



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Back to School

New principals and students
serving the world
Pages 11-13

Launching Year for Priests

Mass at Cathedral, Aug. 4
Page 3

Year of our Priests

Father Larry Kramer
Page 5

Girl Scouts honored

Gold Stars and religious
medals
Page 18

Book of the Month

'Mother Teresa's Secret Fire'
Page 20

No issue next week

Next publication Aug. 16, 2009

Opposed to abortion funding as part of health reform



DIANE FREEBY

Pro-life advocates in South Bend make known last Thursday that they do not want abortion to be a part of the nation's health care reform. Nearly 100 people participated in the rally organized by the St. Joseph County Right to Life. The three health care reform bills currently in Congress do not specifically mention abortion. But legal precedent proves abortions could be covered by federal tax money unless excluded in legislation, pro-life members of Congress said. Legislation also could mandate abortion coverage for most insurance plans.

Pro-life advocates speak out, hold rally in South Bend

BY DIANE FREEBY AND ANGELA CAVE

SOUTH BEND, WASHINGTON (CNS) — Over a hundred people took to the street outside the Federal Courthouse building in South Bend, making it known they do not want abortion to be a part of the nation's health care reform. They say they agree with individuals and groups across the country who oppose abortion: President Barack Obama's push for health care reform could be the worst thing for the pro-life cause since Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision legalizing abortion nationwide.

The three health care reform bills currently in Congress do not specifically mention abortion. But legal precedent proves abortions could be covered by federal tax money unless excluded in legislation, pro-life members of Congress said. Legislation also could mandate abortion coverage for most insurance plans.

"I think the Obama administration is trying to be somewhat untruthful about what the bill includes and what it doesn't," said St. Joseph County Right to Life President Tom Gill, whose group organized the rally on only a few days notice. "I think if people realized what it does include, they'll contact their congressman and their senator."

The Obama administration has not ruled out the possibility of publicly funded abortions, said Peter

OPPOSE, PAGE 3

With writing hand in a cast, pope uses recorder for ideas

LES COMBES, Italy (CNS) — With his right hand immobilized in a cast, Pope Benedict XVI is using a voice recorder to put down his thoughts and ideas, said the Vatican spokesman.

Five days after he underwent minor surgery to repair a broken wrist sustained in a fall at his vacation home in northern Italy, the pope was still doing well and was "in a good mood," said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi.

The right-handed pope "is still learning how to live with a wrist in a cast," the spokesman said in a written statement July 22.

Pope Benedict normally has used his vacation period to work on his writing projects and, before the accident, it had been expected he would spend some of his free

time to continue work on the second volume of his book about Jesus.

The pope "has equipped himself with a recorder so as to be able to dictate his reflections since he is unable to use a pen easily," Father Lombardi said in the statement.

The pope had received a portable laptop computer as a gift July 19, but Father Lombardi told reporters July 20 that the 82-year-old pope "is not used to writing with a PC; he isn't very technological," adding that "especially in creative work he prefers to use a pen."

Every day after lunch and again in the late afternoon, the pope takes a brief walk, the spokesman said.

POPE, PAGE 20

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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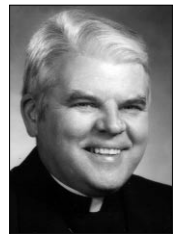
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Service, prayer put students in contact with those in need



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A joyful event

A few days after returning from an enriching vacation, I headed to South Bend with Chris Lapp as pilot and navigator. Finally, after 24 years I have a driver at times for the two-hour trip.

The goal in this quick trip to South Bend was to conclude a magnificent one-week retreat, supervised and directed by two outstanding leaders from our Office of Youth Ministry, Cindy Black and Megan Oberhausen.

A new approach

With the cooperation that one always receives from Holy Cross College and Bob Kloska, we had 50 young people on a unique retreat. In addition to catechesis and adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and the sacrament of penance and prayer, there was a striking added dimension.

Every day, this group visited some of the places in South Bend, which are given over to the service of the poor: the Center for the Homeless, Catholic Charities, the Women's Care Center, a residence and nursing home for the elderly, the Catholic Worker House, Hannah's House. These and other centers were visited every day by groups of high school students from the length and breadth of the diocese. This new approach in which the retreat was scheduled right in the middle of a major city, and the young people, dividing up visits to these truly holy places, give an entirely different flavor to this retreat.

Where did this idea come from?

I asked Cindy and Megan, who have run Catholic leadership groups the last several years, where they found this emphasis. Megan is a graduate of Marian College, which under the guidance of Archbishop Buechlein, OSB, has been much strengthened in its Catholic identity in the past several years.

Megan told me that the archbishop, years ago, had asked his Office of Youth Ministry to have their annual retreat for teenagers not in a beautiful, isolated, retreat house; but in the great city of Indianapolis where the young people could have daily contact with those in need. Megan recommended this to Cindy; and the rest, as they say, is history.

It was not just a case of visiting these places, but rather of sitting with the poor and learning from them. Also, those who serve in these places have been deeply touched by the call of Christ in the Scriptures to be among those in need.

While they were impressed with the workers in the various sites and with those in need, many found their visit to Catholic Worker House especially moving.

Dorothy Day

You will remember Dorothy Day. Some people claim that she is the greatest American Catholic figure of the past century. The very title of her autobiography, "The Long Loneliness," tells clearly that her life was not easy. She knew isolation and misjudgment and poverty. After becoming a Catholic, she gave herself totally to the poor and to the pursuit of world peace. What is sometimes missed is her intense life of prayer. She came late to the "little way" of St. Therese, the Little Flower; but embraced it fully. She had quite a traditional spirituality. Very devoted to the rosary and Our Lady, and to prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

I believe her cause for sainthood had been introduced, although she said that people should not make her a saint; and I think she kind of hoped there would be no such movement.

The young people captured her spirit when they visited the Catholic Worker House. They told me it was not just a question of serving meals, but actually sitting with these poor people who came in right off the street. Among those who live and work at Catholic Worker House is Margie Pfeil, a professor of theology at Notre Dame, and a good friend of mine. There is holiness everywhere, if we open our eyes.

The feast of St. James, the Apostle

My part was to close the week and celebrate the Mass on the feast of St. James, the Apostle. The words in the Gospel, where the mother of James and John asks the Lord for something that he said is not in his power to give, and then Christ addresses the apostles with those haunting words, "Can you drink the cup that I will drink?" This offered a chance to express to the young people the beauty and sacrifice and love involved in the following of Christ. Many parents came to the concluding Mass and were moved by what they heard from their children.

I have been in many such closing events at retreats and days of prayer for young people these past many years; but there was something very special here, and it involved a link in eucharistic adoration, and prayer, and catechesis with visits to the poor. I thank Ben Muhlenkamp, one of our seminarians, for his presence throughout the retreat; and Matt Coonan, another seminarian, for his talk, which included some material about St. Therese. Many thanks to the priests who spoke, such as Father John DeRiso, CSC, Father Michael Mathews, CSC, Father Dan Scheidt and others. We finished with a delightful cookout. The fact that so many young people came from our smaller parishes, such as Bremen, Bristol, Wabash, Albion and others, was especially encouraging to me. The percentage of Catholic teenagers in those towns is small, and it is important and encouraging for the youth to be with other young people from

across the diocese. My hat is off to Cindy and Megan and to all who work with them. One of the reasons their work is successful is because they are always rooted in intercessory prayer. They make a eucharistic holy hour each week praying for the success of their efforts.

Cindy and I, working with Megan, are putting together a basic instruction that should cover high school youth ministry in every parish, and we hope to present it to our youth ministers at the end of the summer.

I was especially impressed with three college students, who are spending this summer at Catholic Worker: Sara McCroy, of Saint Mary's College; Mike Thomas, of the Indiana University; and Brendan McAleer, of Holy Cross College.

St. John Vianney

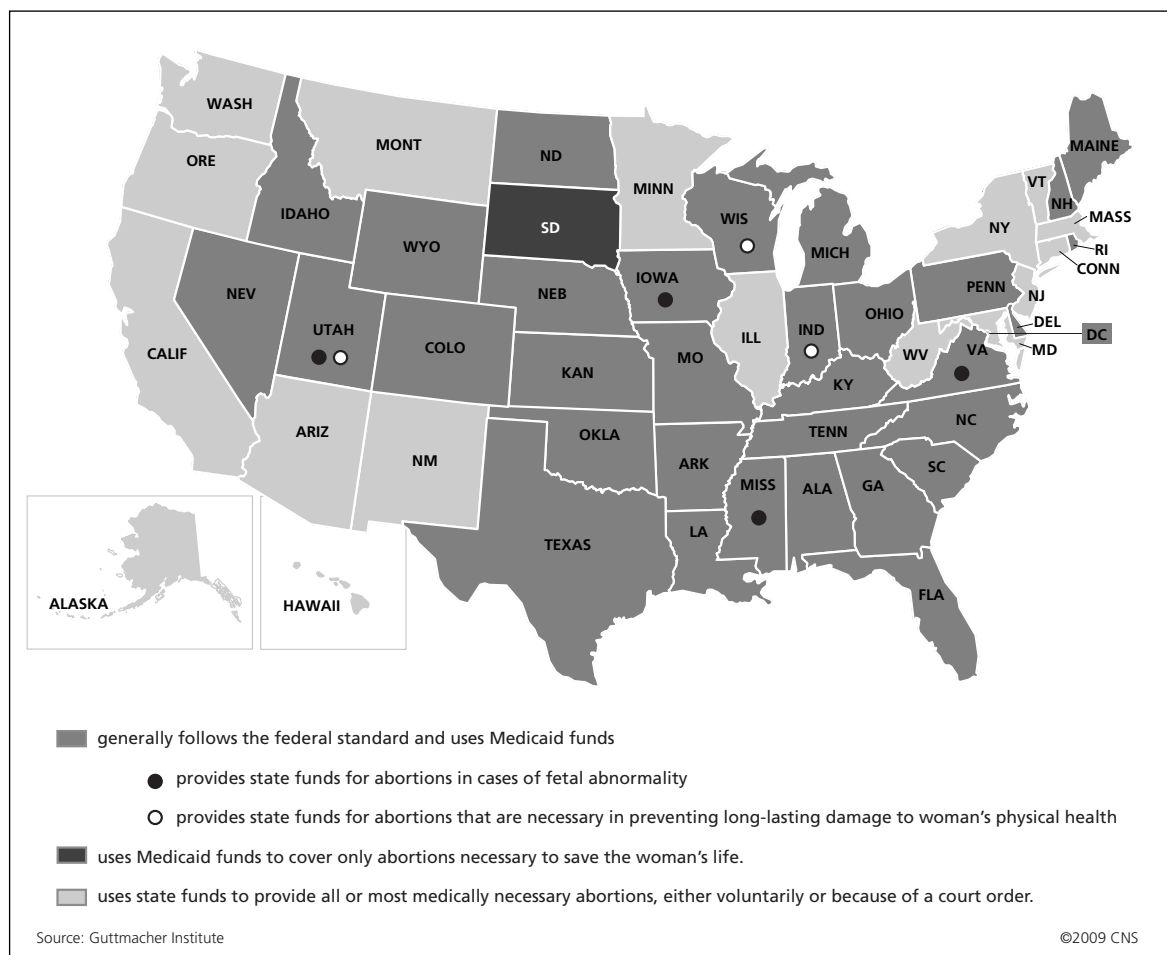
The official launching for the Year for Priests in our diocese is Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009, and this is quite fitting for that is the feast of St. John Vianney. Pope Benedict XVI has decreed this year, as part of the observance of the 150th anniversary of this extraordinary priest, up until now the patron saint of parish priests, and now of all priests. I have invited priests, after preaching on this saint in their own parishes, to join me for a concelebrated Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 12:05 p.m. We will have eucharistic adoration in the afternoon. Also, I have obtained tickets for priests to the baseball game at the delightful new downtown stadium, Parkview Field in Fort Wayne.

I hope many parishioners will come. Confessions will be heard for an hour before Mass and again after Mass. A plenary indulgence can be obtained in the usual conditions. Let us make this a year of prayer for the sanctification of our priests. If priests are sanctified, become more holy, one of the results will be a holier diocese, and the holiness of priests will draw more young men of good quality to offer themselves with Christ for this demanding, but beautiful, life.

A delightful three weeks

Swimming three times in the Atlantic Ocean. Three games at Fenway Park. Time with my family. More visiting of graves now than in the past: my parents and my sister, and I did find the grave of my dear friend Father Tom McDonnell. Father Tom was such a part of the vacations in the past, as was my sister, Mary, that there is a sense of loss. But that is the way of love. The only way you do not feel that pain and the hole in the heart is if you did not love. What would we be without love and friendship? Father Tom's sister, Sister Immaculata, SMD, told me Tom's favorite word for Christ: Friend. He wrote a little book called, "Walking the Dark Valley." It is for those who suffer from cancer. His dark valley is over, and he is with God.

Good to be back. See you in two weeks.



OPPOSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Orszag, White House budget director, on "Fox News Sunday" July 19.

"We would be very naive and foolish in the extreme if we didn't notice the game that's being played here," said Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., chairman of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus for 27 years. "It's Orwellian."

Obama would be misleading Americans and Pope Benedict XVI in promising to reduce the number of abortions if language excluding abortions is not added to the legislation, said Smith, a Catholic.

Thousands of abortion facilities could spring up as a result of the legislation, and funding could cause an increase in abortions because lack of money would be one less barrier in a woman's decision, Smith told Catholic News Service July 20.

"It makes a quicker abortion that much more possible because she's at a moment of vulnerability," he said.

People of all ages, faiths and races lined the sidewalk in downtown South Bend. Patrick Mangan, a Notre Dame graduate and head of Citizens for Community Values of Indiana stood side by side with Bishop Shedrick Madison of Prophetic Utterance Ministries. Both men are adamant this is the Civil Rights movement of the 21st century.

"I'm out here for the right to life, period," said Madison, who pointed out 35 million African American babies have died since Roe v. Wade. "That's a tremendous number. That's a genocide. It's murder."

Madison, who pastors a small

church in South Bend, brought several of his parishioners, including many of the young people he tries to reach with his message.

"It's very important for us to get the word out to Afro-Americans, people of color, minorities and the poor," explained Madison. "The poor are always the ones who get used and abused the most. The most unsafe place right now for an Afro-American male is in the womb of his mother. And that has to be said, it has to be taught. I'm teaching that in my congregation, and it has to be taught in this country ... I think once people find out the truth, they'll be glad to stand with us."

A May Gallup Poll found that a majority of Americans are calling themselves pro-life for the first time since Gallup began asking the question in 1995.

Mangan believes people can change public policy by standing up and reminding everyone what is at stake, and that "babies count."

"We should not, under the guise of health care, be promoting taxpayer-funded abortion, which is what politicians are trying to do with the health care reform," he said. "How can we possibly say we have social justice in America when a baby's not even safe in his mother's womb?"

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops also weighed in on the issue.

"No health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion," wrote Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, in a July 17 letter to Congress. A copy of the letter was released July 21.

"Any such action would be morally wrong. It also would be politically unwise. No health care

legislation that compels Americans to pay for or participate in abortion will find sufficient votes to pass," the bishop said.

Before the 1976 passage of the Hyde amendment, which prevents Medicaid from spending federal money on most abortions, the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that abortion is covered under Medicaid because it fit in such mandatory care categories as "family planning" and "outpatient services," said Kristen Day, executive director of Democrats for Life of America.

Before Hyde, Medicaid funded as many as 300,000 abortions annually. Now, 46 percent of health care plans cover abortion.

The Hyde amendment would not apply to the affordability credits — proposed as part of health care reform — which would be given to people who earn up to 400 percent of the poverty level to help them buy health insurance, because the credits would be separate from Medicaid, Day said.

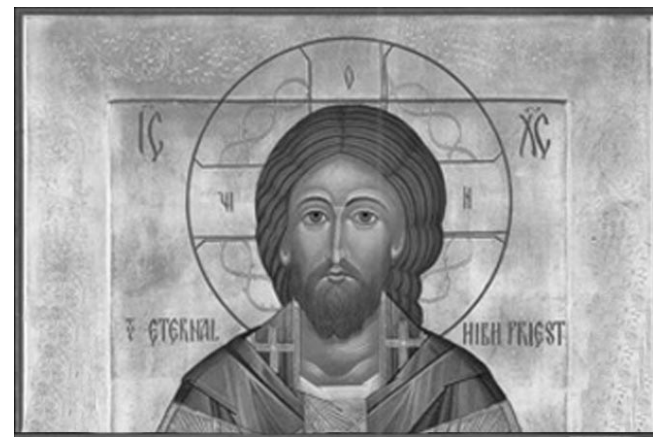
"If you don't specifically say abortion won't be funded, it will be," Day told CNS.

Nineteen Democrats in the U.S. House appealed to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., to exclude abortion from the health reform plan in a June 25 letter.

Those who support keeping abortion legal said abortion and reproductive health should not be treated differently from other health care.

Seventeen states use state funds to provide all or most medically necessary abortions, according to the Guttmacher Institute, a sexual and reproductive health advocacy group.

According to a July 20 Wall Street Journal story, Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., a Catholic, said he was working on compromise language to allay fears that health care reform measures would allow federal funding of abortion.



Diocese launches Year for Priests on feast of St. John Vianney

FORT WAYNE — Pope Benedict XVI has decreed the current year to be the Year for Priests. This was launched recently in Rome on the feast of the Sacred Heart, and will end on the feast of the Sacred Heart 2010. This is a commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests, and now, by the decree of Pope Benedict XVI, patron saint of all priests.

John Vianney, the Curé of Ars, devoted himself totally to the sanctification of his parish, and was instrumental in the spiritual renewal of France, despite great opposition to priests, religious and to the church.

The official launching of the Year for Priests in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will take place on the feast day of John Vianney, Tuesday, Aug. 4, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. Bishop John M. D'Arcy invites the faithful of the area to attend this Mass and to spend some time praying for priests.

All priests are invited to celebrate the 12:05 p.m. Mass at the cathedral, and Bishop D'Arcy will speak about St. John Vianney and the importance of the sanctification of priests. There will be special prayers for priests and for more young men of good quality to offer themselves to the work of Christ.

In the afternoon from 1-5 p.m., there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions will be heard from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and immediately after Mass. A plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions for those who attend.

Bishop D'Arcy noted in a letter to priests that he hopes to offer a similar day during the year at St. Matthew Cathedral.

Special indulgences available during the Year for Priests

The Apostolic Penitentiary has granted the following indulgence opportunities for the Year for Priests, which began June 19,

2009 (solemnity of the Sacred Heart) and ends on June 19, 2010.

For the faithful,

Under the usual conditions (see below), the faithful may obtain a plenary indulgence by devoutly attending holy Mass and offering prayers to Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest, that he might sanctify and conform the priests of the church to his heart. Likewise, any other good work done by the faithful that day should be offered for this intention. This indulgence may be obtained on these occasions during the Year for Priests:

- On the opening and closing days of the Year for Priests;
- On the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Mary Vianney (Aug. 4, 2009);
- On the first Thursday of each month;
- Or on any other day established by the diocesan bishop for the benefit of the faithful.

The elderly, sick and those unable to leave their homes may also obtain the plenary indulgence on the aforementioned days if, while detached from sin, they pray "for the sanctification of priests and confidently offer the illnesses and hardships of their lives to God through Mary, Queen of Apostles," and have the intention of fulfilling the usual conditions as soon as they can.

The faithful may also receive a partial indulgence each time they devoutly recite the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be — or another duly approved prayer — five times "in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to obtain that priests be preserved in purity and holiness of life."

The usual conditions for plenary indulgences

In addition to total detachment from all sin, including venial sin, the usual conditions for obtaining a plenary indulgence are: sacramental confession, reception of the Eucharist and prayers for the pope's intentions. These three conditions may be fulfilled several days before or after the prescribed work.

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With mail-in ballots counted, bishops approve liturgical translations

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops announced July 17 that four liturgical texts for use in English-speaking countries have been approved by the bishops, nearly a month after their spring meeting in San Antonio.

The texts contain prefaces for the Mass for various occasions; votive Masses and Masses for the dead; solemn blessings for the end of Mass; and prayers over the people and eucharistic prayers for particular occasions, such as for evangelization or ordinations.

With only 189 of the 244 Latin-rite U.S. bishops eligible to vote at the meeting, the items did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote for passage. The remaining 55 bishops had to be polled by mail. July 16 was the deadline for submission of ballots.

On the floor of the bishops meeting in June, some of the texts were criticized by Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie, Pa., who voiced frustration with grammar, sentence structure and word choices that he said are not suitable for contemporary worship.

One of the texts which he singled out for a critique of language — Masses and prayers for various needs and intentions — was approved by 163 bishops, the minimum needed for passage, after the mailed ballots were counted. Fifty-three bishops voted not to approve it and five abstained.

A new translation of the Order of Mass II was approved on a 191-25 vote, with five abstentions.

A translation of rituals for votive Masses and Masses for the dead passed 181-32, with two abstentions. And the translation of the text for ritual Masses passed 186-32, with two abstentions.

The texts are the latest pieces of an ongoing update of the translation of the Roman Missal used in

the United States. After the U.S. bishops' approval, the text goes back to the Vatican for "recognitio," or confirmation. In June 2008 the Vatican granted "recognitio" to the translation of the main parts of the Mass, which the U.S. bishops had voted to approve in June 2006.

Msgr. Anthony Sherman, executive director of the Secretariat of Divine Worship of the USCCB said in a statement July 17 that in the fall the bishops will consider the Proper of the Saints Gray Book, the commons Gray Book, U.S. propers for the Roman Missal, U.S. adaptations for the Roman Missal and the Roman Missal supplement Gray Book. Gray Books are revised translations proposed to the International Commission for English in the Liturgy.

The priest said the bishops will then have completed that section of the review process and would await the "recognitio" from the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

At the June meeting, Bishop Trautman's objections were to phrases such as this one from the translation for votive Masses and Masses for the dead: "May the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Lord, cleanse our hearts and make them fruitful within by the sprinkling of his dew."

"What does that even mean?" he asked, citing frustration also with phrases such as "the sweetness of your grace."

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Divine Worship, had warned that delaying approval or failing to send the Vatican guidance by the end of November would risk shutting the U.S. bishops out of the translation approval process.

"We're at the end of the process," Bishop Serratelli said. Of the missal text, he said it's "a very, very good text. ... It's not perfect, but we're at the end of a long, healthy process."

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Burmese receive support through skills program

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — A special program through Catholic Charities has more Burmese people learning to assimilate to American culture.

Professional skills are key to landing and maintaining a good job — something that refugees often lack. Since April, the job readiness classes at the former St. Henry School have catered to this large group of Burmese refugees. The six-week sessions taught in Burmese instruct these people on a variety of topics, such as how to apply for a job and appropriately answer the phone. Catholic Charities staff even conduct mock interviews to help them prepare. Books are provided to help them follow along.

Burmese-born Nyein Chan, Catholic Charities' resettlement services director, has been instrumental in the success of the program. Chan worked with Employment Services Supervisor Kela Johnson-Guy to establish the curriculum. As Guy explained, the students are placed in one of two classes, depending on ability. This way those who need more advanced or individual attention can be helped if needed.

There are many skills, however, that cannot be learned in the classroom. Differences in language and cultural norms "may be small to us, but to them the cultural differ-

ence might be drastic," Guy said. The hope is that the Burmese will transition smoothly into the American workplace.

But they cannot do this without the support of the community.

"Welcome and community assistance in collaboration is foremost important for the refugee population when they reestablish individual and family lives in new community," Chan said.

There is more to the curriculum than the educational experience. The classes have an element of fun to motivate people. Everyone who completes the class receives a gift card and there are daily raffles for attendance, Guy said. The students receive personal hygiene products so they can look and feel their best in the work world as well. Students also receive a certificate of completion to take home.

As Catholic Charities concludes the second session, they reflect on past successes. Many Burmese have been placed in factory jobs that pay a living wage. And in recent years, Catholic Charities

was the only State Department-sanctioned refugee resettlement agency sponsoring Burmese refugees to Fort Wayne. To date since 1991, Catholic Charities has helped more than 2,000 Burmese refugees — 200 in 2009 alone.

Chan reflected on how these services encompass his organization's mission. "After the resettlement, they became new members

of our community," he said.

"They are strangers no longer. Individual success is community success. With Catholic Charities' mission, we are serving the need of our neighbors, the family and the community."

Catholic Charities calls community

members to take action to help this vulnerable population.

Just being a friend, providing transportation, teaching an English-as-a-second-language course, mentoring, home visits and providing donations are among the ways to reach out.

For more information about resettlement and employment services, contact Catholic Charities at (260) 422-5625.

"They are strangers no longer. Individual success is community success."

NYEIN CHAN



LAUREN CAGGIANO

Students are shown at the job readiness classes at the former St. Henry School. The classes instruct the Burmese refugees on a variety of topics, such as how to apply for a job and appropriately answer the phone. Catholic Charities staff even conduct mock interviews to help them prepare.

YEAR *of* PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER

FATHER LARRY KRAMER

He was waiting for a bus, and his vocation arrived. That's the way Father Larry Kramer tells it. "...



What turned out to be my vocation became clear one night when I was waiting for a city bus after choir practice at the Fort Wayne cathedral, about half way through my senior year at Central Catholic High School. I had ruled out the priesthood as a freshman ... but suddenly I couldn't see myself as anything but a parish priest. I immediately made a deal with God. I would assume this was what God wanted of me and not agonize over it and God would be gentle in getting me out of the preparation process if I was wrong. My only doubt was, at age 17, whether I would live long enough to be ordained!"

Forty-nine years into his priesthood, Father Kramer recalls

this epiphanic moment vividly and obviously, with thanksgiving. After being ordained by Bishop Leo A. Pursley on May 28, 1960, Father's first assignment was associate pastor of St. Matthew Parish in South Bend. He has served as a marriage tribunal judge, a diocesan vicar, a campus minister at college and high school levels and as pastor five times, and currently, as pastor of a parish that will celebrate its 150th anniversary in October, St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City.

For recreation, Father Kramer enjoys swimming, train travel, reading periodicals and other nonfiction, listening to music of several kinds and watching TV documentaries.

Citing that his favorite activity as a priest is the sacrament of reconciliation, he says, "Unlike some, I find it to be alive and well, better in fact than in the days when people trooped to confession in large numbers. Those who use this sacrament today understand it and appreciate it."

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Effort to block US funds to Planned Parenthood fails in House

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An effort to withhold U.S. family planning funds from Planned Parenthood of America failed in the House of Representatives July 24 by a vote of 183 in favor and 247 opposed. Rep. Mike Pence, R-Ind., had proposed the amendment to the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill for fiscal year 2010. The bill passed later that day by a vote of 264-153. "The largest abortion provider in America should not also be the largest recipient of federal funding under Title X, as I believe a majority of the American people would attest," Pence said in remarks on the House floor July 24. "The time has come to deny all federal funding to Planned Parenthood of America." Title X of the Public Health Services Act provides federal grants to programs that provide comprehensive family planning and related preventive health care services. Pence noted that current law and regulations prohibit the use of Title X money to directly fund abortions. "But there's no question that money that Planned Parenthood receives for its operational expenses from the federal government frees up resources that can be used to provide and promote abortions through its abortion clinics," he said. "Common sense teaches no other idea."

Cronkite, trusted newsman who made public 'feel the news'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — TV news anchor and journalism icon Walter Cronkite, who died July 17 at age 92, made the public "feel the news," said the founding director of the Pauline Center for Media Studies in Culver City, Calif. "My first memory of Walter Cronkite was seeing him bow his head, visibly moved, when he announced the death of President John F. Kennedy," said Sister Rose Pacatte, a member of the Daughters of St. Paul, who has experience in various media such as television and radio producing. "The timbre of his voice and his kind countenance made him welcome in every living room in America then and for years after. ... If Edward R. Murrow could be called the brains of the news, then Cronkite was its heart. He made us feel the news; it was personal; the news mattered," she said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service. Best known for his news coverage on the "CBS Evening News," Cronkite was known to many as "the most trusted man in America." He died in his New York home, and his chief of staff, Marlene Adler, told The Associated Press the cause of his death was cerebrovascular disease. A private funeral was scheduled for July 23 at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York. A larger memorial service was expected to take place later at Lincoln Center.

NEWS BRIEFS

VATICAN MUSEUMS OPEN DOORS TO PUBLIC AT NIGHT



CNS PHOTO/ EMANUELA DE MEO, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Antonio Paolucci, director of Vatican Museums, stands outside the museum's main doors during an extraordinary evening opening July 24 at the Vatican. For the first time in 503 years, the Vatican Museums doors were open to the public at night.

Praise for doctor followed by speculation about abortion view

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Plaudits for Dr. Regina Benjamin from an archbishop and colleagues and even her receipt of a pontifical medal may not be persuasive enough evidence of her credentials as a Catholic who supports church teaching for critics questioning whether she would become an advocate for legal abortion if she is confirmed as surgeon general. President Barack Obama nominated Benjamin, 52, a physician from Alabama, to be surgeon general July 13. An active parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Mobile, Ala., Benjamin was lauded by retired Archbishop Oscar H. Lipscomb of Mobile. Others, including the head of the Catholic Health Association and the rector of the Mobile cathedral, praised her nomination and described her in terms of her strong Catholic faith. But a comment from a White House spokesman that Benjamin "supports the president's position on reproductive health issues" and a 13-year-old article about a policy approved by the American Medical Association on medical school curriculum were seen by some abortion opponents as evidence that Benjamin is "pro-abortion." A July 14 article by McClatchy newspapers cited the comment by White House spokesman Reid Cherlin to support what it called "her lesser-

known support for abortion rights (that) puts her at odds with her church and some of the groups that have praised her work." The balance of Cherlin's comment, provided to CNS by the White House, was, "Like (Obama) she believes that this is an issue where it is important to try and seek common ground and come together to try and reduce the number of unintended pregnancies. As a physician, she is deeply committed to the philosophy of putting her patients' needs first when it comes to providing care."

Human dignity, rights always must be respected

GENEVA (CNS) — Even in emergency situations caused by war or natural disaster, the dignity of each human person must be respected, said the Vatican's representative to U.N. agencies in Geneva. The right to freedom, to work, to family reunion, to education and personal development and other human rights "cannot simply be discarded in emergencies," Archbishop Silvano Tomasi said July 20 during a meeting of the humanitarian affairs segment of the U.N. Economic and Social Council. The international community must find ways to guarantee an effective global humanitarian response to disasters, he said. Archbishop Tomasi repeated the Vatican's call for real action to ensure the safety of women and girls in refugee camps around the globe. "The continued sexual violence perpetrated against women

and girls within and around refugee camps violates all standards of international law and leads to the emotional, physical and mental devastation of these women, which cannot be justified under any circumstances," he said.

Pope confirms visit to Shroud of Turin

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI confirmed his intention to visit the Shroud of Turin when it goes on public display in Turin's cathedral April 10-May 23, 2010. Cardinal Severino Poletto of Turin, papal custodian of the Shroud of Turin, visited the pope July 26 in Les Combes, Italy, where the pope was spending part of his vacation. The Alpine village is about 85 miles from Turin. The cardinal gave the pope the latest news concerning preparations for next year's public exposition of the shroud and the pope "confirmed his intention to go to Turin for the occasion," said the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, in a written statement July 27. The specific date of the papal visit has yet to be determined, the priest added. The last time the Shroud of Turin was displayed to the public was in 2000 for the jubilee year. The shroud is removed from a specially designed protective case only for very special spiritual occasions, and its removal for study or display to the public must be approved by the pope. The shroud underwent major cleaning and restoration in 2002.

Atlanta auxiliary

Pope Benedict XVI has named **Msgr. Luis Rafael Zarama**, vicar general of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, to be an auxiliary bishop of Atlanta. The appointment was announced in Washington July 27 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Omaha Archbishop installed

Archbishop George J. Lucas was installed the new head of the Omaha Archdiocese on July 22 at St. Cecilia Cathedral. About 1,000 people attended the Mass.

Faces Senate committee

Theology professor **Miguel Diaz**, President Barack Obama's nominee to be ambassador to Vatican, now faces a Senate committee for confirmation. Originally from Cuba, Diaz received an education at the University of Notre Dame. He is a professor in the theology departments at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, Minn., and at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn.

Collins to head NIH

President Barack Obama has nominated **Dr. Francis S. Collins**, the former director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health, to head the 27 institutes and centers that make up NIH. Collins, 59, has long urged scientists not to divorce their work from their spirituality and has said that the discovery of a person's genes "is not who he is as a person."

Beatification

Cardinal John Henry Newman will be beatified in Birmingham, England, May 2, a Catholic Church source told Catholic News Service. The date and venue have been proposed by the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes and are expected to be accepted soon by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, the source told CNS July 15 on condition of anonymity.

Vatican Secretariat of State

Pope Benedict XVI has named an Oklahoma priest to one of the top posts in the Vatican Secretariat of State. **Msgr. Peter B. Wells**, 46, a priest of the Diocese of Tulsa, was named assessor for general affairs, a position similar in rank to that of an undersecretary in a Vatican congregation.

World's oldest Jesuit dies

Father Raymond H. Reis, a retired priest at St. Louis University who was a longtime professor of biology and also had worked as a nurse, died July 19 at age 104 at his university residence. He was the world's oldest Jesuit.

SJRMHC among top 5 percent of hospitals for women's health

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRMHC) announced that it has received the 2009-2010 Women's Health Excellence Award™ from HealthGrades, the nation's leading independent healthcare ratings organization, based on a newly released study of patient outcomes.

Hospitals that receive this award rank among the top 5 percent of all hospitals nationwide regarding providing care to women in three areas — women's medicine, women's cardiovascular procedures and women's bone and joint health.

"This distinction illustrates how diligently we have worked to improve and broaden our women's healthcare services," said Nancy R. Hellyer, president and CEO of SJRMHC. "We have no higher priority at Saint Joseph than delivering quality care to all the patients we serve, and this recognition from HealthGrades is a testament to that."

According to the Sixth Annual HealthGrades Women's Health in American Hospitals study released by HealthGrades, wide gaps in quality outcomes for women persist among hospitals. The study, which analyzes patient outcomes for the inhospital treatment of 16 procedures/diagnoses concerning women's health and maternity care, finds that top-performing hospitals improved their mortality and morbidity 33 percent more than poorly performing hospitals in the period studied, 2005 through 2007.

"As our population ages, more women are affected and hospitalized by chronic diseases like congestive heart failure and variations in quality do exist between men and women," said Dr. Rick May, senior physician consultant and a study co-author. "The hospitals that have been identified as Women's Health Excellence Award recipients are clearly performing at a superior level of quality. Women have a choice in healthcare and should do their homework prior to choosing a hospital."

HealthGrades analyzed more than 2.6 million hospitalizations using Medicare data from all 50 states from 2005 through 2007.

The full HealthGrades study can be found at www.healthgrades.com.

Taize prayer service series continues at Victory Noll Center

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center has announced the dates for its continuing Taize Prayer Service series. The service, used by the community in Taize, France, is based on an ancient style found in the church, with songs, psalms, a Gospel text, silence and prayers of intercession.

Services are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Upcoming dates are Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 10 and Nov. 24. Services

AROUND THE DIOCESE

PRAYER TABLE BENEFITS DISABLED



PHOTO BY TIM JOHNSON

Richard Lyttle of Fort Wayne stands behind as Beverly Shumaker uses this newly constructed prayer table in the chapel at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla, where it will be in service on a trial basis. Lyttle was inspired to build the table to provide a place of prayer for the disabled or homebound after he suffered health issues and loss of his job. The free-standing table constructed of white oak took four months to build and is 24 inches wide to accommodate wheel chair widths and 30 inches tall with a slanted table top surface. Shumaker says of the table, "I love it. It gives me a place to put my prayer book and not drop it. There's also room for my rosary and a glass of water." Lyttle would like to construct more prayer tables for area churches, nursing homes and shut-ins. For more information contact Richard Lyttle at frogglyman@aol.com.

begin at 7 p.m. There is no cost to attend and no registration is required. Victory Noll Center is located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington.

For more information on the program or about Victory Noll Center, contact Victory Noll Center Director Sue Wilhelm at (260) 356-0628, ext. 128, or by e-mail at suewilhelm@olv.m.org.

Victory Noll Center is a ministry of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, and is dedicated to fostering spiritual and personal growth in an ecumenical and multicultural environment.

Saint Mary's College hires director of Student Success

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College announced that Diane M. Fox has joined the college as director of student success. Fox comes to Saint Mary's with 29 years of experience working with students on the college and high school levels. In addition to leading the Office for Student Success, Fox will teach a

first-year course called "Strategies for Academic Success."

Fox, who began at Saint Mary's on June 1, worked at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame from 2002-2009 as an academic advisor and assistant professor of English. She served as the director of advising at Holy Cross College for five years (2003-2007) and as the director of the school's College Success Program (2006-2007). Previously she worked at Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend, (1980-2002) in various capacities, including teaching English and serving as the communications coordinator.

"It shouldn't surprise me that we did a national search for our new director and we found her right next door to Saint Mary's College," said Dr. Patricia Fleming, senior vice president and dean of faculty. "Diane really understands the quality Holy Cross educational experience we provide and will only enhance our students' lives with the resources and talents she offers. She will partner with our students in the discovery of how best to study to achieve the learning needed to make a difference in the world."

The Office for Student Success is a program designed to support first year students in their attainment of academic success during the critical first semester of adjustment to collegiate life. The program, which falls under the Division of Academic Affairs, focuses on empowerment and motivation as well as the development of skills and strategies necessary for academic success. The Office for Student Success is available to assist students on an individual basis or by professor referral.

Fox emphasizes the importance of establishing a solid foundation during the ever-important first semester of college. "As important as reading, writing and math skills are, strategies for time management, studying and goal setting are more so. The old saying, 'with freedom comes responsibility' is the theme for the first-year student. How this newfound freedom is handled may very well determine the success of their collegiate career," she said.

The Office for Student Success is located in the new Academic Resource Center in the renovated

Madeleva Hall. The first day of classes at Saint Mary's College is Monday, Aug. 24.

Knights receive education assistance

SOUTH BEND — The Knights of Columbus, John Carroll Chapter 5570 awarded two \$1,000 scholarships on July 27 to two of Knights' families to defray the cost of Catholic education. Recipients were Scott Singer, whose children attend Holy Family School, and John Pajakowski, whose children attend Corpus Christi School.

Courses in 'aging' offered at Holy Cross College

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College is offering two courses this fall in aging — Spirituality of Aging and Aging in Communities.

Anyone can join and audit these courses for only \$99 each. They are offered once a week from 4-6:30 p.m.

Each class has a 20-minute break for supper and participants can bring food with them or buy something to eat in the dining hall.

Both courses will be interactive without any limit on attendance, absences or tests required. The Spirituality of Aging course is offered on Tuesdays beginning Aug. 25. The Aging in Communities class is held on Thursdays starting Aug. 27. Each class is 15 weeks with one week off during fall break in October.

The college is also offering a certificate in gerontology for professionals. The two classes are part of the certificate. The certificate consists of six courses. Each course is \$300 and includes between 3-4.5 CEUs.

Contact Pat Adams, padarns@hcc-nd.edu or call (574) 239-8364 for more information on the courses or the certificate. The certificate is also listed on the Holy Cross College Web site at www.hcc-nd.edu with links to academics and then gerontology.

Ancilla College hosts new student orientation

DONALDSON — A standing room-only crowd was in attendance as Ancilla College hosted new student orientation on Thursday, July 9.

Students and parents from throughout the local community were able to learn about student activities and athletics, register for classes and receive new student identification cards and parking passes.

"We were extremely pleased and excited about the tremendous turnout we had," said Sarah Lawrence, assistant director of admissions.

Ancilla College will hold their next placement party — where students can take the college placement test — on Aug. 8. The next new student orientation will be held on Aug. 12. All offices will be open that day, and registration will be open to all students.

Father Daniel Leeuw retires

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Father Daniel Leeuw says the following prayer best expresses his ministry and love of the priesthood: "O Mary, my mother, to thee I consecrate the years of my priesthood; make them fruitful for the glory of God and the salvation of souls."

One could say Father Leeuw is just "sort of" retiring from ministry as of July 21. Although he is retiring from his chaplaincy at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla and at the Byron Health Center in Fort Wayne, he tells *Today's Catholic*, "I am going to continue at the VA (Veterans Administration) Medical Center as Catholic chaplain where I work 25 hours per week. I work not only in the hospital, but also in a program called Home Based Primary Care (HBPC), which takes me into the homes of disabled veterans of all religious faiths, and in some cases no faith. I try to evangelize not by word, but by example."

This evangelization has encouraged three veterans he served to join the Catholic Church.

He adds, "I am also going to continue working with Father George Gabet (a priest from the Fraternal Order of St. Peter) celebrating the Latin Tridentine Mass, which I have done since 1990. I celebrate two to three of the Masses per month on a Sunday. And, I will also continue to celebrate Masses on Sunday morning television."

Father Leeuw's doctors

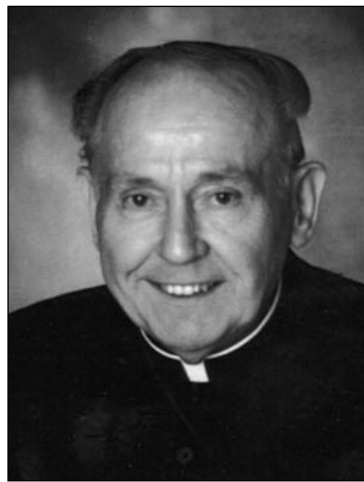
encouraged retirement. "My doctors have urged me to slow down, so I have asked Bishop D'Arcy to retire me from Provena Sacred Heart Home and Byron Health Center," Father Leeuw says.

"I always remember the beautiful thought: 'What I am is God's gift to me, and what I become is my gift to God,'" Father Leeuw says. "I know from the words of my ordaining Bishop Leo A. Pursley that I am a priest forever. I plan to continue my priestly work until God calls me home. My retirement is just slowing down so I can catch my breath to keep on running."

In a letter announcing his retirement, Father Leeuw says: "Robert Frost, an American poet, in his poem 'The Road Not Taken' writes: 'Two roads diverged in a woods, and I — I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.'"

He adds, "That road led me to the priesthood where I became an 'Alter Christus' serving for the past 52 years; 28 years as an associate pastor, pastor and educator teaching 18 years at Ancilla College, St. Joseph's School of Nursing, and the University of Saint Francis.

"I have been a high school principal at Huntington Catholic, and taught at Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend, and several Catholic grade schools," Father Leeuw says. "For the past 24 years, I have worked as priest-chaplain and director of pastoral care at Provena Sacred Heart Home, the VA Medical Center in Fort Wayne and Byron Health



FATHER DANIEL LEEUW

Center caring for the sick, the elderly and the dying in the evening of their life. It has been an inestimable privilege and blessing."

Father Leeuw is also the Catholic chaplain for Canterbury Nursing Home, Fort Wayne, the Knights of Columbus Council 1790, Garrett, and Mother Teresa Assembly 2581.

Father Leeuw has a great devotion to the Blessed Mother. He cherishes a statue of the Madonna that was once in the home of Archbishop John F. Noll and passed to Bishop Leo Pursley, who gave it to Father Leeuw.

Archbishop Noll was bishop when Father Leeuw began his studies for the priesthood, but Bishop Pursley ordained him May 25, 1957, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

As a teenager, Father Leeuw worked as a meat cutter and could have had a promising career in supermarket management; but, "The only thing I ever wanted to be in this life is a priest," he says.

In his childhood, he liked to play that he was celebrating Mass. He still has the "play" altar he used. Precious Blood Father Marcellus Foltz, an assistant pastor at Most Precious Blood Parish, Fort Wayne, from 1938-1942, was a major influence on the young Daniel Leeuw.

"He was just my ideal of what a priest was like, and I really liked him," Father Leeuw says.

As for retirement, one of the first things he looks forward to is his week-long retreat — for the 38th time — with the Trappist Monks at Gethsemene in Kentucky.

When he was a boy, he sent for a brochure on vocations. "The only reason I never (joined) the Trappists was simply because I like to talk too much," he quips. "I've always gone there (for retreats) simply because of the life of prayer that they've had and the simplicity there," Father Leeuw says. "It's always drawn me every year."

With no television, radio or secular newspaper, "it's like stepping back from humanity and enjoying life," Father Leeuw says.

A sign notes, "God alone" and Father Leeuw says, "And that bespeaks it to me — just God alone, you and God, and God and you."

Our Lady of Guadalupe to host festival

WARSAW — Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw will host a parish festival on Saturday, Aug. 15, beginning at 11:30 a.m. and concluding with a candlelight procession at 8 p.m.

Activities include games for adults and children and a variety of Mexican food.

The roster includes:

- 11:30 a.m. — Welcome and opening prayer in honor of the Blessed Mother

- 12-12:30 p.m. — Choir
- 12:30-1 p.m. — Popular songs

- 1-1:30 p.m. — Sacred dance
- 2 p.m. — Mass
- 1:30-3 p.m. — Break and time to visit food booths

- 3-3:30 p.m. — Choir
- 3:30-4 p.m. — Folk dance
- 4-4:30 p.m. — Popular songs

- 4:30-5 p.m. — Choir
- 5-6 p.m. — Play

- 6-6:30 — Folk dance
- 6:30-7:10 p.m. — House choir

- 7:10-8 p.m. — Booth closing and cleanup

- 8-9 p.m. — Procession

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Diocesan Shrine is located at 225 Gilliam Dr., in Warsaw. For information, call (574) 267-5324. Tickets are sold the day of the event.



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High school service trip offers inspiration

BY MONICA MURPHY

SOUTH BEND — Growing up in a city, I have been exposed to many visions, ideas, customs and bright dreams. My journey to Jonesville, Va., with the St. Joseph Parish Youth Group, Holy Cross Father Nate Wills and adult leaders would be a great challenge, an experience that would shed a brighter light on my walk with Christ.

Not accustomed to a world that experiences such poverty allowed me to look at the reasons why I was called to participate on this service trip. Traveling with approximately 50 other committed volunteers, June 6-13, I was ready to get my feet wet.

Driving 15 minutes into Jonesville, I saw the poverty with my own eyes. This poverty did not compare with what I had seen on television. It was as if I was awoken from an unbelievable dream. People living in homes that were torn apart and unlivable brought tears of frustration to my face. I thought about the children who were outside playing in their yard and how they lived in such harsh conditions.

Our group of 50 divided into seven teams for the week. My team worked on a woman's home. Her name was Alice, a single mother with four grown children. A very kind, humble and heartfelt woman, Alice allowed us into her home. Through her eyes, I could see her beautiful cry for hope.

Our team's task was to pull up the old floor in Alice's home and replace it with a new one. Walking through her home for the first time was like walking into a prison of despair. Quickly I thought of her safety, her well-being and her dignity as a human being.

Her bathroom did not work, and the rest of her house was in the slow process of being renovated. Thankfully, her brother lived right next door and she could use the bathroom in his house. She fell through the floor a few years ago as she was trying to work on repairing her home.

Each team completed a different task during the week. Whether it was putting new siding on a home, tearing down an old roof or pulling up a floor; we

all put our best effort and strength into our work.

A different way of life rises in the mountains of Appalachia. Despite their difficulties, I found that these brothers and sisters are filled with tremendous faith. Furthermore, the residents welcomed us with a warm, inviting community and were full of fruitful ambitions. I received support and friendship from those who passed us by on the streets. What really struck me was how close this community was.

I reevaluated the blessings in my life — to be thankful for a hairbrush, fruits and vegetables, towels, soap and the basic things to survive. These are things that I tended to never thank God for in the past.

The community in Jonesville taught me true happiness. Just through interacting and having the chance to hear their stories, these families showed me greater visions. They allowed me to see the face of God working in their lives. They invited me to cherish my fellow neighbors. They provided me with greater hope for the future.

Money in one's pocket, the house that one lives in, or the clothes on one's back are not nearly as important as spreading the love of Christ through service. My greatest prayer for our world is to look beyond the stereotypes, the judgments or the critical elements of those who are not the same as we are.

As Americans we need to really step out of our comfort zones and live in unity. I challenge our world with this idea: Wouldn't it be truly joyful to face God one day and tell him that we used all of our gifts and talents to serve him completely. I challenge you this summer to serve in your local community, our country and world.

As Saint Joseph High School principal and one of our adult volunteers, Susan Richter, said: "Though these families may not be rich in material things, they are rich in love."

Monica Murphy is a 2009 graduate of Saint Joseph's High School and an incoming freshman at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame

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EOE

Victory Noll Center to host women's auxiliary retreat Aug. 22

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center, sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, serves the people of God through programs that foster personal and spiritual growth and enrichment. These programs reflect the commitment of the sisters to empowering women, promoting peace and justice, preserving the environment and education on immigration issues.

In another step to advance its mission, Victory Noll Center is in the process of creating a Women's Auxiliary. The three-fold purpose of this group is to pray, participate in and promote the vision and mission of the Center. The center is inviting women who are passionate about spiritual and personal growth to consider being part of the auxiliary. Being part of this group has the benefit of becoming a partner in the ministry of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters through the center.

Meeting monthly, women gather to nourish their own spiritual life through prayer together. Then ideas are shared about ways this group might participate in and promote the center's ministry. While still in its beginning stages, women of the auxiliary are discerning how and where their personal gifts might be used in service. Promoting the center would include networking with churches (both Catholic and Protestant), professional and community

organizations, universities and other groups to help increase awareness of Victory Noll Center in the Huntington community and surrounding areas.

Members of the auxiliary also support the ministry of the center by volunteering for hospitality, assisting with mailings, and planning events and fundraisers.

The Women's Auxiliary will hold a retreat Saturday, Aug. 22, for women who are already members or who are interested in becoming members.

The retreat will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, located at 1900 W. Park Dr. The program will be "Jesus' Women's Auxiliary: Those Who Participated in His Mission."

Mary and Martha, Joanna, Mary of Magdala and Susanna may have been the first "women's auxiliary." This retreat will focus on how they balanced prayer and service, and how we might learn from them to be faithful to our call as women disciples.

The cost is \$10, and the registration deadline is Aug. 12.

Anyone interested in joining the Women's Auxiliary or attending the retreat should contact Victory Noll Center Director Sue Wilhelm at (260) 356-0628, ext. 128.

No one is ever turned away from a program because of the inability to pay. Payment plans and other arrangements may be made by contacting Victory Noll Center.



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THE CALL TO SERVE ACROSS THE GLOBE

BY KAY COZAD

Young teacher serves on Alaskan tundra

FORT WAYNE — Although Alaska is not necessarily considered overseas territory, to one native Hoosier it was an opportunity to travel to serve a community in need. Molly Slocum, a 2004 Bishop Luers graduate and daughter of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishioners Kara and Rob Slocum, boarded a plane to St. Lawrence Island, located west of mainland Alaska in the Bering Sea, after earning a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Xavier University in Ohio in May of 2008.

Slocum accepted a position teaching in the Bering Strait School District, which encompasses the schools along the Alaskan coast and the two villages on St. Lawrence Island. Her new home was in the village of Savoonga where she lived with other teachers in a house located close to the school.

Her school service ranged from teaching second graders to special classes for third through sixth graders struggling with reading skills. All students there switched classes and were grouped according to their skill level rather than their chronological age or grade.

"It was easier to accommodate each student," says the young teacher, adding that the students accepted their placement despite the age variance. Slocum taught up to 50 students each day in small classes of 12-15 students.



PROVIDED BY MOLLY SLOCUM

Molly Slocum, third from left, poses with fellow teachers on the Alaskan tundra where she taught second graders for a year.

Though the environment and culture were alien to Slocum, she immediately immersed herself in village life.

"I wanted to experience life as they did," she says. School activities were a central part of community life, so "everyone knew your business," she reports.

Villagers were known to call others out to the beach when a whale was procured. Slocum has experienced the taste of raw

whale, seen seals pop up between the ice flows, survived extreme temperatures and winds, and says it was like living in a *National Geographic* magazine.

The children came to kindergarten speaking the native Siberian Yupik and learned English at school, and each student had a native and an English name.

Her parents sent the *Magnificat*, a monthly magazine offering daily Mass readings and reflections, so that Slocum could keep up with Mass, as there were no Catholic churches on the island. Her faith, she says, was deepened there in the slow-paced culture, where she spent time hiking the serene tundra, which lies closer to Russia than Alaska, and reflecting on God's direction for her life.

"I was lonely, but that gave me time to develop my relationship with God a little more," she says, adding that she has become more in tune with herself and more at ease with the current pace of life.

Slocum flew home after the end of the school year and is currently working at a local day camp as she seeks a teaching job in her home community.

"It was a wonderful experience. But I missed my family and my faith community. That's a big part of why I'm back," she says, "I do hope wherever I go I touch someone's life. It's about the relationships I form."

Hawkins serves God's children abroad

CHICAGO — Laura Hawkins, a Fort Wayne native and lifelong parishioner of St. Therese Parish, and daughter of Mel and Chris Hawkins, earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Wittenberg University in Ohio in 2001. During her senior year, she began the process of applying for the Peace Corps.

"I've always had an interest in living abroad and doing something to help others," she says. "I believe that it is everyone's responsibility to do something to make this world better, even if we make it better for just one person."

So in 2002, this courageous young woman found herself in the small town of Gauze Cua in Paraguay, South America, as part of the Peace Corps. For the next two-and-a-half years she worked with the teachers of the elementary and high schools in her town to improve their classrooms.

Her duties included teaching the teachers games to play with students, creating learning materials, improving literacy skills, instructed students to be math and reading tutors and offering workshops on self esteem, decision making and goal setting. She also worked with mothers in the town to stimulate activity with their birth to 3-year-old children.

Hawkins is back in the United



PROVIDED BY LAURA HAWKINS

Laura Hawkins worked with students and mothers in the small town of Gauze Cua in Paraguay, South America, for two-and-a-half years as part of the Peace Corps effort.

States now teaching Spanish in a Chicago school and says the experience of serving abroad has changed her life. "I learned that everything we have here, all the 'stuff' in our lives is so unimportant and has nothing to do with our happiness. I learned that simpler is better, and the people in our lives count for more than things ever will."

Megan Ryan prepares to teach and serve in Ghana

FORT WAYNE — Megan Ryan knew years ago that she wanted to serve the underprivileged after graduating from college. Her desire has led to a unique service opportunity that she and fellow graduate Katie Yohe have created together. The two, sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross and Saint Mary's College, will spend a year teaching and working within a community in Ghana, West Africa.

Ryan, a 2005 graduate of Bishop Luers High School and member of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne, recently earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education, with a minor in communicative disorders from Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame. The summa cum laude graduate is also licensed in corrective reading. Daughter of Tim and Kathy Ryan, Megan's

dream to serve the underprivileged will become a reality on Aug. 15.

The enthusiastic young teacher says she has always been open to God's call as to the logistics of her service, and when she and Yohe investigated the mission of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, the founders of her school, she felt inspired.

"After much reflection and prayer I have truly come to believe in the mission of the sisters. They are sisters of action and go where they are needed in the world. I feel called to go where I am needed and feel wonderfully inspired and comforted by the Sisters of the Holy Cross ...," says Ryan.

"Also, the core values of the sisters — compassion, faith, prayer and community — are all values that I wish to strengthen in myself and in those around me," adds this faith-filled young woman.



PROVIDED BY MEGAN RYAN

Megan Ryan stands at her graduation from Saint Mary's College where she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education.

The call to serve had Ryan and Yohe proposing the idea to teach abroad to the Sisters of Holy Cross and with the assistance of Sister Madeline Therese their proposal was accepted. The two will be sponsored by the congregation to teach at one of the sisters' mission sites where a new school has been built.

In their excitement the graduates took their proposal back to Saint Mary's College with the hope that the administration would agree to develop a postgraduate program for future education majors seeking service opportunities. Thanks to Saint Mary's theirs will be the first of many service opportunities sponsored by the collaborative efforts of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the college.

Ryan and Yohe will launch the pilot program in Kasoa, a small village outside of Ghana's capital

city of Accra, teaching second grade at Our lady of Holy Cross School. The school has an enrollment of about 250 students from preschool through second grade, most coming from poor farming families.

The graduates will also train other teachers at the school in the use of their teaching methods. And Ryan reports that the duo will be serving the Catholic and surrounding community "in any way possible," as well, including assisting with a youth group for middle and high school students.

"We will be called to serve the community in many ways other than teacher while we're there, and that is what is so exciting about it all. We will never know what to expect but will always know we are serving others," she says enthusiastically.

NEW PRINCIPALS ADD SPARK TO UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR

New principal welcomed at Sacred Heart, Warsaw

BY ANN THALLEMER

WARSAW — Sacred Heart Parish welcomed James L. Faroh, Sr., as principal of the newly renovated elementary school. He was introduced to the parish at all of the Masses, has met his staff and is ready to meet the students.

Faroh brings over 30 years experience in education to his new position. He taught, coached and was administrative assistant in the Michigan City area schools for 13 years and has served in dual roles as principal of Marquette High School and St. Mary's School, Michigan City. During that time, he was an instructor at Purdue University, Westville, and was educational and multicultural speaker for Purdue University and Catholic schools at local and state conferences and conventions.

Faroh was principal at Francis Slocum Elementary School, Marion, and later principal at Lincoln Elementary School, Huntington, before accepting this position.

Educational achievements include a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Purdue University, life certification in elementary education, teacher's license, master's degree in elementary education, certification in secondary school administration from Purdue University and life certification in elementary, junior high and middle school administration from Purdue University.

The numerous awards Faroh has earned include the highest possible rating on Administrative Evaluation Rubric for two consecutive years, nominated by a Frances Slocum teacher for



JAMES L. FAROH

Distinguished Principal of the Year and selected by Michigan City area schools as Outstanding Teacher of the Year as well as other honors.

Faroh is enthusiastic about his return to Catholic education and working with the students, families, staff and parish community. His educational philosophy is rather simple, "Do what is best for the students." He says he has found that things work out for the best when he keeps this philosophy paramount in his administration. The philosophy, coupled with the goal to "teach as Jesus did," completes his view of what education should be.

Faroh plans to teach, celebrate and strengthen Catholic identity with daily, weekly and monthly ongoing activities. This mission is the "umbrella" that he says he often speaks of with regard to Catholic education. The Catholic identity is what makes education unique at Sacred Heart. He believes the Catholic school is the church's wonderful gift to children and their families.

Faroh's wife, Patti, teaches kindergarten in Marion. They have a daughter, Michele, who is employed at Eli Lilly and a son, Jimmy, who attends Ball State University.

Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) Principal of the Year, nominated by the Catholic Schools of Northwest Indiana for National

New principal called to duty at Garrett

BY KAY COZAD

GARRETT — St. Joseph School, with its preschool through sixth grade student population, anticipates the upcoming school year with a new administrative head. Kris Call steps in as principal and has plans for the fine school.

A Decatur native, Call earned her elementary education degree from Indiana University-Purdue University in Fort Wayne (IPFW) and began teaching at St. Joseph School in Decatur. During her 19 years there she says she has taught most of the grades, including first, second and third, as well as running the media center at one time.

During her tenure at St. Joseph in Decatur, Call joined the Perspective Principal Program hosted by Our Sunday Visitor for diocesan teachers and earned her master's degree in education. Raised in a Protestant religion, Call found that as she taught in the Catholic schools, saw the community atmosphere and became involved, she began to seek answers about the faith.

"I set out to prove them wrong," she admits. She soon saw



KRIS CALL

the truth and "couldn't fight it anymore," she says. Call joined RCIA and was received into the church in 2004.

Call has recently completed classes to acquire her administrative license and her preparation for administrative work paid off this summer when she applied for the principal's position at St. Joseph in Garrett vacated by 22-year veteran Principal Linda Speer.

"It's bittersweet," says Call about leaving her longtime teaching position in Decatur. "But I'm excited, too," she adds with enthusiasm.

Though her start date in Garrett is Aug. 1, this passionate educator has made numerous 100-mile-round trips from her home in Decatur to Garrett to meet with outgoing Principal Speer and staff in preparation for taking the helm. "Linda is willing to answer any questions," says Call, adding that

everyone at the school has been wonderful.

Principal Call's hope for the future of the school, with its eight teachers and 130 student enrollment, is to "continue on the same path they have been on."

She says, "St. Joseph has the highest status academically. It is an exemplary school. I can't wait to see what the teachers are doing. It's working for them!"

Call will remain in Decatur "for now" and continue her involvement in her home parish of St. Mary of the Assumption where she is an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and a member of the current Christ renews His Parish team. Her friends and family all reside in Decatur, including her mother, grandmother and two older brothers. Her son, who is a member of the Air Force, is stationed in Hawaii.

St. Joseph's new administrator, who loves to read and collects autographed children's books, has a real enthusiasm for education.

"I have a passion for what I do," she says. Her dedication to the education of the children of St. Joseph School will certainly help lead the way into a bright future.

St. Anthony de Padua names Chad Barwick as new principal

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony De Padua Catholic School welcomed Chad Barwick as the incoming principal July 1.

Barwick will be taking over for Martha Lewallen, who retired after 27 years of service as both a teacher and a principal. St. Anthony De Padua has a 60-year tradition of providing high-quality education in a Christian environment rooted in faith, academics, service, community and family.

Barwick is a cum laude graduate of Auburn University with bachelor degrees in English and journalism. He continued his education by graduating at the top of his class from the University of Notre Dame with a master of education degree through the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Program.

When asked about the role of Catholic education in our community and the world today, Barwick said, "I feel blessed to serve in Catholic education because of its rich history and the vibrant role it plays in our world today. The Catholic schools started by Sister Elizabeth Ann Seton have been serving the needs of American children — both Catholics and non-Catholics — better than any other type of school for more than 200 years."

After spending three years as a newspaper reporter, Barwick start-



CHAD BARWICK

ed his teaching career at a Catholic high school in Louisiana through the ACE Program and taught English, journalism and Spanish. In addition to

teaching, he worked as sponsor of the student newspaper and coach of the cross country and track teams.

Barwick then took on a unique opportunity as a member of the core team that opened San Juan Diego High School in Austin, Texas. There Barwick assisted with development of the English curriculum along with teaching and organizing all extracurricular activities. In addition, he stepped in as part of an administrative team as acting principal during the first semester of the school's opening.

He continued his career at the largest private school in middle Georgia, making significant contributions teaching English, developing curriculum and coaching track and cross country. He was named the 2007 Coach of the Year for the Georgia Independent School Association Region 2AAA.

Barwick currently is the senior associate director for ACE Fellowship at Notre Dame.

Additionally, he develops and facilitates a series of yearly spiritual retreats for the ACE Fellowship.

As part of his role as new principal, he will be continuing his relationship with ACE as he has been accepted into the prestigious Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program. This program provides an intensive part-time 26-month experience, encompassing the dispositions of becoming a professional administrator, fostering school community and promoting spiritual formation.

Barwick's hope for the future of St. Anthony's school community is the willingness to share in community and deepen the sense of communal mission for all involved. He also wants to stress the important partnership and integration of the parish and the school.

As a transplant to South Bend, Barwick kept hearing and reading about St. Anthony and its good works. He visited and was impressed with the facilities and school atmosphere. And soon the position of principal came open. He's already connected with the St. Anthony Parish and School community by competing in the Run Panther Run 5K Race to benefit the efforts of St. Anthony's Home and School Association.



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Bachman joins administrative team at St. Adalbert School

BY KAY COZAD

SOUTH BEND — St. Adalbert Catholic School will see a new face this year in the principal's office. Mary Ann Bachman has accepted the position and is already working to make the coming school year one for the record books.

Bachman has a rich history of involvement in all things educational. This Chicago native brings both an undergraduate and graduate degree in education with over three decades of teaching experience to the administrative position. She is licensed in kindergarten through grade 12 leadership, which allows her to be a building level administrator.

Her experience includes teaching in her childhood elementary school in Chicago, St. Ignatius, before she and husband Fred moved to Cleveland and then to South Bend. The family, which includes two daughters, are long-time parishioners of St. Pius X in Granger.

Following their move to South Bend where she spent time at home with her children, Bachman returned to the schools in a volunteer position at the library in Corpus Christi School, where her children were students. The following year she accepted a part-time position teaching language arts and religion in second grade that stretched into the next four years.

Bachman then moved to the middle school level at Corpus Christi where she taught language arts for over nine years. "I love the middle school kids. They learn something new everyday ... and I get to help that along as they're



MARY ANN BACHMAN

In 2007, after two decades at Corpus Christi, Bachman was named the associate superintendent of curriculum for the Catholic Schools Office, where she worked with Title 1 and 4 requests and federal plan writing for the schools within the diocese as well as quality assurance and supporting the school personnel.

At the end of this past school year she knew it was time to move on and as a veteran teacher of 21 years, Bachman brings not only her professional expertise but her love of Catholic education to the administrative position at St. Adalbert. Though she will miss her colleagues at the Catholic Schools Office, she looks forward to working with students once again. "I thrive on daily interaction with students," she says.

This go-getter isn't letting any grass grow beneath her feet. Long term goals for St. Adalbert — "I want this school to be a place that the teachers will want to bring their own children. I want it to be an exemplary school," she says confidently. She reports that the small staff is made up of dedicated people "who go above and beyond," their duty.

For now Principal Bachman's short term goals include cleaning and arranging each classroom for

growing up," she says.

Her tenure there also includes teaching third and fourth grades as well as holding the dean of students-assistant principal position.

efficiency.

She also says, "We tackled the library and weeded out old, broken down books. Now we can see what's in there and make room for new books." The school recently had a book fair for students where the gently used library books sold for 10 cents each.

St. Adalbert principal and staff are anticipating the completion of a new computer lab as well, which will be embedded in the library. Bachman looks forward to automating the library in the future.

St. Adalbert currently has 174 students enrolled for the 2009-2010 school year in their pre-K through eighth grades. Bachman says the numbers have grown steadily over the years, and the predominantly Hispanic population of students tends to increase following the start of each school year.

The school staff includes one teacher for each grade level as well as a bilingual assistant, pre-K teacher, and resource and Title 1 teachers and aids. Miss Sophia, the bilingual assistant addresses any language challenges, but all staff are sensitive to those who do not speak English.

St. Adalbert enjoys support through the University of Notre Dame and its ACE program. Principal Bachman reports that the school employs two ACE graduates and one teacher who is currently participating in the program.

Though the start of the new school year is still a few weeks away the eager new principal says, "I'm looking forward to seeing what this year will hold. I'm excited about it!"

New principal takes the helm at St. John, Goshen

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — The students and staff at St. John the Evangelist School in Goshen will have a new principal at the helm this school year.

Amy Weidner has been chosen to lead St. John's students this fall. Weidner and her family — husband Craig and sons Cameron, 7, and Caden, 6, live in Plymouth. In fact, Amy and Craig grew up in Plymouth, were high school sweethearts and each have family living there.

Weidner attended Butler University and then lived in Indianapolis. She taught for five years in Indianapolis before she became a school administrator — first as assistant principal at Chapel Glen Elementary School in Indianapolis.

The couple moved back to the area to be closer to family and from 1996-2008 alternated between assistant principal and principal at Bremen Schools. From 2008 to present she worked as an adult education teacher and homebound instructor for Plymouth Community Schools.

Weidner grew up in St. Michael Parish and believes in the importance of a Catholic education.

"I feel like with the world the way it is, it's so important for children to have a faith-based education. The world can be a cruel place, they need inner strength to know they're never alone," she said.

Weidner feels the public school system is wavering from teaching good morals and values. Looking forward, she'd like to initiate a Life Skills program at



AMY WEIDNER

St. John's. She believes a Life Skills program helps children see the transition from faith-based education to their community.

Weidner said, as a

teacher, she developed a Life Skills program with three keys to success — organization, communication and self-discipline.

"I always felt that these things were pretty essential to prepare students to go to middle school, high school and beyond," Weidner said.

She said these three skills can be integrated into each class as the teacher decides and can range from how to utilize life skills by demonstrating courage, initiating friendships and responsibility.

"Some kids don't know what responsibility is — these are very teachable moments," she said. "I still get letters from students who are now in college or married, and they say they still use these (skills) on a regular basis and teach their own kids."

Weidner is looking forward to getting to know the kids at St. John's and working with the staff. She has already met some of the students and staff when she visited at the end of the school year on field day.

"The kids are fabulous — so loving and kind. Everyone has been so gracious and kind," she said. "I've worked in four different school corporations and I never had such a welcome! I'm so excited."

New Corpus Christi Principal Mackowiak stresses accelerated reading

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — What happened in Vegas this summer won't stay in Vegas, if new Corpus Christi principal Maggie Mackowiak has anything to do with it. She and five teachers from the grade school nestled in South Bend's northwest side took little time off during summer vacation. Instead, state funding permitted them to travel to Nevada to join teachers from around the nation for a conference.

Mackowiak says they spent five days attending 50 classes and soaking up 100 hours of information given by various speakers, many of whom are published authors in the educational field. Mackowiak's belief in the Accelerated Reading program currently in use at Corpus Christi was re-enforced.

"At the conference, a speaker said children who have difficulty reading, in an average school day,



MAGGIE MACKOWIAK

spend only one minute reading," shares Mackowiak. "Average children spend about five minutes a day doing actual reading. This lady

said, if your school is doing more than that, then you're way ahead of the game. In our Accelerated Reading (AR), the children read for 20 minutes a day last year. This year they're going to read for 30 minutes ... in-school reading."

Mackowiak, who has been a parent, teacher and recently named principal at Corpus Christi, says she saw a huge difference when she stepped up the school's AR program last semester. AR is a competitive reading program that challenges students to select books based on their ability, read as many

of those books as they can, and pass a test on each book before moving on to the next one.

"The first day after spring break, the eighth-grade class came in and wanted to know when they were going to get their AR time," recalls Mackowiak. "I about fell over. They begged, 'Please, let us read!'"

Mackowiak and her husband Larry are longtime parishioners of Corpus Christi and are raising four sons. Three are Corpus Christi graduates and their youngest is entering seventh grade. As someone who knew she wanted to be a teacher since the age of nine, Mackowiak has experience from just about every area as she heads into her first full year as principal.

Mackowiak hails from New York and attended Indiana State University. Her four-year athletic scholarship enabled her to attend college, where she began her career in education by teaching gymnastics. She began teaching first grade

at Corpus Christi in 2001.

"First I was a Corpus parent, then I was a Home and School president," explains Mackowiak, recalling the years she spent as an educator. "Then I was a teacher's aide, then a teacher. When Father Cam said we needed an assistant principal and asked if I would consider it, I said I'd love to because I knew that I really enjoyed working with all the teachers here.

"Our focus is on what's best for the child," says Mackowiak. "We want to take the kids, no matter what their ability or disability, figure out what they know, then move them forward. It's always going to be a balance to focus on high test scores and bring along the kids who need the extra help. But we have something most public schools don't, and that's 100 percent parent support. That makes a difference!"

Mackowiak says she is grateful for her supporting cast, including the teachers she's worked with

over the years and Assistant Principal Keith Foley. Mackowiak will spend the next two years attending classes toward her principal's license, and Foley already has his, having spent three years as a principal in Millersburg.

As she enters her 14th year as an educator, Mackowiak says she is also looking forward to working with the new pastor at Corpus Christi, Father Daryl Rybicki. Father Rybicki has experience as a principal and administrator, having served at Saint Joseph's and Marian high schools, in addition to other diocesan grade schools. Mackowiak says the diocese is also making her transition easier.

"The Catholic Schools Office is really good at helping new principals keep their head above water," says Mackowiak. "They are always in touch, asking what you need and how they can help. They are always there to help you. I am looking forward to serving at Corpus Christi ... I feel very blessed!"

EDITORIAL

Singing the 'blue law' blues

There's a movement throughout the state seeking signatures in support for Sunday sales of liquor. "We think the time is long past due to change Indiana's antiquated laws," says the president of the Indiana Retail Council and spokesperson for Hoosiers for Beverage Choices. The group hopes to make alcohol available on Sundays in Indiana and allow grocery and convenience stores to sell cold beer.

The "antiquated laws" referred to are the so called "blue laws," originally designed to enforce religious standards by the first Puritan colonists in the 17th century, in particular the observance of Sunday as a day of worship and rest.

In most states, blue laws have been repealed, declared unconstitutional or simply are not enforced, although prohibitions on the sale of alcoholic beverages, and occasionally nearly all commerce on Sundays, are enforced in many locales. Blue laws often prohibit an activity only during certain hours and usually there are exceptions to the prohibition of commerce, like grocery and drug stores. In some places, blue laws may be enforced due to religious principles, but others are retained as a matter of tradition or out of convenience.

In Indiana, off-premises alcohol sales are completely prohibited on Sundays; however, restaurants and taverns generally still can serve it. The Hoosier State, along with Georgia and Connecticut, ban the sale of beer, wine and spirits, while some other states only ban liquor sales. Additionally, Indiana prohibits alcohol sales on Christmas Day and on election days until the polls close.

Why the government can tell businesses whether they can be open or closed on Sunday is a question that has baffled political experts and alcohol aficionados alike for decades. Many state lawmakers, in fact, still are stumbling over the last vestiges of Prohibition even though the 18th Amendment was repealed 75 years ago. Since 2002, 13 states have repealed blue laws restricting liquor sales on Sundays while 15 others are carrying the laws on their books.

Unlike the European nations that continue to ban Sunday shopping, with more American households featuring two working parents, Sunday has become the second-busiest shopping day of the week, after Saturday. "(People) want to buy alcohol while doing their shopping," argues the director of Hoosiers for Beverage Choices.

Not only is Sunday the second-busiest shopping day of the week, it also is fast becoming a popular occasion to do household chores, such as laundry, cleaning and yard work. In addition, athletic contests, fairs, shows, exhibits and other events are scheduled on Sunday, often in the morning opposite religious services.

Churches have had to come to grips with the growing trend of activities other than attending religious services occupying their parishioners' time, attention and affection. Sunday sales of alcohol provide an opportunity that may be harmful to families, increasing alcohol-related problems like drunk driving. It's yet another lost battle between commercialization and God — an unfortunate slippage into every day being the same — with Sunday no longer set aside as a day of worship and rest. And, it's a sign, too, of America's growing pluralism, with consumerism in danger of becoming idolatry.

Sundays should be a time for religion, rest from labor, family gatherings, and renewal of bonds. But like Christmas and Easter, Sundays aren't necessarily days of worship and celebration anymore, with many required to work or participate in secular activities.

If retail establishments start selling alcohol on Sunday, especially liquor stores, additional people necessarily will be required to work on Sunday, simply spreading six days of business over seven days, losing their only day off in the process.

Many believe the trend is clear and eventually all states will chip away at some or all Sunday alcohol prohibitions, especially during a difficult economy. "Consumers have a way of getting what they want," a politician is quoted as saying. It can take some time, but voters and the religious component may get what they want. Regardless of the outcome, consider the outlook of The Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2188 says:

"In respecting religious liberty and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of Sundays and the church's holy days as legal holidays. They have to give everyone a public example of prayer, respect and joy and defend their traditions as a precious contribution to the spiritual life of society. If a country's legislation or other reasons require work on Sunday, the day should nevertheless be lived as the day of our deliverance, which lets us share in this 'festal gathering,' this 'assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven.'"

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

COMMENTARY

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

Let the taxpayers beware!

It should be called the Planned Parenthood Economic Stimulus Package of 2009.

Instead, co-sponsors Tim Ryan (D-OH) and Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) have given their "new" (though largely recycled) bill the promising title "Preventing Unintended Pregnancies, Reducing the Need for Abortion and Supporting Parents Act." Sponsors describe the bill as a "common ground" approach to reducing unintended pregnancies and abortions, one that should appeal to opposing sides in the abortion debate.

Sure, the bill is dressed up with some funding for after-school programs, and some (very poorly crafted) efforts to provide support for pregnant students. But make no mistake. The bill is "about access to birth control," according to Congressman Ryan (MSNBC's "Hardball," May 19, 2009). In the same interview, Ryan explained: "We have to have birth control and contraception offered to these poor women who don't have access to contraception, period, dot. There's no other way we're going to be able to reduce (abortions)." About what you'd expect in a bill whose co-sponsors enjoy a 100 percent pro-choice rating from NARAL.

Accordingly, their bill calls for grants for comprehensive sexuality education (abstinence-only educators need not apply!). It substantially increases funding for the federal Title X Family Planning Program. It denies state choice, making family planning services a mandatory Medicaid entitlement in all states, and greatly expands family planning eligibility under Medicaid to all women who are eligible under state law for prenatal, labor and delivery care.

Some people might find this approach sensible. But they ignore at least two things. First, since at least 1980, taxpayers have been funding "family planning services" to the tune of over \$1 billion per year. In 2006 such public expenditures totaled \$1.85 billion. So today, virtually all teenagers who are sexually active and do not want to become pregnant are already using contraception. Only 7 percent are not using it, according to the Guttmacher Institute.

Second, contraceptives don't work very well in real life. In the first 12 months of contraceptive use, 16.4 percent of teens (1 in 6) will become pregnant. Among low-income cohabiting teens, the failure (pregnancy) rate over 12 months is 48.4 percent for birth control pills and 71.7 percent for condoms.

Numerous studies in the United States and Europe have found that greater access to contraception fails to reduce unintended pregnancies and abortions. A recent \$10 million intervention in England giving at-risk teens comprehensive sex education and contraception is a perfect example. Teens in the program had a pregnancy rate 2.5 times higher than a similar group of at-risk teens (16 vs. 6 percent).

Why does increased access to contraception fail at the population level? Thinking they are protected from pregnancy and disease, more young people become sexually active and have more partners, offsetting any reduction in pregnancy from individual contraceptive use. And the increased level of sexual activity causes STD rates to soar. In the U.S., 1 in 4 teen girls has at least one STD; many of these are incurable and some are fatal.

The sharpest decline in unintended pregnancies and abor-

LIFE ISSUES FORUM

BY SUSAN E. WILLS



tions since 1990 has occurred among those under 18, due not to comprehensive sex ed or contraception, but chiefly to the growing number of young people choosing to remain abstinent. Visit the Secretariat's Web site for contraception facts and citations at www.usccb.org/pro-life/issues/contraception/index.s.html, and let your member of Congress know that the Ryan/DeLauro bill cannot fulfill the promises in its title. The real abortion-reduction bill in Congress now is the Pregnant Women Support Act (S.1032, H.R.2035), which needs our support.

Susan Wills is assistant director for education and outreach in the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. To learn more about the bishops' pro-life activities, see www.usccb.org/prolife.



Blessed Frederic Janssoone

1838-1916

August 5

This French missionary set aside theology studies to help care for his Flemish family after his father died. However, in 1864, he entered the Franciscan novitiate at Amiens, and after ordination in 1870 was a military chaplain in the Franco-Prussian War. He established a Franciscan convent at Bordeaux, worked in the Holy Land to preserve the holy sites and aid poor Palestinian Christians, and became a well-known contemplative. In 1881 he went to Canada to raise funds for the Holy Land; he moved there permanently in 1888, conducting missions and serving at a Marian shrine. He died in Montreal.

On the value of work

Yesterday was a busy day. I took advantage of the fact my college-age son didn't have to work, and my high school-aged son was also available, and we tackled the cleaning of the basement. It was an invigorating experience.

Mike is a "no-nonsense-get-the-job done" kind of guy, and he started moving boxes and digging in like I was paying him \$20 an hour, which I wasn't. (I figured providing three meals a day for as long as he is home should do the trick. It did.)

Although I had asked the younger girls for help, they dragged their feet until they saw their big brother working. I would like to think that they were motivated by his enthusiasm and good attitude, but that was not the case. They were afraid he'd throw away one of their toys.

They scrambled like ants to a piece of cake on the ground as soon as they saw him approach a box of their stuff, and they started pitching in too. When he earnestly

asked, "Can I throw this away?" referring to a pink, semi-sparkly tattered piece of cloth, which in better days must have been a piece of dress-up clothing, I gave him the thumbs-up. Seeing this, the girls scrambled to find and retrieve anything that might belong to them before he got it. Organization never felt so good.

After a while, the girls got in the groove too, as did my high school son. The latter was put in charge of the boot, coat, hats and scarves closet, while the former tackled the toy room and game closet. I gave instructions to dump and sort and make a pile of things that didn't fit anyone. We found old wallets and a couple sticks of lip gloss (What can I say? I have six girls), and more batteries than I could count, broken toys, mittens without a match and some loose change. We filled five large garbage bags of junk, and filled the recycling container to the brim. Then we put everything else back on the shelves.

Ah ... It's a glorious experience



HERESA A. THOMAS

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

to observe your offspring work together to improve the surroundings of your home. It's better than lemonade on the porch swing or a enjoying few candy kisses from the secret stash in the kitchen. This family teamwork is supposed to happen here every Saturday, but more often than not someone is missing, at practice or rehearsal or in another activity in this business we call life. But yesterday, the children all came together with me to work for a common goal, and the synergy was amazing.

If the family that prays together stays together, then the family that

EVERYDAY, PAGE 16

Salvation is God's gift



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Jn 6:24-35

The Book of Exodus provides us with the first reading.

As the name implies, this book of the Bible traces the path of the Hebrews as they fled Egypt, under the leadership of Moses, and proceeded across the desolate Sinai peninsula en route to the land God had promised them.

A trip across Sinai today on a paved highway and in a modern vehicle is no delight. The land in general is unoccupied, arid and unappealing. When the Hebrews crossed this territory, the circumstances were even more forbidding. Of course, they were traveling on foot. They were exposed to the heat of the day and the chill of the night. The peninsula offered little by way of food or drink. They had no compass to guide them, no path to follow.

Nevertheless, Moses urged them onward. Constantly, he reminded them that God had prepared a place for them, a "land flowing with milk and honey."

Following Moses at times seemed to the Hebrews to mean that they were wandering farther and farther away from civilization and from security. Deeper and deeper they marched into the unknown and the inhospitable.

So, they grumbled. This reading from Exodus captures some of the complaints. They were hungry.

Moses challenged them even more to trust in God. Miraculously, they discovered one morning that the ground was covered with a substance that indeed they could eat. They called it "manna." Without this food, they would have starved.

Modern scholars do not know exactly what was this substance suddenly found on the ground. Some scholars have suggested that it was the secretion of insects. Indeed, other scholars note that a species of insects migrates to the south from Europe, and that indeed these insects secrete a substance suggestive of the ancient manna.

In any case, the vital point for the Hebrews was that this substance arrived precisely when they needed food, and precisely after they had prayed for food. God provided for them. God works through nature. The fact that the manna had natural origins in no way diminishes the fact of the miracle.

For the second reading the church offers the epistle to the Ephesians. This epistle calls upon the Christians of Ephesus to recognize Jesus, the Lord, as the source of all wisdom. He is the source of all goodness.

St. John's Gospel offers the last reading. As was the case with the Hebrews in the story from Exodus, the contemporaries of Jesus looked for signs and wanted salvation on their own terms.

In this reading, the Lord presents salvation as God's gift. Jesus bears this salvation. Indeed, the Lord bears the bread of life to a people otherwise vulnerable to starvation.

Then Jesus makes a startling statement. "I am the bread of life," the Lord declares.

Reflection

The church in these readings reminds us once more that we are humans. First, we are vulnerable to death. We can die physically if we are deprived of material food long enough. We also may die spiritually if we are left to ourselves and without God.

Part of our human limitation is our exaggerated trust in ourselves, and our ignorance of the genuine dangers before us.

These readings remind us of our plight with excitement and hope, they recall the fact that again and again God is with us and has answered our needs.

God's greatest and most perfect answer is in Jesus. Jesus is the revelation of God. If we live as Jesus lived, we will be near God.

Most importantly, Jesus is the "bread of life." If we worthily consume this bread in the Eucharist, Jesus is part of us. He lives in us.

READINGS

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15 Ps 78:3-4, 23-25, 54 Eph 4:17, 20-24 Jn 6:24-35

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-17 Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:1, 3-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35 Ps 106:6-7, 13-14, 21-23 Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10

Friday: Dt 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-16, 21 Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51 Mt 17:14-20

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Campion

- An attempted marriage of a Catholic who is already validly married is**
a. ineffable b. inaudible c. invalid
- This referring to Scripture means without error, but does not, as is commonly thought, mean it is all literally true**
a. ineligibile b. illegible c. inerrant
- This characteristic is associated with much church teaching, but is often mistakenly thought to only exist if the pope makes an "Ex Cathedra" prodamation**
a. insolvency b. infallibility c. inconsequentiality
- A valid, consummated marriage is basically**
a. indissoluble b. indifferent c. inoperable
- "In Petto" is a technical term often used of cardinals or bishops who are appointed but not**
a. Catholic
b. validly ordained
c. announced publically due to possible danger
- This is simply a canon law term for permission given to a diocese to do something ordinarily not allowed**
a. invocation
b. insurrection
c. indult
- Ordination makes this type of mark on a man's soul**
a. indelible
b. indistinct
c. infarction
- The condition of original sin is one we are born with, so is**
a. inopportune
b. insidious
c. innate
- The Eastern Orthodox churches that are "autocephalous" are simply**
a. independent of other churches
b. in revolt against the Russian Church
c. in heretical unions with non Catholics
- Incardination refers to the process of assigning a person often a priest, to the jurisdiction of one of these**
a. diatribes
b. dioceses (hence bishops)
c. ecclesial courts
- The term "incarnation" refers to the**
a. validity of the word of God as the sole rule of faith
b. Word becoming flesh in Jesus
c. ultimate fate of mankind in the end times
- Roman Catholics use this in liturgy on special occasions, but Eastern Catholics and the orthodox use it more**
a. incandescence
b. invocation
c. incense
- Although Martin Luther got very upset at how these were administered, they are still valid in catholic theology**
a. indulgences
b. interposed confessionals
c. interpretations of Scripture
- "INRI" is not a word but stands for the Latin for**
a. title written on the Cross "Jesus Christ God's Son Savior"
b. title written on the Cross "Jesus of Nazareth, King of The Jews"
c. title written on the Cross "Jesus Christ Son of God"
- This was a court of inquiry which, despite stories about the persecution of Jews and Muslims, actually only had jurisdiction over Christians:**
a. The Index of Books
b. The Indoctrination Congregation
c. The Inquisition

ANSWERS:

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

Some consider Mount of Olives as site for the Second Coming

What does the Mount of Olives in Israel look like?

The Mount of Olives is a hill opposite Jerusalem. Between the hill on which Jerusalem is built and the Mount of Olives lies the Kidron Valley.

K. Prag says the Mount of Olives is a ridge of soft limestone over four kilometers long with three main peaks. The Mount of Olives has many olive groves, and there were even more olive trees there in the time of Jesus.

Jesus was familiar with the Mount of Olives, because he stayed at Bethany on this mount with his friends, Martha, Mary and Lazarus, while he was in Jerusalem.

Father J. Murphy-O'Connor says, at pilgrimage time, the population of Jerusalem tripled. The cost of lodging in this city became exorbitant, so the poor had to make arrangements in the surrounding villages. Thus each day Jesus walked over the hill to

Jerusalem and returned at nightfall. It seems that Jesus spent a lot of time with his apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane at the base of the Mount of Olives. When Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin, met Jesus secretly at night, it may have been in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus' agony and arrest also took place in this garden.

On Palm Sunday, the pilgrims walk from Bethphage on the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem to commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The ascension of Jesus into heaven took place on the Mount of Olives. The Old Testament prophet Zechariah speaks of the Lord God resting his feet on the Mount of Olives, as he is accompanied by all his holy ones. So some Christians consider the Mount of Olives as the site for the Second Coming of Christ at the end of the world.

There are many sites on the Mount of Olives. In the Garden of

Gethsemane, there is the Church of All Nations built in 1924. In front of the altar is a huge rock on which Jesus prayed during his agony. Baedeker says this rock is surrounded by a low railing resembling the crown of thorns.

Near Gethsemane is the Russian Church of Mary Magdalene with seven domes. It was built in 1888 by Czar Alexander III. Its interior is filled with icons.

Further up the Mount is the Catholic Franciscan Dominus Flevit chapel built in 1955. This title is Latin for "the Lord wept." This chapel commemorates Jesus weeping over the city of Jerusalem. Inside the church is a large see-through window above the altar. This offers a magnificent view of the city of Jerusalem. Today you see the Muslim Dome of the Rock mosque with its golden dome. But in Jesus' time, you would have seen the huge Temple of King Herod the Great.

Also on the Mount of Olives is a large area called the Tombs of the Prophets. The Old Testament prophets Haggai, Malachi and Zechariah are said to be buried here.

Then on this mount lies the Pater Noster Church, a Latin title for the "Our Father" prayer. Baedeker says this church commemorates Jesus teaching his disciples the Lord's Prayer, which is written in 80 languages on tablets of colored tiles.

At the top of the monastery is the Ascension chapel to mark the spot where Jesus ascended into heaven. Baedeker says the Catholic Crusaders built a chapel here in the 12th century, but it was later converted by the Muslims into a white-domed building.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for August 2, 2009

John 6:24-35

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: connections between manna and the bread of life. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

CAPERNAUM	RABBI	LOAVES
PERISHES	ENDURES	ETERNAL
SON OF MAN	SET HIS SEAL	ANSWERED
THE ONE	SIGN	MAY SEE
BELIEVE	ATE MANNA	WRITTEN
HEAVEN	MOSES	BREAD
NEVER	HUNGER	NEVER THIRST

SET HIS SEAL

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E N D U R E S E V A O L
E R C A A T E M A N N A
S A D A J O N E V E R E
Y B H J P N D T V C A S
A B E L I E V E B R S S
M I A W K T R R R E O I
E M V N C T L N E G N H
N O E G H I W A A N O T
O S N I E R K L D U F E
E E R S D W L L A H M S
H S E H S I R E P K A B
T J O K D E R E W S N A
  
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Benedict XVI and the truth about charity

CRACOW — Pope Benedict XVI's social encyclical, "Caritas in Veritate" ("Charity in Truth"), is a complex and occasionally obscure document, replete with possible implications for the future development of Catholic social doctrine. Sorting those implications out will take much time and even more careful reflection. Along the information superhighway, however, careful reflection hit a few potholes in the early going, as sundry partisans sought to capture "Caritas in Veritate" as a weapon with which to bolster the Obama administration's economic, health care and social welfare policies.

Thus in the days immediately following the encyclical's July 7 release, we were treated to the amusing, if somewhat ironic, spectacle of self-consciously progressive Catholic magazines, bloggers and freelancers, many of whom would have preferred to eat ground glass rather than see Joseph Ratzinger as Bishop of Rome, blasting those who dared raise questions about the encyclical's intellectual provenance and some of its formulations. Where were these stout-hearted crusaders when the going was tough — when, for example, the pope was under fire for his Regensburg Lecture on Islam, or for attempting to reconcile four excommunicate Lefebvrist bishops to the church?

But that was before we entered the new Messianic Age.

In any event, there is an important theme in "Caritas in Veritate" that, were all Catholics to take it seriously, might have a measurable impact on the American culture wars and on the U.S. church's internal struggle to define Catholic identity — and that is the encyclical's insistence, repeated several

times, that the life issues are social justice issues, so that Catholic social doctrine includes the church's defense of life from conception until natural death.

This teaching began with John Paul II's 1995 encyclical, "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), in which John Paul warned that democracies risk becoming "tyrant states" if moral wrongs are legally declared "rights." Then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger went a step further in his homily at the Mass for the Election of a Pope, on April 18, 2005. There, Ratzinger warned against a "dictatorship of relativism" in which coercive state power would be used to enforce the by-products of a culture skeptical about the human capacity to know the moral truth of anything: by-products such as abortion-on-demand, euthanasia and "gay marriage." Now, as Benedict XVI, Ratzinger has moved the discussion further still, teaching that the defense of life is crucial to building the "human ecology" necessary to sustain just economic practices and protect the natural environment.

"Caritas in Veritate" has now put Catholic legislators and politicians on notice: you can't duck the life issues, or vote the wrong way on the life issues, by hiding behind an alleged commitment to the church's social justice agenda. Catholic social doctrine and the church's commitment to the right to life flow from the same source: the Catholic conviction about the inalienable dignity of every human life. A robust culture of life, the pope proposes, is essential for economic justice and environmental protection; it is also necessary if we are to avoid the dehumanization of a brave new world of stunt-



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

ed and manufactured humanity, the slippery slope to which is paved with misconceived compassion and embryo-destructive stem cell research.

"Caritas in Veritate" thus reminds the whole church that there is neither justice nor charity without truth. No society can claim to be promoting justice or solidarity if its law denies the truth of others' humanity. That is what Roe v. Wade and its judicial progeny have done in the United States; that is why laws protective of life from conception until natural death are an imperative of social justice; and that is why "common ground" efforts to lower the incidence of abortion, while welcome, are inadequate from the point of view of Catholic social doctrine — the moral equivalent of saying, in 1955, "Okay, let's see if we can't get you black folks into one or two segregated restaurants in every county."

Catholic legislators have been forcefully reminded of all this by the new Benedictine encyclical. The results in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and our state legislatures should be instructive.

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

EVERYDAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

works together gets things accomplished, and learns good lessons about cooperation, endurance and life. The fact is, work is good for children, despite the fact they tell you otherwise, or even may develop ailments — "I have a headache" (funny, no headache at the pool earlier today) or "My leg hurts" (interesting that it didn't hurt five minutes before the work was to begin). When mom asks for help suddenly a hangnail is of utmost urgency, and the need to find a band aid is critical. Working through this emergency and continuing to labor also develops fortitude — physically for the children and mentally for the mother.

Pope John Paul II in his encyclical "Laborem Exercens" ("On Human Work") writes, "Work is a fundamental dimension of human existence on earth."

In other words, we're all stuck with it. Pointing that out to a stubborn 9 year old might help him finish the chore you've assigned. Even adults like mommy and daddy aren't off the hook from work.

In summary, the family is better off spiritually when members cooperate and work together. Eternal life is the ultimate goal. But, of course, a clean bathroom is kind of nice too.

Theresa Thomas, is the mother of nine children and wife of David. Theresa Thomas may be contacted at: theresathomaseveryday-catholic@gmail.com.

Sports

St. Anthony baseball team takes ICCL Tourney Championship

SOUTH BEND — The St. Anthony's sixth-grade baseball team finished their spring season with a 10-0 record. For the second consecutive year, these boys have won the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) Tourney Championship and finished without a loss.

They beat Christ the King, 9-7, in the championship game. The offensive attack was led by Chris Lippert and Evan Drinkall with 3 RBI's each and Noah Waltz going three for three with three runs scored.

Justin Drinkall, Chris Lippert and Noah Waltz combined for 12 strike outs and held the potent Christ the King offense in check.



PROVIDED BY ST. ANTHONY'S SIXTH-GRADE BASEBALL TEAM

The St. Anthony's sixth-grade baseball team, which won the Inter-City Catholic League Tourney Championship, is shown in this photo. In the photo are, front row, from left, Patrick Foust, Eli Barstis, Noah Waltz, Jackson Gallagher and John Spalding; second row, Billy Miller, Justin Drinkall, Chris Lippert, Austin Truhler, Brendan McNamara and Evan Drinkall; back row, assistant coaches Austin Drinkall, Dave Barstis, Ron Truhler, manager Steve Waltz and assistant manager Alan Foust.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPONSOR GOLF OUTING The St. Aloysius Knights of Columbus in Yoder will host a golf outing on Saturday, Aug. 29, at the Grey Goose Golf Course in Decatur. Registration begins at 7 a.m. with golf starting at 8 a.m. Cost is \$300 per team. Men, women and children are invited to participate. The day will include multiple raffles, goodie bags, door prizes, hole-in-one prize, team prizes, lunch and awards, free drinks on the course (beer included), etc. For additional information or for sponsorship, contact Don Wyss at (260) 740-2290.

Teams report results from ICCL girls track

BY CHUCK FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — Rain may have slowed the track at South Bend's Clay High School for the recent ICCL city meet, but it certainly didn't dampen the spirits of hundreds of competitors in the annual girls track event.

Coach Brad Kaizer's Holy Family squad, which also included girls from St. John the Baptist, St. Adalbert and Our Lady of Hungary, entered the meet as the regular-season champions in Class A (girls 13 and older).

Maureen Vervet's St. Anthony team earned the regular-season crown in Class B (12-year-old girls). Those races are held in a traditional dual-meet format, but tournament scoring brought some different results in the city meet.

Alex Wong finished first in the 50 and 100 meters as well as two relays to help St. Joseph, South Bend, run away from the field in Class A. Coach Bill Carpenter's Eagles also received two first-place performances from Meghan Sullivan.

St. Thomas finished second with Holy Family third.

Corpus Christi's Kate Vasile dominated the distance events, taking first place in both the 800- and 1,600-meter runs.

A spectacular performance by Michelle Weaver led St. Joseph-South Bend to a narrow victory over St. Pius and St. Matthew-St. Jude in Class B. Weaver won all four individual sprints, taking the 50, 100, 200 and 400-meter runs. She was challenged by St. Matthew-St. Jude's Gabby Ravotto, who came within two-tenths of a second of Weaver in the 50 and 100-meters.

In Class C, Corpus Christi and Holy Family shared the tournament title. Coach Julie Magee's Corpus Christi team was led by Sam Kambol, as the speedster took first in the 50 meters, long jump and shuttle relay. Holy Family had a terrific outing from Katie Sopczynski, who scored in five events, including taking the 200-meter title.

Christ the King's Mara Taylor proved her mettle in the distance races, grabbing the title in both the 800- and 1,600-meter runs.

One of the highlights of each year's event is a one-lap jog, open to all of the competitors. Anybody who finishes receives a participant ribbon from ICCL President Tony Violi and treasurer Bill Sorukas.

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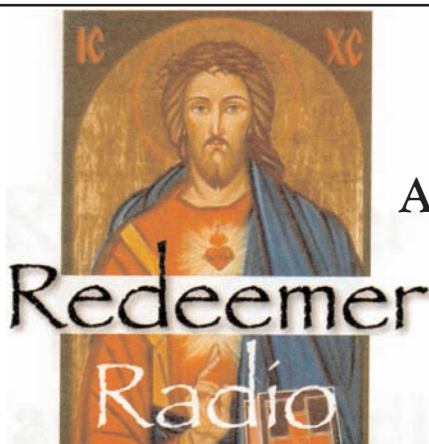
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Lutz, Underwood receive Gold Award

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — From a young age as a Daisy Girl Scout, St. Jude parishioner Erika Lutz recognized the faith elements of Girl Scouting.

"Ever since I started (Girl Scouts) we always had snack time and thanked God," she recalled. Now today at age 17, she has applied those faith-based values to earn a prestigious distinction; the Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout can attain. According to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America's Web site, "the Gold Award project is the culmination of all the work a girl puts into 'going for the Gold.'"

Upon choosing a project, the Girl Scout presents it for approval before the council. Once approved, she has the go ahead to develop the service project. Lutz's idea: a hands-on project to enhance preteen girls' self-esteem.

She said the issue of low self-esteem was first brought to her attention when talking to teachers at her sisters' elementary school. The teachers faced daily problems of girls picking fights and put downs.

Hearing their concerns, Lutz wanted to do something about it: "If there is an issue, why not do this," she said at the time.

Thus a "Become a Better You"

was launched last winter. Lutz worked with 20 to 30 girls in four sessions to teach them life skills for self improvements. Dancing, the relationship between health and self esteem, helping others and being unique were among the topics of the modules.

The Snider High School student said the gratification was instant: "The best part about it was ... these girls would walk up to me and tell me what they learned," she said. In addition, the teachers said they noticed the impact on the girls' behavior and morale.

Lutz was honored with the award a few weeks ago at a ceremony, where she was among the three Gold Award recipients in the Northern Indiana-Michiana district.

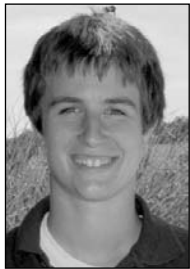
Friendships, fun and learning are three words that sum up Lisa Underwood's experience as a Girl Scout.

Underwood, now 18, said her days as a Brownie were formative in her development as a young adult. Although, they seemed routine at the time, certain values stuck with her.

"The things we did learn were



ERIKA LUTZ



LISA UNDERWOOD

important things," she said.

That means helping people in need. In fact this mantra was the basis for her Gold Award project. This time, the concentration was on the elderly in the community.

With the help of an eighth-grade troop at St. Charles Parish, Underwood organized a collection of flowers from various local florists. The flowers were then taken to Lutheran Home in Fort Wayne, where residents helped distribute them. The residents' reaction to the bouquets was heartwarming.

"Just seeing the residents' faces made it all worthwhile," she said. The lesson learned in her words: "Simple things make people the happiest."

According to Underwood, a Girl Scout's influence can extend far beyond the troop.

"Being a Girl Scout encourages community service and gets people involved ... to learn how to serve," she said.

Underwood graduated from Bishop Dwenger in December and has plans to attend nursing school at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW).

Catholic religious medalists honored

The following have received Girl Scout Catholic religious medals in 2009:

Family of God

- Queen of Angels, Troop 20443 — Addison Bailey, Adeline Joy Barry, Mary T. Carroll, Jenna Osborne and Ashley Talarico;
- St. John, New Haven, Troop 20096 — Marisa Wigent and Mallori Wigent;
- St. Charles Borromeo, Troop 20494 — Alex Bayes, Bridgette Black, Kathryn Desch, Maddie Filler, Joanna Linder and Amanda Pennucci;
- Troop 20054 — Olivia Rorick;
- Troop 20481 — Mikaela Brust, Lauryn Federspiel, Sarah Victoria Frazier, Anna Kuras, Robbie Majewski, Isabella McGillucuddy, Emma Perkins, Rachel Scott and Katie Steenport;
- St. Vincent de Paul, Troop 20060 — Emily Bietz, Erin Blackburn, Madison Butler, Olivia Byers, Amy Connolly, Kathryn Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Alyssa Michelle Dempsey, Jillian Gregory, Julia Hunnicutt, Kaylee Jakubowski, Katy Kaiser, Maggie Kelly, Maria Klingenberger, Mariah Maddy, Gabrielle Moran, Alexia Mueller, Ellen O'Brien, Kayla Sheehan, Mary Simcoe, Mikayla Stump, Kaleigh Thompson, Rebecca M Weber, Mackenzie Wilhelm, Kendall

Willwerth, Gracie Winkeljohn and Juliann Stureman.


I Live My Faith

- Christ The King (South Bend), Troop 30051 — Samantha Burns, Abby Deren, Alexis Goy, Julia Harrison, Katie Higgs-Coulthard, Katie Polega, Maureen Taghon and Kassie Yaw;
- St. Vincent de Paul, Troop 20302 — Megan Campbell, Sam Faulk, Erin Fosnaugh, Katie Fredbloom, Erin Jackson, Katherine Key, Karsyn Kitchen, Amber Lancia, Audrey Lukemire, Alexa Marasovich, Milena Smythe, Emily Tippmann, Jackie Turner and Natalie Yehlo.

Marian Medal

- St. Vincent de Paul, Troop 20525 — Sydney Blake, Olivia Leazier, Kendra Martin, Erin McBride, Blessing Okendy, Tiffany Page, Jessica Schowe, Rachel Swaim, Tracy Turner and Nora Weisz;
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Troop 20135 — Samantha Allen, Maddie Brown, Rachel Hentz, Megan Leman, Nicole Lynn Keesling, Alison Partee and Rachel M Seals;
- Notre Dame Campus Scouts — Sarah Cate Baker, Nicole Burns, Emily Han, Jamie Malicki, Sarah Herman, Charlie Ann Soule and Sarah Urycki

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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

Dedication ceremony at Albion

Albion — The Steve Hopkins Memorial Grotto will be dedicated Sunday, Aug. 2, at 1 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church. The grotto has been a project that was brought to life upon Steve's passing, by the faith community of Blessed Sacrament. Father Lourдино Fernandes will conduct the blessing ceremony and light refreshments will follow.

Craft Fair Spaces Available

Fort Wayne — St. Charles Borromeo Parish will have a craft fair on Nov. 7, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Booth spaces are available. All items sold must be hand made. Call (260) 749-6077 for an application.

Knights plan party in the parking lot

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #553 will have a party in the parking lot, 554 Washington St., Friday, Aug. 21, from 5-10 p.m. Ticket of \$10 lets you enjoy a sandwich, a drink and a band, The Whistle Pigs. The Knights will donate a portion of their proceeds to Our Lady of Hungary School. For information visit <http://www.kofc553.com>.

Roots and Rhythm

Fort Wayne — "Roots & Rhythm," a festival for all ages to raise awareness and funds for Vincent Village, will be Saturday, Aug. 15, at Headwaters Park from 2-11 p.m. Bring blankets and lawn chairs. Bands featured include The Freight Hoppers, Gold Mine Pickers, PT Gazell, Two Man Gentlemen Band, Arvel Bird & The Fred Rotherth Band, Ty Causey and

Huckleberry Blue. Pre-sale tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the gate. Ages 10 and under are free with an adult. Tickets are available on line at www.rootsandrhythm.org or at the 3422 N. Anthony Wooden Nickel. Call (260) 484-3635.

The Christ Child Society welcomes new members

South Bend — The Christ Child Society clothes approximately 4,000 children with new winter coats, hats, mittens, shoes, under-clothing, school uniforms and layettes and clothing for little ones. Would you like to help? The annual Christ Child luncheon and orientation for prospective members will be held Wednesday, Aug. 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the new center located at the corner of Scott Street and Western Ave. Contact Joanne Gans at (574) 299-8351 or joannegans@comcast.net for details.

NFP classes offered

Wabash — The Couple to Couple League will offer a course in natural family planning beginning Sunday, Aug. 16, at 6 p.m. in Zahn Hall at St. Bernard. The PowerPoint-based course is composed of three one-per-month classes that teach a newly simplified version of the "sympto-thermal" method of NFP. For information or to register, call Pat or Monica Klein at (765) 668-8034, or e-mail them at wisdomsfool@att.net

Gator Gallup plans ninth year

Yoder — St. Aloysius will host the Gator Gallop 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Aug. 1. Registration and packet pickup will be 6-7

p.m. in the school basement and begin at 7 p.m. in the south parking lot. Gator Gallop T-shirts guaranteed to all pre-registered. For information contact Chad Ware (260) 466-4272 or visit www.orgsites.com/in/gatorgallop.

DEVOTIONS

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Deacon Fernando Jimenez will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, Aug. 4, at 7:15 p.m. to pray for vocations. Deacon Fernando is assisting at the cathedral.

Women's Day of Prayer

LaGrange — The Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization will have a Women's Day of Prayer, Sept. 19, at St. Joseph Parish. The many ways of prayer will be explored by presenters: Sister Anne D'Arcy, CSJ, Bishop John M. D'Arcy, and others. Cost is \$25, which includes lunch. For information call the Office of Spiritual Development (260) 422-4611 or e-mail mworman@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

GOLF OUTINGS

Golf outing gathers CC alumni

Fort Wayne — CCHS class of 1959, along with all other alumni will gather for a golf outing Friday, Aug. 21, at 1:30 p.m. Shotgun start at Autumn Ridge Golf Course, 11420 Auburn Rd. Golf, cart and lunch for \$42. Arrange your own foursome, or we will do it for you. Send checks to Carol Hoghe Smeltzley, 2530 Culpepper Ct., Ft. Wayne, IN 46845.

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Joan L. Morehead, 79, St. Dominic

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Churubusco

Megan Christine Young, 16, St. John Bosco

Fort Wayne

Geraldine J. O'Donnell, 87, St. Joseph

John Anthony Weber, 81, Our Lady of Good Hope

Jack W. Calkins, 70, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Mary Ann Huhn, 71, Queen of Angels

Mary E. Seitz, 96, St. Jude

Margaret Suelzer, 96, St. Jude

Carla Mae Martin, 71, Most Precious Blood

Paul F. Davis, 87, St. Henry

Phyllis M. Fanger, 82, St. Peter

Dennis Alan Bolinger, Most Precious Blood

Ruth Ann Schaefer, 90, St. Vincent

Eloise R. Conroy, St. Therese

Alice Smith, 85, St. Vincent de Paul

Joanne F. Nolan, 76, St. Jude

Ann E. Gotschall, 77, St. Charles

Christopher M. Leyden, 59, St. Vincent de Paul

Paul Springel, 91, St. Joseph

Cynthia A. Bloom, 63, St. Jude

Debbie Howard, 56, St. Vincent de Paul

Mishawaka

Juanita M. DeLaruelle, 81, St. Joseph

Thomas A. Stachowski, 43, St. Joseph

Eleanor M. Jaworski, 84, St. Monica

Notre Dame

Father John R. Birkmeyer, CSC, 85, Sacred Heart Basilica

Sister M. Catherine Bartels, CSC, 83, Our Lady of Loretto

South Bend

Michael L. Dombrowski, 65, Christ the King

Louis C. Jaronik, Sr., 66, Holy Cross

Arthur Bella, 86, Holy Family

John R. Bender, 83, St. Matthew Cathedral

Ralph M. Miner, Jr., 80, St. Matthew Cathedral

Margaret C. Murray, 88, St. Catherine Siena/Sacred Heart

Irene A. Bradley, 84, St. Joseph

Ernest R. Prentkowski, 87, St. John the Baptist

Rosemarie C. Buszkiewicz, 80, St. Adalbert

Albert J. Mostaert, 83, St. Patrick

Huntington Catholic plans golf outing

Huntington — Huntington Catholic School will have a golf outing Saturday, Aug. 29, with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. at Norwood Golf Course. \$50 per player (lunch included). Please mail your team member names and check to Tony Johnson, 4168 W-900 N, Huntington, IN 46750 by Aug. 19.

St. Adalbert plans golf outing

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a golf outing at Sprig O Mint golf course, in

Bremen on Saturday, Aug. 29, with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Cost per player of \$60 includes greens fees, cart and lunch. Space reserved on a first come, first served basis. Call Steve or Mary Filbert at (574) 234-7992.

Support MacDougal Chapel

Fort Wayne — Support the renovation of MacDougal Chapel by purchasing a brick engraved with the name of your family or loved one. Bricks can be reserved for a \$100 donation. For information call (260) 424-1485.

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POPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The spokesman said medical staff from Aosta's hospital were bringing a portable X-ray machine to the retreat house in Les Combes July 23 so that doctors could do a follow-up scan of the pope's wrist.

The doctor who performed the surgery on his wrist, the pope's two personal physicians and an orthopedic specialist from Rome's Fatebenefratelli hospital were scheduled to be present for the July 25 check up and X-ray, he said.

The specialist from Rome, Dr. Vincenzo Sessa, will provide follow-up care once the pope heads to the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo July 29, said Father Lombardi.

The Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, visited the pope July 22 to discuss church matters, leave off documents for the pope to look at, and deliver a number of get-well wishes that had been sent by world leaders, said the spokesman.

Father Lombardi said Pope Benedict has been speaking regularly by phone with his older brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, who lives in Regensburg, Germany.

The 85-year-old monsignor will spend four weeks with the pope at the papal summer villa at Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, Father



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VI A
CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

With his right arm in a cast and sling, Pope Benedict XVI takes a walk during his vacation in Les Combes, Italy, July 18. The pope had fractured his wrist in a fall just a few days into his vacation in the Italian Alps.

Lombardi said.

After the pope's stay in the Alps, he will go directly to the papal villa July 29. Popes generally stay at Castel Gandolfo until late September.

Before leaving the Alps, the pope will preside at an evening prayer service July 24 in the cathedral of Aosta, which is near the village of Les Combes, and deliver a homily.

BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

This month's featured selection:

"Mother Teresa's Secret Fire" by Joseph Langford

Reviewed by Tim Johnson

Have you ever wondered what the motivation is for a saintly life and how one could capture that fire?

Father Joseph Langford, a priest of the Missionaries of Charity who worked personally with Mother Teresa, came to know Mother Teresa's "secret fire" and writes about this motivation in "Mother Teresa's Secret Fire," Our Sunday Visitor — ISBN: 978-1-59276-309-2.

The book discusses an encounter Mother Teresa had with Jesus where he explained to her what he meant when he said, "I thirst." This encounter as she rode a train on Sept. 10, 1946 transformed Mother Teresa's life and can be transformative in all our lives.

Jesus' words, "I thirst," express a longing, a yearning of God to draw all of us into his embrace, exactly as we are regardless of our past failings and present weaknesses.

And Jesus' words, "I thirst" on the cross, echo down throughout history. All of Scripture is a commentary on the divine thirst, and in turn, the divine thirst sheds light on all of Scripture, on all of Revelation, on all that is.

The book tells us that Mother Teresa was sent not only to the poor of Calcutta, and not only to pierce the darkness of material want. She was sent also to us — to a modern culture of which, for different reasons but with the same effect, Jesus could also say, "They don't know me — so

they don't want me. ..." He sent Mother Teresa to proclaim his thirst to this generation so that, in an age grown cold, to a world living under the same blanket of darkness and unredeemed pain portrayed in her vision, she might remind us of God's yearning, and so reawaken our own.

Mother Teresa's transformation was due entirely to the grace she received. She invited her sisters and all of us to share in this grace.

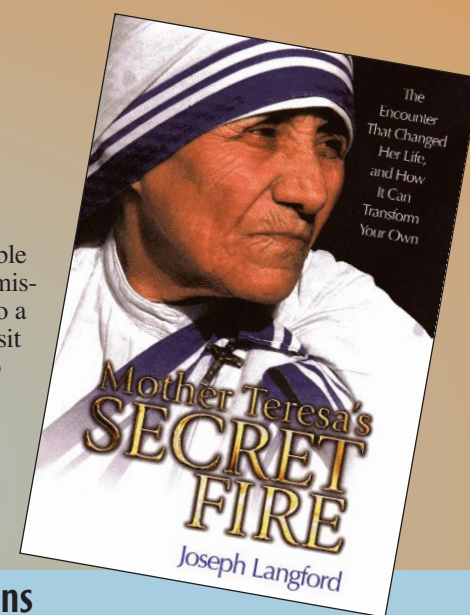
Mother Teresa was 40 when she had this encounter with Jesus, proving we are never too old to embrace God's call of love and launch a new plan to allow God to use us for good.

The book says "We do not need more information about our faith, as much as we need more actual faith — more conscious faith-contact in our daily prayer-encounters with God. The dimensions of our faith become the exact dimensions, large or small, through which God and his love must pass in order to reach us. God's gifts are not a reward for our faith; they are instead the direct consequence of our faith, the result of opening wide the faith-portal between our soul and the Almighty."

The book offers guided meditations to draw us to the Lord, to capture that thirst of Our Lord.

I found that reading the book required a highlighter pen. It is almost a lesson to learn to love the Lord as he calls us. It challenges our thinking and makes Mother Teresa's mis-

sion applicable to our own mission. It's also a book to revisit from time to time and to reshape our lives.



Questions for discussion

- Jesus tells Mother Teresa, "They don't know me, so they don't want me." What keeps me from knowing Jesus?
- Mother Teresa addressed the material poverty of Calcutta, but in our western world, we too encounter a poverty of sorts. What impoverishes me?
- One of the most compelling stories in "Mother Teresa's Secret Fire" is that of St. Jerome where Jesus asks St. Jerome, "Give me your sins." Why is this so difficult for me?

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