 and has also received the Ad Altare Dei religious award.

Hatfield's Eagle project was a program that was directed toward teaching his peers how to perform magic tricks. Following meetings on the history and art of magic he and his group of volunteers performed a 45-minute magic show at the Woodview Retirement Center.

Summer camp and teaching the Boy Scouts the Climbing merit badge are two of Hatfield's favorite events within Scouting. He attended the Winter Park ski trip and has been involved with the Haunted Castle as well as the disabilities retreat every year. Hatfield also attended the 2005 National Scout Jamboree in Virginia.

Hatfield attends Carroll High School and plays trumpet in the marching band as well as the pep band. He has also participated in the winter drum line. Hatfield played baseball for the Huntertown Lions Club and has earned his black belt in Taekwondo.



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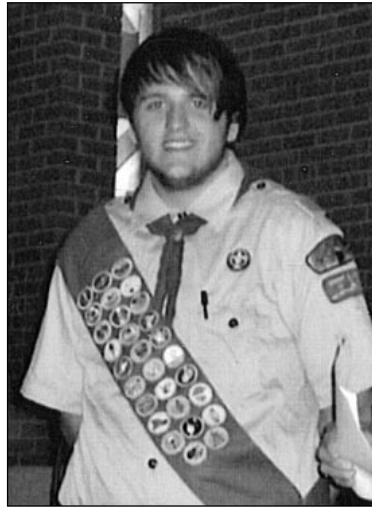
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TIMOTHY DAVID KOSCIELNY



Timothy Koscielny, son of Mike and Linda Koscielny of Bristol, received the Eagle Scout Award in a ceremony in August of 2008 at his home parish, St. Mary, Bristol. He is a member of Troop 1 in Elkhart.

Koscielny's Eagle project consisted of a food drive through four neighborhoods. The food and items collected were then donated to Church Community Services.

Koscielny has completed his freshman year studying telecommunications at Ball State University. During the summer he works as a counselor at Boy Scout Camp Tamarack.

DAVID EHINGER



David Ehinger recently earned his Eagle Scout rank from Boy Scout Troop 72 at Monroe. Ehinger, the youngest son of Barry and Anne of rural Decatur, is the third son to earn this rank. Ehinger has been active in his involvement with Scout Troop 7 with many activities and trips including an 80-mile canoe trip down the St. Croix River and a six-day canoe trip to the Canadian wilderness.

Ehinger's Eagle Scout service project consisted of the rehabilitation of the small fish pond and landscaping the area in a courtyard at Adams Central School. The project took 90 man-hours to complete.

St. Charles parishioners receive Eagle awards

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Not every young man has what it takes to become an Eagle Scout. That's why it's such a prestigious honor.

St. Charles parishioner Ben Stevens, 18, is now among the select few with an Eagle Scout card in his wallet. The award, the apex of years of service, follows the completion of all 21 merit badges. In addition, the young man must demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in your everyday life. Several references are required, as well as a review of a capstone service project before the Eagle Scout board.

Stevens, a life-time Scout, tackled a community project involving designing and building ramps for the elderly and developmentally disabled in collaboration with Turnstone Center for Disabled.

The project was successful and Stevens was bestowed the honor of Eagle Scout at a May ceremony in St. Charles' cafeteria.

In retrospect, Stevens said he wishes he had completed the project sooner to benefit the troop.

"Do not put it off," he said. He noted fellow Scout Ryan Briscoe earned his Eagle fairly early and was a significant asset to the group.

Also, looking back over the



MIKE MAGSAM AND BEN STEVENS

years Stevens said he has seen Scouts and Catholicism intersect. For example, he said, a priest would come to say Mass at a camp out.

"The Catholic element was there," he said.

Stevens plans to attend Purdue University in the fall to study computer science. He will continue to serve the group as a leader when available.

Fellow Bishop Dwenger graduate Mike Magsam, 18, shares this distinction with Stevens. A long-time Scout as well, Magsam said the program provided a great deal of opportunities he couldn't have

otherwise experienced. "A lot of things you do (in Boy Scouts) you don't normally do outside of camping," he said.

In addition to camping, service is synonymous with Scouting and is the basis for the Eagle Scout award. Magsam chose a landscaping project at St. Charles Borromeo. The grounds of the newly built rectory were in need of some care and Magsam pledged several hours.

Service is just among the values instilled in the young

men. Magsam says others like responsibility, environmentalism and leadership are trademarks of a good Scout. The importance of people skills is also an important lesson learned.

Magsam, who plans to attend Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW) this fall, echoes Steven's advice for up and coming Eagle Scouts: "Get (the service project) done early," he said. "Before high school is best."

In his free time Magsam enjoys spending time with friends and working on his car.

Ethan Ridenour

BY JODI MAGALLANES

GOSHEN — Ethan Ridenour was born to be an Eagle Scout.

The young man from Goshen joined the Boy Scouts of America as soon as he was old enough, at age 5. Even at that tender age, however, he knew what to expect.

"Really, I guess you could say I started even younger. My mom was a leader at the time for my older brother, Eric, so I'd go with her," Ridenour said of his earliest recollections of Boy Scout life.

Working up the ladder of ranks from Tiger to Life, Ridenour stayed focused and last month achieved the culminating rank of Eagle Scout. For his service project, the 18-year-old painted several rooms in the new offices of Hispanic ministry for his parish of St. John the Evangelist in Goshen.

He had been entertaining other service project ideas at first, Ridenour said, until he heard Father Christopher Smith say that the parish was buying the nearby house and that it needed some work. Paintbrush in hand and assistants, including mom and dad, at the ready, Ridenour got started last July and wrapped things up in early September. His troop leader, Mark Podgorski of St. John's, gave him pointers on painting technique.

The trim took the longest, he remembers, and the effort also required him to practice patience.

As a home-schooled student he had a flexible schedule but most of his assistants did not — they had to work around their school schedules, thus, so did he.

Ridenour has maintained his ties to his troop however, and enjoys mentoring the younger Scouts. This fall he'll head to Purdue University, where he's been accepted into the School of Engineering's freshman class.

Aaron J. Kennerk

Aaron Kennerk, a member of Hoagland Boy Scout Troop 348, has earned Eagle Scout rank this year. The ceremony for the award was held March 22. He is the son of Leeann and Tim Kennerk, who is also an Eagle Scout.

Kennerk has been in the Boy Scouts since he attended kindergarten and has participated in years of camping, earning merit badges, community service and teamwork activities.

His Eagle project consisted of building a ball diamond dugout at Hoagland Community Park. He

and several assistants poured concrete, worked on drainage and built a roof for the dugout.

Kennerk will be a senior at Bishop Luers High School in the fall. He enjoys show choir and has worked at Camp Potawatami at the MDA summer camp. He hopes to attend University of Saint Francis to study physical therapy following graduation.

Kevin Bals

Kevin Bals, son of Barb and Carl Bals in South Bend, earned the rank of Eagle Scout in August of 2008. His two older brothers are also Eagle Scouts.

Bals Eagle project consisted of clearing trees and other debris that had fallen or overgrown on an old trail leading to the St. Joseph's River at the Izaak Walton League in South Bend. He also built a bridge over a stream along the trail.

Bals is a 2009 graduate of Saint Joseph's High School. He plans to study engineering at Purdue University in the fall.



In recognition of their superior achievement in scouting, THE EAGLE AWARD, Bishop Luers High School salutes

- Anthony Christie •Isaac Larson
- Jacob Ware
- Aaron Kinnerk •David Rodenbeck

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CONGRATUATIONS!

Bishop Dwenger High School congratulates the following students on their accomplishments in scouting:

Eagle Scout Awards:

Nick DiRenzo Chris Lozo
Mike Magsam Ben Stevens

Gold Award:

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The 22nd Annual Bishop's Appeal

For eighth time, Annual Bishop Appeal exceeded \$5 million in pledges

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In a few weeks, we will launch our 23rd Annual Bishop's Appeal. I recall with gratitude the priests and laity who urged this new approach and the many who have worked on it over the years. I have always seen it as a work of love and sacrifice for the church and for the work of Christ. Also, the effort involved each year has brought all of us together and helped us to focus on the purpose of our sacrifice; namely, the work of Christ.

In the weeks ahead, I will present in these pages the financial report of our most recent fiscal year. In our brochure for the next appeal, we will give a summary of the results up to now of our Legacy of Faith Campaign. All this is an effort to continue to meet our responsibilities to be as transparent as possible about the financial situation in our diocese.

The 22nd appeal

For the eighth time, the appeal exceeded \$5 million. The total pledged is \$5,586,512, the second highest ever. To have reached this amount is especially significant. For one thing, this appeal was conducted when the present economic downturn had already begun. It shows that many of our people, aware of the strain this would put on many families and on the diocese, increased their gift. Secondly, one of our largest parishes, St. Charles Borromeo, in Fort Wayne, combined their appeal with a parish drive for additions to their school, especially a new kindergarten. Thus, their overage of over at least \$100,000 was not included this year. For parishes who make such an effort, everything over their goal is tabulated for their parish project. This means that in another sense, this appeal was, indeed, equal to our highest ever.

Also, it should be noted that since our 19th appeal, which was conducted immediately after the Legacy of Faith and which, as expected, was down somewhat, the appeal has increased by over \$540,000.

Another reason for appreciation

For the first time in several years, the number of givers increased. This, of course, is essential for both the pastoral and fiscal well-being of our diocese. In the 22nd appeal, the total number of givers was 22,738. The previous year was 22,433. This was an increase of 305. I call upon our priests and parish lay leaders to continue to seek an increase of givers each year.

Parish schools

Many years ago, we started a Teachers' Council. I pledged to go to all four meetings the first two years; and after that, to attend at least twice a year and I have kept that pledge.

I promised that the increases in salary, which were promised to our teachers, would continue even during this economic downturn. While we have frozen salaries in our central administration, we have kept this promise to teachers. Indeed, every promise ever made to the teachers in my time as bishop has been kept. In the upcoming brochure, to be released in time for the Annual Bishops' Appeal, we will show clearly the improvement in teachers' salaries. While we cannot equal public schools since we do not have funds from taxation, we will continue to do everything we can to strengthen the salaries of the teachers and work to pay for these increases.

How to pay for these increases

While it is true that some large suburban parishes can fund these increases, almost half of our schools cannot do so. Also, if we ask tuition increases alone to carry these increased salaries, it would set tuition at a rate that many families cannot pay. Our schools must remain within reach of working-class families. Accordingly, some years ago, we made a historic change in hope of assisting in a substantial way a large number of parishes with schools. We did this by an increase in the appeal. Thus, each of the last several years, 30 parish schools received grants from the appeal, which over eight years have totaled \$2.7 million. These schools are found listed at the conclusion of this report. These grants were given to help these schools bridge the gap between the present situation and the beginning funds available from the Legacy of Faith.

Legacy of Faith: A promise kept

In the past two years, we began to distribute some of the results of the Legacy of Faith to our parish schools, and indeed, to

Comparative appeal summaries

Total amount pledged		
19th Appeal (05-06)	20th Appeal (06-07)	21st Appeal (07-08)
\$5,048,502	\$5,534,676	\$5,542,447
	22nd Appeal (08-09)	
	\$5,586,512	

all parishes. First of all, parishes with schools. You will recall, it was promised at the beginning of the Legacy of Faith that we hoped to have an endowment of \$20 million for our parish schools. From pledges kept, this endowment surpassed \$18 million. Through grants made and losses in investments, it is currently over \$16 million. We have just completed grants totaling \$925,000 to our parish schools. Combined with the grants from the Legacy of Faith given to parish schools last year, a total of \$1,741,000 has been given to parishes with schools from the Legacy of Faith. These grants, as promised in the Legacy of Faith, have been given to every parish with a school. On top of this, the amount received from the Legacy of Faith that has been distributed among parishes as of March 31, 2009, has reached \$7,829,002. Other parishes, through their combined efforts, have paid off over \$2 million in debt to the diocese. The amount given to parishes with schools may decline this year. Please note that in every year since the appeal began, we have given grants totaling at least \$210,000 to parishes with special needs. These parishes have applied for these funds, and they have been approved by a standing committee. This year, for the first time, we gave special grants to parishes without schools for their youth ministry and religious education programs. We will also be giving such grants to parishes with significant Hispanic populations. Both of these grants come from the Legacy of Faith.

High schools

The Annual Bishop's Appeal has stabilized our four Catholic high schools. From the endowment, a total of \$3.8 million has been divided equally among these splendid institutions. The principal of this endowment, as of April 1, 2009, stands at \$4,121,022. This is down from a year ago, because of losses in our investments. But it ensures continuance of our high schools for years to come. We have not lessened the amount given to our high schools, despite the loss of investments. Including what comes from this endowment, our Annual Bishops' Appeal every year gives \$1.7 million spread among our four Catholic high schools. This has kept tuition increases moderate, so that our high schools can welcome everyone who wants to attend and can pay at least a minimum amount. If you talk to your friends in other dioceses, including in the state of Indiana, you will find that their high school tuitions are significantly higher.

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22nd Annual Bishop's Appeal

Percentage of goal reached
— highest to lowest

Parish	Percent
Most Precious Blood	235.2
St. Catherine of Siena (South Bend)	184.9
Notre Dame/Sacred Heart (South Bend)	173.7
St. Paul Chapel (Clear Lake)	168.9
St. Michael The Archangel	163.7
St. Mary of The Annunciation	159.7
St. Thomas The Apostle	159.7
St. Pius X	152.4
St. Joseph (South Bend)	151.7
St. Patrick (Ligonier)	151.1
St. Francis Xavier	150.5
St. Catharine of Alexandria	149.7
St. Rose of Lima	149.7
Our Lady of Good Hope	148.5
St. Patrick (Arcola)	146.7
Queen of Peace (Mishawaka)	146.5
St. Joseph (Mishawaka)	146.2
St. Joseph (Bluffton)	145.9
St. Joseph (Garrett)	145.6
St. Mary of The Presentation	143.1
St. Mary of the Assumption (Decatur)	142.0
Blessed Sacrament Parish	140.3
St. Mary of The Lake	139.2
St. Michael (Plymouth)	137.7
St. Peter	135.6
Cathedral of St. Matthew	134.7
St. Vincent de Paul (Elkhart)	134.0
Immaculate Conception (Auburn)	133.6
Immaculate Conception (Kendallville)	133.5
Sacred Heart (Warsaw)	132.6
Sacred Heart (Fort Wayne)	131.6
St. Joseph (Roanoke)	131.6
St. Anthony (Angola)	131.5
St. John The Baptist (New Haven)	128.8
Holy Cross	128.8
Immaculate Conception (Ege)	128.4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	128.4
St. Stanislaus Kostka (New Carlisle)	127.5
St. Mary (Huntington)	126.7
St. Patrick (South Bend)	125.3
St. Vincent De Paul (Fort Wayne)	124.5
St. Martin De Porres	124.4
St. Monica	123.4
St. Louis (Besancon)	123.1
St. Aloysius	118.9
St. Mary of the Angels, Shady Nook	118.8
St. Jude (Fort Wayne)	118.7
St. Joseph (Lagrange)	118.1
Holy Family	115.3
Our Lady of Hungary	114.9
Ss Peter & Paul	113.1
St. John Bosco	112.0
St. Gaspar del Bufalo	111.9
St. Adalbert	111.8
St. Robert Bellarmine	111.8
Cathedral/Immaculate Conception (FW)	110.6
Queen of Angels	109.9
St. Bernard	109.3
St. Paul of The Cross	108.3
St. Stanislaus (South Bend)	108.3
St. John The Baptist (Fort Wayne)	107.8
St. Dominic	107.8
St. Henry	105.8
St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (Fort Wayne)	105.7
St. Therese	104.4
Christ The King	102.7
St. Mary (Fort Wayne)	102.3
St. Patrick (Fort Wayne)	102.3
St. Anthony De Padua (South Bend)	102.2
Corpus Christi (South Bend)	102.1
St. John The Baptist (South Bend)	101.1
St. Bavo	101.0
St. Hedwig	100.5
St. John The Evangelist	100.2
St. Mary of The Assumption (Avilla)	100.0
St. Charles Borromeo	100.0
St. Joseph (Fort Wayne)	100.0
St. Catherine of Siena (Lakeville)	100.0
Our Lady of Guadalupe	100.0
St. Augustine	100.0
St. Casimir	100.0
Little Flower	100.0
St. Patrick (Walkerton)	100.0

Parishes receiving grants from the Annual Bishop's Appeal

St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla
Precious Blood, Fort Wayne
Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne
St. Henry, Fort Wayne
Sacred Heart, Fort Wayne
St. Joseph, Garrett
St. Mary, Huntington
St. Monica, Mishawaka
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw
Holy Cross, South Bend

Holy Family, South Bend
St. Augustine, South Bend
St. Casimir, South Bend
St. Hedwig-St. Patrick, South Bend
St. Joseph, South Bend

Groups receiving grants from the Annual Bishop's Appeal

St. Vincent de Paul Society, Fort Wayne and South Bend
Vincent House
Women's Care Center

Christ Child Society, Fort Wayne and South Bend
Matthew 25
St. Augustine Soup Kitchen
Little Flower Food Pantry
Chiara Home
Chapin Street Clinic
Catholic Charities
COPOSH (Homeless Center, South Bend)
Logan Center
Center for Basic Learning Skills
Hannah's House
Life Athletes
St. Mary Soup Kitchen

EDITORIAL

Finding natural order of Catholicism in our land

It's good to be patriotic. And our Catholic faith should resonate with our love of country. But what happens when our laws contradict our Catholic faith?

This has been especially prominent as states across the nation debate and pass laws allowing same-sex marriage to be recognized, or when our government leaders push for human embryonic stem-cell research where a life is destroyed for matters of experimentation and research.

And it does seem that even a good number of Catholics have allowed their patriotism to distort or overrule their Catholicism. For example, perhaps you have encountered Catholics who say, "It's legal, so it must be okay" or "Abortion is legal, it is my right to decide" or "The church isn't going to tell me what to do with my body."

Much of our faith as Catholics is based on natural law. A story in *Today's Catholic* June 21 discussed a theological commission, appointed by Pope Benedict XVI, and recently published a document on natural law.

The story states, "For centuries, the Catholic Church has insisted that there is such a thing as 'natural law,' a code of ethics written by God in the consciences of each human being and one that each person can discover through the use of their reason."

In recent years, though, natural law has become misconstrued, confused as relativism sets in — "I think this is wrong, but I won't impose my belief system on someone else" — even if their belief system is in error, contrary to natural law.

The document story added, "... An increased emphasis on the importance of the individual and his or her conscience, greater focus on personal freedom and concern that ethics may be culturally or religiously specific have tended to undercut the notion that natural law is, in fact, natural and accessible to all, the theologians said."

The story noted, "Rejection of natural law in favor of a reliance on legislated laws promoted and approved by the majority can be deceiving because it 'opens the way to the arbitrariness of power, the dictatorship of the numerical majority and to ideological manipulation to the detriment of the common good,' the document said."

In other words, we need citizens and leaders in this country who are willing to call what is good, "good"; and what is evil, "evil" — especially when society is awry with confusion, or can make evil appear acceptable and good; and a good sound "outdated" or "old fashioned."

One of the most serious threats our country faces is a drift away from natural order, natural law and our citizens affirming this drift.

Our Catholic faith, on the other hand, does not waver from the truth or the natural order.

Many complain that the church has too many rules. Most times, these "rules," or better yet, "guideposts," are based on natural law and serve as a means to navigate through the murkiness of life. But one must choose whether or not they will follow these guideposts. Usually, when we waver, we suffer.

Let us pray for our country, its citizens and leadership — that we all will work through the murky waters of societal confusion and that natural order be recognized and embraced.

Year for Priests

It's arrived! As of Friday, June 19, the church has opened the Year for Priests. Pope Benedict has said he hopes the year and its special events will deepen priests' commitment to their own renewal "for the sake of a more forceful and incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world."

For those seeking prayers, a poster or participating in a spiritual bouquet for priests, you don't have to look any farther than the diocesan Web site, www.diocesefwsb.org. Click on the "Year for Priests," symbol, which directs visitors to the Vocations Office page. One will find a prayer card and poster — some parishes are distributing these — a link to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Web page, and a spiritual bouquet link. The spiritual bouquet is offered for priests who minister in the diocese. Participants can pledge a rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet, novena, fasting, etc. The priests will receive these offerings on the anniversary of their ordination.

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

Thank you from National Black and Indian Mission Collection

The year 2009 National Black and Indian Mission Collection had the theme, "Evangelization — strengthening one's own faith and those around us." I want to thank you for the check in the amount of \$35,479.38 that arrived as your part in helping bring this theme alive.

The collection was established by the bishops to assist their brother bishops who need financial assistance with evangelization programs. It was the reason for mandating the National Black and Indian Collection during the Third Plenary Council and has proven itself over and over again through the years, ever since 1884, 124 years.

I wholeheartedly express my appreciation to you on behalf of your brother bishops who seek the commission's help to provide apostolic service to the evangelization programs of the Black and Native American communities. Your commitment and personal witness are essential to the success of the collection. Thank you!

Rev. Wayne C. Paysse
Executive Director
Black and Indian Mission Office
Washington, D.C.

Observations about ND controversy

As a Catholic Democrat affiliated with the university, I have made these observations.

Despite the spin, the event was a disaster. Father John I. Jenkins' poor judgment and lack of communication skills has caused great pain and sorrow among Catholics and many alumni.

Mary Ann Glendon had it right when she declined the Laetare Medal. The ceremony was nothing short of being a secular pro-choice campaign political rally. Democrats have once again marginalized the pro-life people including the pro-life graduates who did not attend. That is why no graduates protested. They were not there.

There are no so-called Catholic outsiders. We are all one in the body of Christ. Also understand, those trespassing charges had a causal relationship to the pro-life activity.

Despite the lip service, Father Jenkins has acted much like a secu-

larist. He has rejected the authority of our bishop. He has jailed Christians opposed to his secular pro-choice position. He persecuted Catholics who are in full accord with the teachings of the church including a priest.

The university administration has demonstrated an extremely warped concept of Christianity when it jailed its brothers and sisters in Christ. This hostility toward Catholics is intolerable. On worldwide television the university has persecuted Catholics for their religious beliefs. That my friends is about as sick as it can get.

What has caused the university to fall into this abyss? Is it so insecure in the support of secular issues that it has become hostile to Catholics? Has the esoteric intellectually fashionable pro-choice staff lost contact with reason and reality?

Sadly, that is the most infamous day in the long history of the university. Immeasurable, irreparable damage has been done.

Our Mother must have cried on that day when the Catholic identity of the university died. We in the church share her sorrow.

Frank J. Baranko
Mishawaka

Safeguarding the heart of marriage

At a family party one of my relatives, a wife and mother, made an outrageous statement. She said there is "nothing wrong with *Playboy* magazine." She actually called it "innocent." I had to spend the rest of our conversation helping her understand that pornography — any pornography — is not only wrong, but a potential marriage breaker.

My relative's perspective is not unusual. Today's culturally accepted sexual promiscuity has desensitized the general public to harmful depictions of sexuality. Tabloids discuss the sexual exploits of the rich and famous. TV and movies showcase sexually active unmarried characters who typically "hook up," cohabit, or, if married, engage in adulterous affairs. Pop music celebrates sexual promiscuity while mocking virginity.

The escalating use of pornography on the Internet reveals that we are in troubled waters. About 1.5 billion pornographic downloads occur each month from "peer to peer" file-sharing Web sites; 2.5 billion pornographic e-mails are sent each day; and online pornographic products and services are sold for \$2.84 billion dollars annually in the United States. Most of this traffic is conducted by men.

LIFE ISSUES FORUM



BY THERESA NOTARE

Pornography is never "innocent." Pornography is wrong for many reasons. It objectifies the human person, especially women, turns the sexual activity of others into raw entertainment and exploits vulnerable women and children for tremendous profit.

Dr. Richard Fitzgibbons of the Institute for Marital Healing says that people who regularly use pornography develop a "disordered view of beauty, goodness, the human person and sexuality." This is especially poisonous for married couples. The porn user becomes obsessed with his own pleasure. Authentic self-giving to one's spouse is decreased and spousal communication is diminished. The bottom line is that pornography strikes at the heart of spousal intimacy. It does harm to the marital friendship.

A wise bishop who was con-

cerned with strengthening marriages once said that the two-in-one flesh union of married couples is "not an empty symbol." He said that spouses "have not become the image of anything on earth, but of God himself," — St. John Chrysostom, Homily 12.

The key to understanding the nature of conjugal sexual intercourse is that it is both unitive and procreative. It is meant to build up the spousal communion of persons, and to cooperate with God to bring new life into the world. It concerns the whole person, who is called to love like God: "The total physical self-giving would be a lie if it were not the sign and fruit of a total personal self-giving, in which the whole person ... is present." — "Familiaris consortio," No. 11.

Spouses need to safeguard their union and reject anything, like pornography, that will compromise their love. They must strive to love each other well — reverently, joyfully, and yes, passionately, always in the light of God's loving embrace.

Theresa Notare, PhD, is the assistant director of the NFP Program, Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Pope's teaching ministry finds little echo

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — News coverage of Pope Benedict XVI tends to leap from big event to big event, so perhaps it's no surprise that after his Holy Land pilgrimage last month the German pontiff has fallen off the mainstream media radar.

To cite a single but typical example, in the month following the Holy Land trip the *New York Times* did not report about any of the pope's activities at the Vatican. Even in Italy, coverage of Pope Benedict has fallen off markedly.

The pope is likely to step back into the spotlight when he meets with President Barack Obama and when he issues his encyclical on social justice — two major events expected in the first half of July.

But then the pope goes on vacation outside of Rome, and re-emerges only at the end of September with a visit to the Czech Republic. He doesn't completely disappear, of course; he continues to give talks and meet with individuals and groups. But the press will take little notice.

The pattern of media attention — or lack of it — has led some Vatican officials to privately lament what they see as a paradox of Pope Benedict's pontificate: the pope's primary focus and greatest talent is teaching, they say, but it's the kind of teaching that rarely breaks into the news cycle.

"You don't get soundbites from this pope, and that is a challenge to journalists. Another challenge is that he often speaks a language that presupposes faith," said one senior Vatican official.

One priest complained that controversies generated by such episodes as the rehabilitation of a Holocaust-denying bishop have detracted from the pope's news-making capability.

"They're not interested in him. I think part of the reason is that there is a prejudice there now," he said.

Whether or not the whole world is watching, the pope takes his day-to-day ministry seriously. As a sampler, here are four recent talks that received little or no coverage

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

in the mainstream media, but which touched on essential themes of his pontificate:

- God is love, and can be perceived in the created world. On June 7, the pope delivered another mini-lesson on this favorite topic, saying God can be sensed in the macro-universe of galaxies and planets as well as the micro-universe of cells and genetic material.

"God is wholly and only love, the purest, infinite and eternal love. He does not live in splendid solitude but is rather an inexhaustible source of life that is

LETTER, PAGE 17

Jesus is the source of all wisdom



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

14th Sunday of Ordinary Time Mk 6:1-6

The Book of Ezekiel furnishes the first reading. The prophet speaks in the first person. He says that he literally heard God speaking to him. God told Ezekiel that he was sending him to the Israelites, who had rebelled against God's holy law, so that they would be called to forsake their disloyalty and return to God.

God, speaking to Ezekiel, recognizes certain traits about humans. They are stubborn, and they can be very stubborn in their blindness. This blindness prompts them to choose their way rather than the way of God. It is folly for them. Yet, God does not desert them.

St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians supplies the second reading. As an aside this reading includes Paul's revelation that he himself had been given "a thorn in the side." For almost 2,000 years people studying this epistle have struggled to discover what this thorn might in fact have been. Some have thought that it was a chronic illness or disability, perhaps epilepsy. Others think it simply was the temptation to sin.

No one has a conclusive answer. What is clear is that life

had its challenges for Paul, as life has challenges for everyone. It is important to remember that in the pious Jewish mind of the time everything bad, including physical problems, came from the devil. A loving, merciful God could never will such misfortunes upon people.

So, when Paul writes that Satan brought this burden upon him, he was speaking from this context.

The message is not simply that Paul had difficulties, whatever they were. It is not just that he persevered despite these difficulties. He persevered, but it was because God's strength empowered him. The apostle encouraged the Corinthian Christians, and encourages us, to be faithful to God. God will provide for us.

For its last reading this weekend, the church presents a reading from St. Mark's Gospel.

In this reading, Jesus speaks in the synagogue. People who are not themselves Jewish often today regard synagogues to be churches in Judaism. They are not churches, and they properly were not places of worship in the time of Jesus. For the Jews at the time of Jesus, there was one place of worship, namely the temple in Jerusalem.

Synagogues were places of prayer, but essentially they were places to learn, and to discuss, the Scriptures. Hence, Jesus stood and spoke. So did others.

He amazed everyone. His wisdom was profound. He healed the sick. Nevertheless, in their human limitations, many did not recognize Jesus as son of God.

Again as an aside, some short explanation of the reference to the "brothers and sisters" of Jesus is needed. Since Jesus is identified as the "son of Mary," it is presumed that Joseph was dead. But, who are these brothers and sisters?

From the earliest times of Christianity the strongest belief has been, as the church officially teaches, that Mary was a lifelong virgin. Jesus was her only child. One possibility is that these "brothers and sisters" were Joseph's children by a previous marriage. If so, they would have legally, and culturally, been regarded as siblings of Jesus, regardless of the fact that their mothers were different persons.

Reflection

Two strong, and very enlightening, lessons come from these readings. The first is that all humans are like the ancient stubborn and rebellious Israelites, like the imperceptive people of Nazareth. We cannot always put two and two together. We fail to understand. We make mistakes. Indeed, we are inclined to resist the truth. We lean toward sin, the ultimate error.

However, as God sent Ezekiel, God most especially sent Jesus to show us the way to eternal life. He is the source of all wisdom. He is the Son of God.

READINGS

Sunday: Ez 2:2-5 Ps 123:1-4 2 Cor 12:7-10 Mk 6:1-6a

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a Ps 91:1-4,14-15 Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33 Ps 17:1-3,6-8,15 Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57;42:5-7a, 17-24a Ps 33:2-3,10-11,18-19 Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21,23b-29;45:1-5 Ps 105:16-21 Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30 Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32;50:15-26a Ps 105:1-4,6-7 Mt 10:24-33

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplisson

During this time when there is much discussion of the qualifications of Judges, this quiz looks at "Judges" the book.

- According to the New American Bible, the "judges were in fact"
 - all descendants of Levi
 - military or political rather than judicial leaders
 - the successors of the defunct monarch
- The stories about the Judges are generally thought to have been finalized during the
 - monarchy
 - exodus from Egypt
 - Babylonian captivity
- The narrative of Judges begins with the death of
 - Abraham
 - Moses
 - Joshua
- The Judahites inflicted this bizarre punishment on their enemy Bezek
 - they cut off his thumbs and big toes
 - they cut off his hair and made him wear horse hair
 - they made him don the skin of a pig
- The tribe of Judah did not conquer all lands. Judges notes they did not occupy this area, much in the news in recent years
 - Gaza
 - Iran
 - Korea
- There is a very specific reason given as to why they could not prevail against the peoples of the plain:
 - Those people had iron swords.
 - Those people had iron wills.
 - Those people had iron chariots.
- Individual slaying is included in Judges. One very detailed account tells us that the slayer of Elgon (his name was Ehud) was
 - an Edomite by birth
 - son of Samuel
 - left handed
- Another detail tells us that Eglon as well as being stabbed by Ehud had this health issue:
 - He smoked incense called "ganga."
 - He was very fat.
 - He was covered in sores and scars from battles.
- Somewhat surprisingly, because many people always think of it as belonging to the Jews, the Book of Judges recounts how the Jews captured
 - the Ark of the Covenant
 - the Red Sea
 - Jerusalem
- When Deborah served as a judge, where did she hold court?
 - in the courtyard of the Gentiles in the Temple
 - outside the Royal Palace in Mount Zion
 - under Deborah's palm tree
- Judges tells us a few weird stories about Gideon. What was the main way he communicated his intentions to the assembled troops?
 - He blew a horn.
 - He beat a drum.
 - He sent a pigeon up to the clouds to spell out his messages.
- He also was instructed by the Lord to choose troops on the basis of this (not always used by recruiters today)
 - physical strength
 - experience in battle
 - who lapped water like a dog and who knelt to drink.
- Gideon was successful in battle but came to a bad end because he made a gold ephod and the Israelites
 - quarreled over it and seceded from the kingdom.
 - worshipped it and became idolaters.
 - sold it to the Moabites which was strictly forbidden.
- Judges repeatedly uses the phrases "The Israelites again offended the Lord, serving the Baals and Ashtaroths" What are these?
 - pagan gods
 - semitic invaders like the Hyksos
 - Roman legionaries or centurions

ANSWERS:

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

Choosing brotherhood vs. priesthood is a matter of 'calling'

As a lifelong Catholic it has never occurred to me until recently why a man would choose to become a brother rather than a priest. I am truly interested. Anonymous

First of all it is important to be able to understand the nature of a vocation. I truly believe that it is a "calling" from God. I have looked back over 50 years to try to understand why I became a brother and not a priest and the "calling" seems to be the only logical answer I'm able to come up with.

The brother is a lay religious who take the vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience. Brothers are members of religious orders, some of which also have priests. Brothers are not ordained to perform the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church.

In my case I am a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross,

which has a society of priests and a society of brothers. We are governed by priests and brothers on the general administration but operate as separate provinces of priests and brothers on the local level. We may also have mixed provinces with both priests and brothers living and working together.

A priest on the other hand is ordained cleric who has a major responsibility to bring the sacraments to the faithful. Some priests are members of religious orders and take the three vows along with being ordained to perform the sacraments. Secular priests on the other hand take a vow of obedience to their bishop and vow of celibacy. They do not have the vow of poverty and do not live in community.

I have been asked that question of "Why did you become a brother and not a priest" just a

couple of dozen times in over 50 years. My first response before explaining the nature of both "callings" is just to say, "Why would anyone want to work during the week and then on weekends?"

Being a brother has allowed me to serve as: a teacher, social worker, communications director and sports photographer for over 50 years. I have worked in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Alaska for 25 years. Being a brother has given me the opportunity to use my talents to serve others while living out my vows in a religious community.

Brother Charles McBride, CSC, director of communications for the Midwest Province Brothers of Holy Cross answered this week's question.

President Reagan and Pope John Paul II

They were two of the giant figures of the last half of the 20th century — Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II — and they had many things in common. Both were trained actors whose craft had taught them the power of words to change minds and hearts. Both came to eminence through unconventional routes, and against the grain of a lot of the common wisdom. Both had a healthy skepticism about the conventions that surrounded their offices, and both intuited that diplomats, no matter how skilled, might have a professionally ingrained caution that blinded them to certain opportunities for bold action. Both survived assassination attempts and came to a deeper understanding of life-avocation as a result.

Now, in Reagan's "Secret War: The Untold Story of His Fight to Save the World from Nuclear Disaster," (Crown), husband-and-wife team Martin and Annelise Anderson shed new light on the Reagan-John Paul II relationship by using previously classified U.S. government files.

The outlines of the story are reasonably well known: John Paul first came to Reagan's attention when the pope's epic first papal pilgrimage to Poland in June 1979 set in motion what eventually became the Solidarity movement — a movement Reagan, an old union leader, instinctively appreciated.

Shortly after his inauguration, President Reagan sent his friend (and future Holy See envoy) William A. Wilson to Anchorage, Alaska, where the pope's plane was refueling, to greet the pontiff on Reagan's behalf. We also know of the two leaders' subsequent meetings in both Rome and the United States, and of

Reagan's determination to push U.S. diplomatic recognition of the Holy See through a U.S. Senate nervous about residual anti-Catholicism in some parts of America.

There has also been a lot of nonsense written about the relationship, primarily by Carl Bernstein of Watergate fame, who for years perpetrated a "Holy Alliance" conspiracy theory, according to which the two men entered into a secret bargain to bring down communism. As the Andersons' book confirms, this was, and is, pluperfect nonsense, as is the claim (often heard in the 1980s) that John Paul II had agreed not to criticize either U.S. missile deployments in Europe or U.S. policy in Central America in exchange for Reagan administration support of Solidarity.

The new revelation about the relationship in the Andersons' book is that the pope and the president had an extensive correspondence, involving dozens of letters back-and-forth, which Professor Martin Anderson told me were by far among the most interesting of all the Reagan letters he had examined. Among the letters referenced in Reagan's "Secret War" is a January 1982 letter from the White House to the Vatican in which Reagan shifted the subject of the exchange from events in Poland (which had just been put under martial law) to his hopes for genuine disarmament, not just arms "control," at the talks about to begin with the Soviet Union in Geneva.

Indeed, the Andersons' book makes clear that, somewhat to the consternation of many of his close advisers, Ronald Reagan was a nuclear abolitionist: he really did believe, as he often



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

said, in ridding the world of nuclear weapons. His instruments for doing so — ramping up U.S. missile capability to demonstrate that America couldn't be out muscled, and the strategic defense initiative as an insurance policy — were bitterly criticized by the liberal arms controllers, whose influence on the deliberations of the U.S. bishops as they prepared their 1983 peace pastoral was, to put it gently, considerable. But as the Andersons demonstrate, it was Reagan who was the true radical in this business: the man who wasn't satisfied with simply managing an arms race, the man who wanted to put the nuclear genie back into the bottle. Historians of U.S. Catholicism will thus be grateful to the Andersons for clarifying just how mistaken some of the policy assumptions underlying "The Challenge of Peace" were.

In my own conversations with the late pontiff, John Paul often asked how President Reagan was doing and was saddened to learn that Alzheimer's disease had robbed him of even the memory of being president. An extraordinary pair of men; may they both rest in peace.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for July 5, 2009

Mark 6:1-6a

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: Jesus visits back home in Nazareth. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

DISCIPLES	SABBATH	TO TEACH
ASTONISHED	WISDOM	MIGHTY
HIS HANDS	CARPENTER	SON
MARY	JAMES	JOSES
JUDAS	SIMON	SISTERS
TOOK OFFENSE	JESUS	PROPHET
OWN KIN	OWN HOUSE	SICK PEOPLE

TOOK OFFENSE

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

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LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

ceaselessly given and communicated," he said.

The reason he keeps hammering on this theme? Because he sees the rupture of the human being's relationship with God as the source of countless threats to the moral order in modern society.

- Reason is open to truth, and Scripture can help lead it to truth. At his general audience June 10, Pope Benedict turned his attention to John Scotus Erigena, an obscure ninth-century Irish theologian and philosopher. The pope said Erigena outlined a process by which scriptural texts help bring "intelligent creatures toward the threshold of divine mystery," so that they can move beyond their own shortcomings "with the simple, free and sweet force of the truth."

While the pope's arguments may go over the heads of many of the pilgrims in St. Peter's Square, they are an important part of his effort to convince contemporary society that rational thought is based on objective truth, and that the modern trend toward relativism marks a dangerous path.

- The influence of secularization, even in the church's liturgy. Celebrating the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ June 11, the pope spoke of "the risk of a creeping secularization even inside the

church, which can translate into a formal and empty type of Eucharistic worship." It was the second time he's made that point in recent weeks.

He added that a similar danger lay in "reducing prayer to superficial and hurried moments" in the midst of more mundane affairs.

The pope wants liturgy to be beautiful, but it's not simply a matter of aesthetics; it is beautiful, he says, because it's based on the truth — the Eucharist as the body and blood of Christ.

- The need for a new global economic model. Addressing the "Centessimus Annus" Foundation June 13, the pope offered a preview of his upcoming social encyclical, saying that "certain economic-financial paradigms that have been dominant in recent years need to be rethought" so that more attention is paid to the rich-poor disparity in the world.

He took up the same theme the next day, saying that a U.N. financial summit in late June should promote a fairer distribution of resources and decision-making power to favor poorer countries.

The pope has repeatedly said the solution to the current global economic crisis will require lifestyle changes and "strategic choices that are sometimes not easy to accept." Given his previous remarks, some expect the encyclical to challenge not only the obvious excesses and abuses of modern capitalism, but its philosophical underpinnings as well.

ABA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Other ministries

There is so much else. The appeal makes it possible to provide retreats for young adults at a cost they can afford. We have programs for teenagers throughout the year. Parishes are having retreats and missions supported by our Office of Spiritual Development. Special programs in formation for teachers of religion in our high schools, elementary schools and parish programs are expanding. Many years ago, we had trouble recruiting new teachers. That is not the case, as our School's office now attracts many new teachers for our schools.

Priests

The strong relationship between priests and parishioners in our diocese continues to show itself in the Annual Bishop's Appeal. The appeal has been successful because it has put the parishes first; also, because our priests make it their own. This is not a "downtown" effort, but an effort that is rooted in the parishes.

The appeal helps in the formation of our priests. I believe we will have 18 young men studying for the priesthood in the beginning of our academic year. Two are scheduled to be ordained on Oct. 31, 2009, and one more in the fall of 2010. The appeal makes this possible and also funds our Office for Vocations. Indeed, our seminarians themselves have prepared a discernment retreat for

those interested in the priesthood. It will be funded by the appeal.

The appeal has made it possible to bring priests from other countries, including the countries of Latin America. Indeed, recruiting quality priests from Mexico and other countries has become increasingly necessary with the influx of those who speak Spanish.

Currently, 20 of our parishes are being cared for by priests from overseas. The appeal makes it possible to bring these priests here so that all our people may have the holy Eucharist, the word of God and the example of the Good Shepherd.

Recently, on the feast of the Sacred Heart, the Catholic Church throughout the world began the Year for Priests, dedicated in honor of St. John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests; and now by the decree of Pope Benedict XVI, the patron saint of all priests. I look forward to living this year with you and our priests. But communion between our priests and with their bishop, and the service of love to our laity remains a great gift of God to our diocese. I thank our priests with all my heart for their work in this appeal.

Lay leadership

I wish to thank Brian and Jeannelle Brady, of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Elkhart, for their exceptional leadership as the co-chairs of our recent appeal, and also for their help over the years. Their entrance into the leadership of the appeal is a commitment of several years. Brian and Jeannelle, taking the leadership in a time of economic difficulty, have inspired us all and passed on this important work to those who come after. I thank them with all my heart. I also thank John and Julie Kenny, of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, who now

assume this leadership. I thank Peter and Nancy Baranay, of St. Pius X, Granger, and Paul and Kathy Schoenle, of St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend. And I welcome to our team Don and Beverly McArdle of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne.

For me, the appeal is a year-round responsibility. It is part of our effort of evangelization, and I take it each year with joy, as do our priests and laity.

A look ahead

Here is what Pope Benedict XVI said about our schools in his visit one year ago:

"Their long term sustainability must be assured. Indeed, everything possible must be done, in cooperation with the wider community, to ensure that they are accessible to people of all social and economic strata. No child should be denied his or her right to an education in faith, which in turn nurtures the soul of a nation."

Along with strong parish leadership, the Annual Bishop's Appeal sustains our schools. It also makes it possible to assist the homeless, help those without adequate medical care, and provide clothing for children in need. As in the past, we will provide a video to be shown at all our parishes and will continue to give full reports to our people.

As I begin my 25th year among you, I present these results with gratitude and joy, sustained always by your generosity and the grace of God.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,




Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

St. John the Baptist plans pancake breakfast

South Bend — St. John the Baptist, 3616 St. Johns Way, will have a pancake, sausage and egg breakfast on Sunday, July 12, from 8-11:30 a.m. Chef William McCammon from North Port, Fla., will assist with the breakfast. Cost: adults, \$5, children 5-10, \$2.50 and children under 5 are free.

Pilgrimage to see Father John Corapi

Fort Wayne — Join Redeemer Radio for a pilgrimage to the Father John Corapi Conference in Buffalo, N.Y., Aug. 14-15. Highlights include: talks by EWTN's Raymond Arroyo, and Jerry Usher, former host of "Catholic Answers Live"; tours of Our Lady of Victory Basilica and Niagara Falls; motor coach transportation throughout conference and a commemorative T-shirt. Cost is \$229 each for single room, \$185 each for two sharing room, \$169 each for three sharing room. For information contact Patty Becker at (260) 436-1450 or patty@redeemerradio.com.

St. Therese plans rummage sale

Fort Wayne — St. Therese Parish will have a rummage sale Thursday, July 23, from noon to 4 p.m.; Friday, July 24, 9 a.m. to

4 p.m.; and Saturday, July 25, from 9 a.m. to noon in the church hall, 2304 Lower Huntington Rd.

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, July 3, 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.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Jack Overmyer will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, July 7, at 7:15 p.m. to pray for vocations. Father Overmyer is the chaplain at Saint Anne Home.

Knights plan fish fry

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

St. Hedwig Polish Festival

South Bend — St. Hedwig will have a Polish festival Sunday, July 5, from noon to 5 p.m. in the Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St. The Polish festival begins with a Polka Mass at

11 a.m. Polish fare and various desserts will follow. Music will be provided by Soundsations.

Rummage sale planned

Bristol — St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish will have a hidden treasures rummage sale, July 10-11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Annunciation Hall, 411 W. Vistula St.

Catholic basketball camp planned

Fort Wayne — GRAMS Christian Sports will offer a Catholic Basketball Camp at St. Henry's Community Center, 5711 St. Henry's Lane, from July 13-17. The camp is open to students K-8 in three sessions. Session I: K-second 9-10:30 a.m.; Session II: third-fifth 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Session III: sixth-eighth 1-3 p.m. Fees are \$30 for Session I and \$35 for Sessions II and III. A family rate of \$80 is also available. The camp will focus on basketball fundamentals and a theme of Christian service.

First Saturday devotions

First Saturday devotions will be held at the following parishes: Fort Wayne: St. Joseph, 7:15 a.m.; St. Charles, 8 a.m.; Sacred Heart, 7:30 a.m.; Arcola: St. Patrick 7:15 a.m.; Garrett: St. Joseph, 9 a.m.; New Haven: St. John, 6:55 a.m.; St. Louis Besancon, 8:10 a.m.; Warsaw: Sacred Heart, 8 a.m. Call (260)

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Decatur
Leo F. Buescher, 78, St. Mary/Assumption

Hedwig Moeller, 83, St. Charles Borromeo

Maria S. Lopez, 72, St. Adalbert

Elkhart
Richard F. Davis, 91, St. Thomas the Apostle

Helen Kelly GiaQuinta, St. John the Baptist

Cecilia K. Reiter, 88, St. Jude

Fort Wayne
Marjorie E. Kimes, 85, St. Patrick

Lucille D. O'Shaughnessey, 88, Saint Anne Home

Alban M. Norris, 95, St. Anthony de Padua

Maynard J. Balbaugh, 88, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger
Phillip A. Martino, Sr., 77, St. Pius X

Barbara Ann Anson-Lolmaugh, 77, St. John the Baptist

Devota M. Lawrence, 95, St. John the Baptist

Mishawaka
Mary L. Van Vooren, 82, St. Bavo

Joyleen M. Chelminiak, 78, Holy Family

Robert F. Bakle, 76, St. Jude

Sherry R. Stuck, 53, Queen of Peace

Hildegarde C. Zakrzewski, 86, Holy Family

Roman C. Warneke, 102, Queen of Angels

Richard E. Bokhart, 73, Queen of Peace

Chester J. Chodzinski, 84, St. Stanislaus

Barbara Jean Ehrman, 81, St. Charles Borromeo

New Haven
William T. Irick, 65, St. John the Baptist

Ronald Audenaert, 69, St. Casimir

Claire Helmkamp, 99, St. Vincent de Paul

Notre Dame
Joseph M. Bajo, 91, Dujarie House Chapel

Genevieve D. Dobosz, 93, St. Casimir

Albert C. Turrin, 86, Our Lady of Good Hope

Plymouth
John Richardson, 64, St. Michael

Eleanor Guzman, 89, St. John the Baptist

Beth Hope Horn, 82, St. Peter

Bernard Boener, 74, St. Michael

BayRuth Shenenberger, 92, Little Flower

Margaret J. Miller, 86, Saint Anne Home

South Bend
Joseph J. McCaffery, Jr., 87, Christ the King

James E. Hammer, 73, St. Joseph

Mary M. Croteau, 83, Our Lady of Good Hope

Helen Ann Pine, 87, Christ the King

Jane E. Czerwinski, 40, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Rose K. Hake, 87, Most Precious Blood

Evelyn M. Sawyer, 82, Holy Family

Wabash
John Jay Zumbaugh, 76, St. Bernard

Mary Ann Spoltman, 83, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Warsaw
Ana M. Fajardo, 82, Our Lady of Guadalupe

749-9396 to have your listing added or changed.

Our Lady of Hungary Parish festival and Polka Mass

South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary, 829 W. Calvert, will

have a Polish festival Saturday, July 18, from 4-10 p.m. Mass at 5 p.m. will be a polka Mass followed by festival with Hungarian food, a bake sale, beer, raffles, kids games, music and dancing. Live music starts at 6 p.m.

TV MASS FOR JULY

2009	Feast Day	Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WISE-TV, Ch.33	South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TV, Ch. 16
July 5	14th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father John Pfister St. Mary, Huntington Airs at 6:30 a.m.	Father Bill Kummer St. Michael, Plymouth Airs at 6 a.m.
July 12	15th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Tony Steinacker St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne	Father Chris Cox, CSC St. Adalbert South Bend
July 19	16th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Mark Gurtner Our Lady of Good Hope Fort Wayne	Father Steve Lacroix, CSC Christ the King South Bend
July 26	17th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Jason Freiburger St. Vincent de Paul Fort Wayne	Father Neil Wack, CSC Christ the King South Bend

On Sunday, July 5, the TV Mass will appear at **6:30 a.m. in Fort Wayne** and at **6 a.m. in South Bend** due to airing of Wimbledon Tennis.

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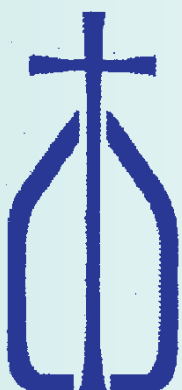
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