



Into the fold ...

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

God's hand in catechesis

Jim Tighe appointed director of Office of Catechesis

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Jim Tighe sees his role as the director of the Office of Catechesis as a continuation of building on the fruits of his predecessor Sister Jane Carew.

Tighe had been co-director of the Office of Catechesis with Sister Jane since the beginning of the year. As of Sept. 1, Sister Jane, who has ministered as the director the Office of Catechesis since 1987, will assume a part-time position as a catechetical consultant, and Tighe will become the director of the office.

In making the announcement about the change in directorship, Bishop John M. D'Arcy writes, "I am very grateful to Jim for giving up a secure job in business and joining our catechetical team at my request. Jim is also involved in preparation for the Office of Deacon. He and his wife, Patty, are members of St. Jude's Parish, Fort Wayne. Jim, in addition to studying for diaconate, is undertaking the course for a master's degree in catechetics at Notre Dame."

Under Sister Jane's leadership, the Office of Catechesis has grown and seen local and national accolades.

"When I came in 1987, catechetics was trendy in many ways," Sister Jane tells *Today's Catholic*, "I have been blessed with a strong catechetical background and much experience in ministry. Following bishop's vision to be guided by the great catechetical renewal flowing from Vatican II and with talented staff, God blessed a persevering fidelity. There is no way I could foresee the growth that has come."

Bishop D'Arcy notes, "I am sure you know how grateful I am to Sister Jane for her extraordinary 22 years as director of the Office of Catechesis. I am

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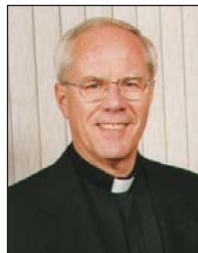


TIM JOHNSON

Jim Tighe directs the Office of Catechesis at the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Tighe had been co-director of the Office of Catechesis with Sister Jane Carew since the beginning of the year. As of Sept. 1, Sister Jane, who has ministered as the director the Office of Catechesis since 1987, will assume a part-time position with the office as a catechetical consultant.

YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



FATHER JOHN KUZMICH

Father John Kuzmich likes popcorn. Popcorn and old movies on TV is one of his favorite ways to relax,

which may happen infrequently, since his parish, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, has more than 3,000 registered souls.

When he actually gets a day off, it includes a visit to the campus of the University of

YEAR OF, PAGE 4

Bishop D'Arcy ordains Holy Cross seminarians to diaconate

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — In the presence of family, friends and members of the Holy Cross family, Kevin Grove and Gerard Olinger professed their final vows in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Saturday, Aug. 29, and were ordained deacons by Bishop John M. D'Arcy the following day in the chapel at Moreau Seminary.

Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial, testified to Bishop D'Arcy of the readiness of the two men to receive the order of deacon on their journey toward the priesthood.

In his homily, Bishop D'Arcy spoke of his privilege to be associated with an extraordinary missionary order like Holy Cross and

his gratitude for all the congregation has contributed to the work of the diocese since its beginning.

When speaking of the great need for priests, Bishop D'Arcy quoted Pope Benedict who said, "We have learned that it is more important to have good priests than many priests."

When addressing the assembly and those to be ordained about the ministry of deacon, Bishop D'Arcy said that God wants pure hearts freely given. Those to be ordained, in fact all, no matter what their call in life, must always rely on God's grace for hope and strength. He told the candidates to be like St. John Vianney, the patron of priests,

ORDAIN, PAGE 20

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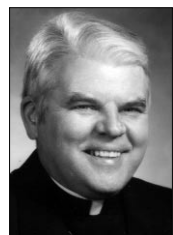
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Bishop ordains Holy Cross deacons, blesses law school chapel



NEWS
& NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A lovely late summer day at Notre Dame

Any day on that campus is grand, but this was also of great significance. In the morning, it was my joy to ordain to the holy and ancient office of deacon, Kevin Grove and Gerald Olinger. The previous day they had taken their final vows before a filled Basilica of the Sacred Heart, where so many before them have offered their lives to Christ in this historic, missionary congregation and where many others have pronounced the vows of matrimony.

Kevin, from a small town in Montana, had studied under the Jesuits at the University of Seattle. He happened to be coming through Notre Dame and heard a homily on the Holy Cross fathers by Father Kevin Rousseau, CSC, at Sacred Heart Basilica where he found some literature on Holy Cross and was on his way. Gerry Olinger, from Philadelphia, with an aunt in the Philadelphia Franciscans, a congregation I know well, as three members of my family have been members. Gerry, as a young boy, was serving Mass in a large church in Philadelphia. He was about 12. While waiting for his mother to pick him up, he knelt for a little while before a statue of Our Lady. A woman came up to him and said, "You will be a great priest." He went to Notre Dame and Notre Dame Law School. Indeed, many who studied law at Notre Dame have gone on to the priesthood, including Father Bill Beauchamp, CSC, now president of the University of Portland.

I know all this because Father Pat Neary, CSC, who is a good friend and the rector of Moreau Seminary and celebrates Mass in Spanish for the Hispanic Catholics at St. Dominic, Bremen, followed his usual practice of inviting me for coffee and Irish scones before the ordination. I knew these two young men previously. I gave a class as part of the course that Father Michael Heintz, Ph.D., teaches on priesthood and met them there and also at St. Joseph Parish. Deacon Kevin will serve his diaconate at St. Joseph Parish under the direction of Father John DeRiso, CSC, while Deacon Gerry will serve in the northwest at the University of Portland.

A beautiful diaconate ordination, with a testimony of their readiness being given by Father David Tyson, CSC, Holy Cross provincial. This was followed by a brunch, which included French toast and a slightly stained cassock.

A truly holy chapel

After a bit of rest, I returned to Notre Dame for the dedication of the new chapel at the Law School. Both in the place it is situated and its design, the new chapel is a place of prayer that uplifts the heart.

Dedicated to St. Thomas More, patron of lawyers and more recently, by decree by Pope John Paul II, patron of politicians, it is a worthy place of prayer.

Remember, under the direction of the newly retired Dean Patricia O'Hara, the law school has greatly expanded, and part of that expansion is a new chapel.

The beautiful stained glass windows depict Thomas More, St. Augustine, Our Lady and a window dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament. The symbol of Holy Cross is above the entrance.

The ceremony included the consecration of the altar. The chapel, which I am told seats about 70, was full to overflowing. There were about 150 people in attendance. Most of them were students of the law school, along with some faculty. Thus, for the second time in one day, I sang the Litany of the Saints, as we had done at the ordination. It was a special joy to meet Dean Nell Jessup Newton, the new dean at the law school, coming from a similar position in California. I thanked her for her gracious kindness. I wish to commend the committee who designed this chapel; and when you are on campus, you should visit this chapel. Surely an excellent addition to the many sacred places on campus. The committee members are Dean Patty O'Hara; Father Peter Rocca, CSC, rector of the Sacred Heart Basilica; and Father John Coughlin, OSF; professor of canon law and ethics at the law school. Father Richard Warner, CSC, concelebrated along with Father Rocca and Father Coughlin.

Afterwards, there was a delightful cook-



NATHAN PROULX

Bishop John M. D'Arcy speaks to youth ministers from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at a dinner at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw. The essentials of youth ministry are prayer, catechesis, sacraments, service and evangelization.

out nearby. I especially enjoyed meeting a number of international students. These are men and women who are already lawyers in places such as El Salvador, Peru or Africa. They come to Notre Dame to take a renowned course at Notre Dame on human rights. I was impressed with their backgrounds and their dedication.

A splendid evening in Warsaw

Monday evening, on my return trip to Fort Wayne, it was time to join Cindy Black and Megan Oberhausen, two extraordinary women who are in charge of our department of Youth Ministry at our still new Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw. They had prepared a blessed evening for the adults who are working in the all-important ministry to youth in our various parishes. As I told Cindy later, for a bishop this was an encouraging night. With the help of a video featuring Father Mark Gurtner and two of our seminary candidates, Ben Muhlenkamp and Matt Coonan, a presentation was given concerning the essentials of youth ministry.

These essentials are prayer, catechesis, sacraments, service and evangelization. There was great emphasis on the centrality of the priest and on the formation of adult leaders. Ministry from adults — both priests and laity — rather than peer ministry, was said to be at the core at those parishes, which have a truly effective ministry to youth. The centrality of the priest giving pastoral and theological leadership was emphasized.

What I found especially important was the emphasis placed by Cindy and also Father Mark on the holiness and prayer life of those who are directing youth ministry. "Do not expect to draw the young people closer to Christ if you are not yourself living a life close to Christ in the holy Eucharist," said Cindy. The emphasis was placed on the Mass and also on eucharistic adoration. After such an evening, it was a joyful drive through the night from Warsaw to Fort Wayne.

Adult catechesis

It was a joy to stop at St. John, Goshen, on my way to South Bend to join Father Tom Florek, SJ, along with Enid Roman De Jesus and Lourdes Silva of our Hispanic Office for the graduation of about 45 people from a program of catechesis given in Spanish. This was followed by some excellent Mexican food.

Enid and Lourdes, along with our Office of Catechesis, especially Jim Tighe, Christina Emilian and Sister Jane Carew have begun a second semester of adult catechesis, more directly under the bishop. It has not been easy to obtain people fluent in Spanish and catechesis and theology — but they have done it.

We have a number of parishes now with a flourishing ministry to our beloved Hispanics who have come to us from 19 countries. We must train catechists and teachers, and this effort indicates we are well begun.

I am glad to be visiting you every week once again. So, see you all next week.

TIGHE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

very grateful that with her great knowledge of the catechetical enterprise and the documents of the church, she will continue to help in the office on a part-time basis.

"Her focus will be on such things as curriculum, the training of catechists, the screening of those admitted to the program and the high school theology departments," Bishop D'Arcy says. "Her leadership in the training of catechists, seeking and securing funds from OSV (Our Sunday Visitor), screening of candidates, improving and strengthening of curriculum, implementing the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and formation of courses on the masters level and the certificate level have helped good catechesis to flourish in our diocese."

Under the leadership of Sister Jane, the Education for Ministry, funded by OSV, has been very successful, providing continuing education and training for 800 catechists and people wanting to learn more about their faith. A similar education for ministry program for Hispanic Catholics in the diocese has also been launched in Fort Wayne.

Another 63 diocesan high school theology teachers and diocesan employees have master's degrees in theology from either the

University of Dayton or now the University of Notre Dame. These graduates are resource teachers — what Sister Jane calls "incredible leaven" — for programs such as the Catechetical Institute Days, coordinated by the Office of Catechesis, and Education for Ministry.

The four diocesan high schools have emerged with exemplary theology programs, and the Office of Catechesis has been active in procuring teaching talent for the high schools.

The excellent training of high school and grade school theology teachers have made the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend one of the top scoring dioceses in the nation on the ACRE exam for religious education. The Office of Catechesis has worked closely and successfully in collaboration with the Catholic Schools Office to achieve this success.

The high scores in the ACRE exams has given the diocesan catechetical office national recognition for their work.

Tighe and Sister Jane both note the changes they are witnessing in catechetics.

"We live in a wonderful time," Sister Jane explains, "and Bishop D'Arcy has faithfully encouraged us through the catechetical reforms of Vatican II."

Tighe, a former sales manager with Federated Media in Fort Wayne, a one-time seminarian and now training for the permanent diaconate, tells *Today's Catholic*, "The Office of Catechesis and the diaconate — the fit there between

the two is very good. ... I realized that everything that I had been preparing for, for the last 2-1/2 years, has been preparing for this work and is being ordained."

After 30 years in radio, Tighe says many wondered why Bishop D'Arcy would ask "this radio guy" to run the Office of Catechesis. But Tighe, a former seminarian, has trained in the Education for Ministry and the diaconate program. And he has been a catechist since mid 1980s.

As Bishop D'Arcy talked with Tighe about coming on board with the diocese, Tighe says, he sensed, "It was time to move on" from radio, a career he enjoyed and in which he used his talents.

"I was being called to something else," Tighe says. He figured "that call" had something to do with the diaconate program.

But as discussions ensued with Bishop D'Arcy about the Office of Catechesis, Tighe says he knew, "This is something I felt drawn to for a long time."

Both Sister Jane and Tighe see the Holy Spirit at work in the decisions and the journey that led them to the Office of Catechesis.

Tighe says, "And for me, that's one of the reasons it fits in so well with the call of the diaconate, which is to serve. And deacons are truly to be servants, servants of the bishop."

Tighe says, "What I'm interested in is to continue doing what we are doing and continuing — 'Is this good for the church?' 'Is this what we need now?' 'Is this where the Lord is leading us?'"

Funds for Catholic Charities assist areas of diocese hit hard by the economy

FORT WAYNE — With rising unemployment rates, including some of the highest in the nation within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the need for assistance is ever-increasing. The board of Catholic Charities recently passed a motion to take \$40,000 of interest from their Legacy of Faith endowment.

Through the Brief Services Program, Catholic Charities has assisted clients with up to \$200 per family for rent, mortgage, utility bills, food and other concrete needs. This allowed approximately 200 families to be served.

Catholic Charities received an additional \$10,000 for this purpose from the Saint Mary's Heritage fund, which added another 50 families.

"Surely, \$200 per family is modest, but it can be a significant help to a family in great need," Bishop John M. D'Arcy wrote in a letter sent to 35 parishes.

"We have tried to target several areas (that) are especially

hard hit and where there are less reserve and agencies to help," Bishop D'Arcy added.

Debbie Schmidt, executive director of Catholic Charities said, "We are happy that we can allocate the Legacy of Faith dollars that we received to this need."

Schmidt added, "We are using 100 percent of the moneys received for direct financial assistance. We hope that this alleviates some of the financial needs to the families in our parishes."

Assistance forms were sent to the 35 parishes. Help was given on a first-come, first-serve basis. When Catholic Charities did this on a smaller level last winter, many quickly applied for the limited funds.

Catholic Charities has received all their referrals from parishes and are currently meeting with applicant families at their parishes.

Three US bishops revisit controversy over Obama honor at Notre Dame

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In two national Catholic publications, two U.S. archbishops and a bishop are revisiting the controversy over the honorary degree conferred on President Barack Obama by the University of Notre Dame.

Retired Archbishop John R. Quinn of San Francisco and Bishop John M. D'Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend wrote separate articles about the matter for the Aug. 31-Sept. 7 issue of *America* magazine.

Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan of Santa Fe, N.M., talked about the controversy and how it was handled at a June meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in an Aug. 12 interview with *National Catholic Reporter*, published in the newspaper's Aug. 26 edition.

Archbishop Quinn said he felt the U.S. bishops' response to the controversy "communicated several false and unintended messages" to the U.S. public, while Bishop D'Arcy said his refusal to attend the commencement ceremonies at which Obama was honored arose from his responsibility to see that Catholic universities "give public witness to the fullness of Catholic faith."

Archbishop Sheehan, as part of

a wide-ranging interview with the independent Catholic weekly, said he believed the majority of U.S. bishops agreed with him that "we don't want to isolate ourselves from the rest of America by our strong views on abortion and the other things. We need to be building bridges, not burning them."

"To make a big scene about Obama — I think a lot of the enemies of the church are delighted to see all that," he said.

More than 70 bishops voiced their disapproval of Notre Dame's invitation to Obama and its decision to give him an honorary degree, with some saying it violated the letter and spirit of their 2004 statement "Catholics in Political Life."

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

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

The bishops discussed the controversy in executive session at their June meeting in San Antonio, and passed a resolution expressing "appreciation and sup-

port" for Bishop D'Arcy and affirming his "solicitude for (Notre Dame's) Catholic identity and his loving care for all those the Lord has given him to sanctify, to teach and to shepherd."

In his *America* article, Bishop D'Arcy said the controversy was not about Obama, a replay of the 2008 elections or "whether it is appropriate for the president of the United States to speak at Notre Dame or any great Catholic university on the pressing issues of the day."

"This is what universities do," he said. "No bishop should try to prevent that."

The central question, Bishop D'Arcy said, is: "Does a Catholic university have the responsibility to give witness to the Catholic faith and to the consequences of that faith by its actions and decisions — especially by a decision to confer its highest honor?"

Bishop D'Arcy said that, in his 24 years as head of the diocese in which Notre Dame is located, "I have never interfered in the internal governance of Notre Dame or any other institution of higher learning within the diocese."

But he said a bishop "must be concerned that Catholic institutions do not succumb to the secular culture, making decisions that appear to many, including ordinary Catholics, as a surrender to a culture opposed to the truth about

life and love."

Archbishop Quinn, however, said there is "deep and troubled disagreement" among the U.S. bishops about how they should speak about abortion, which he called the "most searing and volatile issue in American public life."

"A strategy of condemnation" that sanctions public officials because of their stand on abortion "undermines the church's transcendent role in the American political order," he added.

Among the false impressions conveyed by that strategy are that the bishops "function as partisan political actors in American life"; that they are "ratifying the 'culture war mentality,' which corrodes debate both in American politics and in the internal life of the church"; that they are "effectively indifferent to all grave evils other than abortion"; and that, in the case of Obama, they are "insensitive to the heritage and the continuing existence of racism in America," the retired archbishop said.

Archbishop Quinn urged the U.S. hierarchy to follow the "policy of cordiality" practiced by the Vatican, which "proceeds from the conviction that the integrity of Catholic teaching can never be sacrificed" but "consistently favors engagement over confrontation."

"The Vatican shows great reluctance to publicly personalize disagreements with public officials on elements of church teaching," he said.

Archbishop Sheehan said in the interview that he spoke out strongly in executive session at the bishops' June meeting against those who opposed the university's granting of an honorary degree to Obama.

"I said we've gotten more done on the pro-life issue in New Mexico by talking to people who don't agree with us on everything," he said. "We got Gov. (Bill) Richardson to sign off on the abolition of the death penalty for New Mexico. ... But you know, he's pro-abortion. So? It doesn't mean we sit and wait, that we sit on the sides and not talk to him."

Archbishop Sheehan said the U.S. Catholic Church would "be like the Amish, you know, kind of isolated from society, if we kept pulling back because of a single issue."

Asked if there were others who agreed with him, he said, "Of course, the majority."

"The bishops don't want to have a battle in public with each other, but I think the majority of bishops in the country didn't join in with that, would not be in agreement with that approach," he added.

40 Days for Life campaign begins Sept. 23

At least 212 cities nationwide, including South Bend, Fort Wayne and Warsaw, will participate in this fall's 40 Days for Life campaign from Sept. 23 through Nov. 1. The campaign consists of the three components, the first of which is prayer and fasting. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus says that some demons can only be driven out by prayer and fasting.

The most visible part of the 40 Days for Life is the prayer vigil that takes place outside local abortion or Planned Parenthood facilities. This is a prayerful witness to the entire community that evil is present.

The prayer vigil brings light to this darkness and seeks to change hearts through prayer. Studies have shown that when people simply stand and pray, the number of abortions decreases. Women who have no hope see that someone cares about them, and they change their minds.

The third component is com-

munity outreach. People are given the opportunity to show their support for 40 Days for Life, and to take the pro-life message into their community through focused educational efforts.

Shawn Carney, one of the four founding members of the 40 Days for Life national team, will be speaking at both the Fort Wayne and South Bend kick-off events, on Sept. 20 and Sept. 21 respectively. For details about all the local 40 Days for Life events, visit www.40daysforlife.com.

In 2004, four people in College Station, Texas, sat around a table discussing how frustrated they were with their efforts to end abortion in their area. They prayed and asked God to show them what he wanted them to do. The answer was 40 Days for Life.

In a manner of weeks they organized the first 40 Days for Life campaign. They asked everyone in their community to pray and fast with them for an end to abortion during the 40 days. They

conducted a prayer vigil outside their local abortion facility, and spent 40 days educating people about the evils of abortion occurring nationwide and in their own city. Over 1,000 people participated in the first campaign, and their community experienced a 28 percent decrease in abortions.

News of this victory spread, and other communities used the idea to conduct 40 Days for Life campaigns in their own cities. In the fall of 2007 the first national, coordinated 40 Days for Life campaign was conducted with 80 cities participating. People who had never been involved in pro-life activities stepped forward in faith and made a difference right in their own neighborhoods. Lives were saved and hearts were changed.

In the fall of 2008, South Bend and Fort Wayne answered the call. The two major cities of the diocese both held 40 Days for Life campaigns, calling all people of faith to cry out to God to end abortion locally and nationally.

YEAR *of* PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Notre Dame, where he can quiet down and do some good reading.

It was at Notre Dame, as a student in the architecture program, that John Kuzmich clearly heard the call to become a priest. In the summer of 1957, he began to attend daily Mass and at the end of the summer, made the decision to enter the seminary. He completed another semester at Notre Dame, entered the seminary at midyear and was ordained a priest at St. Matthew Cathedral by Bishop Leo Pursley in 1965.

"My family," says Father Kuzmich, "played no small part in nurturing my vocation, and my Catholic education (St. Patrick Grade School, Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend, and Notre Dame) was very special to me."

As he approaches 50 years of priesthood, celebrating the Mass continues to be his favorite activity as a priest, followed by preaching, confessions and teaching.

"I love to celebrate the Mass," Father Kuzmich continues, "and I take seriously the challenge of crafting a homily that really helps the people — not too theological and definitely not too long. Confessions are very satisfying, a humbling moment for the priest as he serves to mediate God's wonderful mercy. Teaching requires good prepara-

tion, helping the priest to expand his own knowledge of the faith."

Father Kuzmich believes that seminary education today is better than in the past and of considerable help is the summer parish assignment program where the young seminarian experiences parish life and is mentored by a pastor.

In response to the question about the source of future vocations, Father Kuzmich echoes the reply of other priests: "If we can help strengthen Christian family life, then we will, I believe, see more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. There has to be prayer within a family, otherwise vocations will not be nurtured. Blessed is the family that prays together! Also, young people need to see happy priests and religious."

As to challenges and hopes of the church, this priest of 44 years says, "The shortage of priests is a critical item, although I am very pleased with the active involvement of the laity in the life of the church. Strong parish life, with the Eucharist at the center, is the key to the church's future growth and development. The leadership of the church must not be afraid to empower the laity to be his disciples, using well their gifts of time, talent and treasure in building up the kingdom. Our hope ultimately is in God, but we can never forget that God in Christ depends on holy disciples to bring about the transformation of the world."



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A Ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

Church has vision for health care reform

BY FRED EVERETT

Question: What is the church's vision for sound health care reform?

Answer: The United States bishops have for decades advocated a reform of the nation's health care system based upon fundamental moral principles. The church holds that access to basic health care is a universal human right and not a privilege of the wealthy. Of course, what constitutes basic health care will differ from country to country depending upon its level of development.

Of paramount importance in any reform effort is that it should protect and promote the dignity of every human person from conception to natural death. This would rule out any effort to expand access to abortion or euthanasia.

In addition, a sound reform effort will also be guided by the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity. In the end, sound reform should produce a health care system that pursues the common good, preserves pluralism and a variety of options, protects freedom of conscience, and both restrains and distributes costs fairly.

Question: What are the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity and how do they relate to current federal efforts to reform health care?

Answer: Solidarity is more than a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress for those who do not have access to basic health care. It is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself and one's country to the common good. It is based upon the conviction that we are all responsible for each other, which includes assuring the universal right to basic health care.

Subsidiarity, on the other hand, refers to the necessity of defending and promoting the freedom of individuals, families, healthcare professionals and institutions, associations and states to properly function and make health care decisions without unnecessary interference by the federal govern-

ment. On the basis of this principle, communities of a higher order must help communities of a lower order to fulfill their proper roles — they must not usurp their rights or run roughshod over them simply in order to achieve their agenda. Those of the higher must not absorb functions of the lower except in extraordinary circumstances and only for as long as absolutely necessary.

With regard to health care reform, while under the principle of solidarity we want to ensure basic health care to every person in the United States, we also want, under the principle of subsidiarity, to do so in a way that does not lead to a loss of free enterprise and initiative and to an inordinate increase of bureaucratic agencies.

Solidarity keeps us from an individualistic indifference to the plight of the poor and uninsured. Subsidiarity keeps us from a socialistic interference by the government in the health care arena.

Question: Are the bishops trying to promote an antiabortion agenda through the current health care reform effort?

Answer: No. The bishops will continue to fight against the evil of abortion by all means available. Even so, they have not demanded that urgently needed health care reform become a vehicle for advancing the pro-life cause, nor do they believe it should be used to advance the cause of abortion or euthanasia.

In this sense, the bishops have asked that health care reform be "abortion neutral," that is, that existing laws and policies with regard to abortion and abortion funding be preserved, allowing health care reform to move forward and serve its legitimate goals.

Question: Why are the bishops insistent that healthcare reform be "abortion neutral"?

Answer: Abortion advocacy groups are trying to use health care reform to advance their agenda by having the federal government establish abortion as a basic health benefit, guaranteeing "access"

nationwide and requiring Americans to subsidize abortion with their tax dollars or insurance premiums. This would reverse a tradition of federal laws and policies that have severely restricted federal funding and promotion of abortion in all major health programs for over three decades (the Hyde amendment, 1976), and have respected the right of health care providers to decline involvement in abortion or abortion referrals. No health care reform plan should compel anyone to pay for the killing of innocent human beings, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion. Any such action would be morally wrong and politically foolish.

Question: What kind of actions do the bishops recommend to make basic health care accessible for all and genuinely affordable?

Answer: The bishops have urged Congress to limit premiums and co-payments for lower income families in order to ease barriers to obtaining coverage or seeing a doctor. They have also urged Congress to provide states with resources to expand coverage and ensure sufficient funding for safety net clinics, hospitals and other providers serving lower income or uninsured patients.

Fred Everett is the co-director of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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Bishops' annual Labor Day statement focuses on health reform debate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — It is possible to bring Catholic values to the ongoing debate over health care reform just as it was done earlier this year in forging a four-way agreement on the potential unionization of workers at Catholic hospitals, said Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y. "Leaders in Catholic health ministry, the labor movement and the Catholic bishops sought to apply our traditional teaching on work and workers and to offer some practical alternatives on how leaders of hospitals, unions and others might apply our principles as an aid to reaching agreements in their own situations," said Bishop Murphy, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development. The four-way document, "Respecting the Just Rights of Workers: Guidance and Options for Catholic Health Care and Unions," achieved "a consensus among all the parties on a set of principles, processes and guidelines for a respectful and harmonious approach to let workers in Catholic health care facilities make free choices about unionization," Bishop Murphy said. The bishop highlighted details of the agreement in this year's Labor Day statement, issued annually by the chairman of the domestic justice committee. Dated Sept. 7, Labor Day, the statement is titled "The Value of Work: The Dignity of the Human Person" and was released Sept. 2 in Washington.

Kennedy laid to rest at Arlington cemetery after Boston funeral

BOSTON (CNS) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy was mourned at a Boston church and laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery Aug. 29, amid words of comfort from the Book of Wisdom, Paul's Letter to the Romans and the Gospel of Matthew, and recollections of his life by his sons, his pastor, President Barack Obama and Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick. During the funeral Mass for the senator at Boston's Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Father Mark Hession, pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish in Centerville, Mass., linked the Scripture readings — chosen by Kennedy, his wife, Vicki, and their family — with elements of the senator's own life and faith. "St. Paul states our case with his usual confidence," Father Hession noted of the reading that opens: "If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?" Father Hession said "that confidence (that) the triumph of life over death is rooted in the central belief of Christian faith" is the conviction on which all Christian faith is built — "that Christ who

MYANMAR REFUGEES ARRIVE IN TOWN IN CHINA



CNS PHOTO/REUTERS

Refugees from Kokang in Myanmar's Shan State arrive with their luggage in Nansan, China, Aug. 25. Tension between Myanmar government troops and an armed ethnic group has sparked an exodus of thousands of people into China from northeastern Myanmar.

passed through death to new life will, as he promised, lead us through death to new life as well." Later, during the burial service at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, Cardinal McCarrick, Washington's retired archbishop, read excerpts of letters exchanged by Kennedy and Pope Benedict XVI in the last few weeks.

Wildfires force parishes to balance safety, serving community's needs

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — For Father Richard Kregelberg, pastor of St. Rita Church in Sierra Madre, the Station fire that destroyed more than 50 homes, threatened 12,000 more and led to the death of two firefighters was a painful reminder. A wild conflagration in April 2008 raced across ridges and down canyons to the very last foothill before the cozy town and St. Rita. "Well, this fire has been a real close parallel for me," he told *The Tidings*, newspaper of the Los Angeles Archdiocese. "Back then we had to cancel confirmation, although this time we didn't have to close anything. "You want to be responsible, and yet you want to be a place where your parishioners and others in the community might be able to come for safe haven," he added. By early Sept. 2, the

Station fire — the largest of a half-dozen major fires in Southern California — had burned more than 140,000 acres in the Angeles National Forest. But helped by cooler weather, containment of the fire was 22 percent, with a fire line that stretched more than 30 miles and was manned by nearly 7,000 firefighters from La Crescenta to Acton. The fire had destroyed at least 53 homes and structures.

People must become more humble, less materialistic, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a world full of vice and sin, people need to radically change their lives, becoming more humble and less materialistic, Pope Benedict XVI said. "May we be able to find the source of joy that comes from God's goodness" and say "no" to the vices of the world, he said at his weekly general audience Sept. 2. The pope, resuming a series of audience talks about influential Christian writers from the Middle Ages, focused his catechesis on St. Odo, a 10th-century Benedictine monk and abbot of Cluny, France. St. Odo urged his monks and the faithful to face "the enormity of vices widespread throughout society" by undergoing "a radical change in life based on humility, austerity and detach-

ment from ephemeral things and participation with the eternal," said the pope. The saint refused to become pessimistic or sink into despair even when there was so much sin and evil in the world, the pope said, because he knew "divine mercy is always available" for those who yearn for conversion.

Pope accepts resignation of Scranton bishop for health reasons

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Bishop Joseph F. Martino, 63, from the pastoral governance of the Diocese of Scranton, Pa., for health reasons. He has appointed Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia to be apostolic administrator for the diocese. The pope also has accepted the resignation of Scranton Auxiliary Bishop John M. Dougherty, who is 77. Canon law requires that all bishops submit their resignation to the pope when they turn 75. Cardinal Rigali named Msgr. Joseph C. Bambera, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Archbald and St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish in Eynon, as his delegate for day-to-day administration of the diocese. At a news conference in Scranton Aug. 31, Bishop Martino said he had been

experiencing insomnia, "crippling physical fatigue" and frequent bouts of the flu brought on by the stress of his work as bishop. "As the song says, you have to know when to hold them and when to fold them, and I think it is time for me to move on," he said, adding that he felt he left the Diocese of Scranton "a little leaner, with greater energy to do the work of God more efficiently and more effectively."

German-born pope decries 'absurdity of war,' urges reconciliation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI decried the absurdity of war and called on people to embrace forgiveness, peace and reconciliation. Speaking in Polish to pilgrims attending his Sept. 2 general audience, the German-born pope recalled that Sept. 1 marked the 70th anniversary of the start of World War II. "The human tragedies and the absurdity of war remain in people's memories," he said. The pope was 12 years old and lived in Bavaria when the war began. "Let us ask God that the spirit of forgiveness, peace and reconciliation pervades the hearts of all people," he added. He said, "Europe and the world today need a spirit of communion," which should be built upon Christ, his Gospel, charity and truth. A German battleship fired on a Polish fort Sept. 1, 1939, while German troops invaded Poland from the north, south and west. France and Great Britain declared war on Germany two days later.

Robert Schindler, fought to care for daughter Terri Schiavo, dies

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (CNS) — Robert Schindler Sr., a Catholic and the father of the late Terri Schiavo, died from heart failure early Aug. 29 in St. Petersburg. He was 71. Schiavo, who died in 2005, was at the center of a lengthy legal battle that resulted in a Florida court ordering her feeding tube removed. A funeral Mass for Schindler was to be celebrated Sept. 4 in Southampton, Pa., at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. A private burial service was to follow at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Philadelphia. "My dad was a man of integrity, character and compassion who was blessed with a close and loving family," his son, Bobby Schindler, said in a statement. "He taught all three of his children to respect and value life and to love our fellow man. Even at the height of the battle to save my sister Terri's life, when his patience and temperance was near exhaustion, he managed to display a gentleness of spirit," he said. "Yet it was his unfathomable strength that allowed him to shoulder up his own heartache and lead us through our darkest hour. What greater legacy could a man leave behind?"

St. Thomas rededicates renovated educational facility

ELKHART — The St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School will hold the rededication of the parish educational facilities at 12:45 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, following 11:15 a.m. Mass. Bishop John M. D'Arcy will preside.

This renovation completes six new classrooms, new administrative offices, a first-ever sick room, renovated space for a state-of-the-art computer lab, fine arts classroom and expanded school library to serve the 397 students in grades kindergarten through 8 enrolled for the 2009-2010 academic year. The school facilities are also used for the St. Thomas adult and youth religious education programs.

Included in the renovation project is a eucharistic adoration chapel relocated to the front of the existing church building.

This \$4 million renovation was funded largely by the parish and school communities through a three-year capital campaign drive.

For more information about the St. Thomas School rededication, contact the school office at (574) 364-4855.

St. Vincent de Paul School's parish rewards program assists many

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul School's parish rewards program is an innovative fundraiser designed to benefit the school, the church, school families and local businesses. Anyone can purchase items through parish rewards and select any student/family to receive half the donation. The participating companies donate a percentage of the purchase price or a flat fee back to St. Vincent. The contribution is divided with one half directed to meet school needs. The purchaser can then designate the other half to be directed to any of the following:

- Tuition credit: St. Vincent de Paul School, Bishop Dwenger High School or college tuition for the next year's tuition bill.

- Future tuition credit build up for a future student at St. Vincent School, to be applied to the first year's tuition.

- St. Vincent de Paul Church programs

- St. Vincent de Paul School for purchase of classroom materials, technology and special programs, such as music, fine arts or media/library

- Religious education fees

St. Vincent de Paul School received over \$27,000 in donations in the 2008/2009 school year.

Participating businesses include orthodontists, insurance companies, auto dealers (new and used), mortgage companies, home improvement companies, outdoor motor

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SERRA CLUB HOSTS PRIEST-SEMINARIAN PICNIC



PROVIDED BY THE FORT WAYNE SERRA CLUB

The Fort Wayne Chapter of the Serra Club hosted its annual priest-seminarian picnic on Aug. 10 at Noll Hall on Lake Wawasee. With Bishop John M. D'Arcy, priests, seminarians, Serrans and guests, there were 59 in attendance. The day began with golf tee-off at 7:30 a.m., followed by Mass at 11:30 a.m. Picnic food was catered by Josh Booker of Books BBQ. Bishop D'Arcy, right, is shown relaxing by the lake with Capuchin Father Ron Rieder, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington.

sports and many others.

For a complete listing of participating businesses visit www.saintv.org/school, click on "Links" and "Parish Rewards."

For more information on parish rewards, call the St. Vincent de Paul School Development Office at (260) 489-3537 ext. 247.

Holy Cross Sisters installs new leadership team

NOTRE DAME — The Sisters of the Holy Cross will install its newly elected congregational leadership team on Sept. 27, in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame.

Elected to the leadership team in July at its 24th General Chapter were Sister Joan Marie Steadman, president; and Sisters Geraldine Hoyler, Mary Louise Full, Philomena Quiah and Sharlet Ann Wagner. Sister Mary Louise will serve as first councilor, Sister Geraldine as general treasurer, Sister Sharlet as general secretary and Sister Philomena as councilor.

Sister Joan Marie served on the leadership team for 10 years from 1994 to 2004. She has been involved in both education and health care, and has served as the associate director of health care ethics at Santa Clara University in California. A San Jose, Calif.,

native, Sister Joan Marie entered the congregation in 1962.

Sister Mary Louise, from Washington, D.C., is serving on the current leadership team as general secretary. A high school teacher and principal, she also has been involved in retreat, pastoral and parish ministry. She entered the congregation in 1960.

A native of Evergreen Park, Ill., Sister Geraldine, who entered the congregation in 1963, also is serving on the current leadership team as general treasurer. She has ministered in various health care financial and treasury positions throughout her career.

Sister Sharlet, a native of Omaha, Neb., entered the congregation in 1988. An immigration lawyer, she has been the director of the immigration department for Holy Cross Ministries in Salt Lake City, Utah, for the past several years.

Sister Philomena is from Noakhali, Bangladesh. She entered the congregation in 1980. Sister Philomena has served as the congregation's area coordinator for the area of Asia and has been headmistress and teacher at Holy Cross High School for Girls in Dhaka, Bangladesh, for almost 20 years.

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international community of women religious located at Saint Mary's in Notre

Dame. Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the congregation numbers approximately 500 members worldwide and ministers in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ghana, India, Mexico, Peru, Uganda and the United States. The sisters' ministries focus on providing education and healthcare services, eradicating material poverty, ending gender discrimination, and promoting just, mutual relationships among people, countries and the entire earth community. For more information about the Sisters of the Holy Cross, visit www.cscsisters.org. — ML

Taize prayer service Sept. 22 at Victory Noll Center

HUNTINGTON — In solidarity with the International Day of Prayer for Peace, Victory Noll Center will hold a special Taize Prayer Service Sept. 22, inviting all to join in prayer to end violence in hearts, families, communities, churches and among nations.

The special service will be held at 7 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington. No registration is required and there is no cost to attend the service.

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. Cliff Kindy will offer a reflection during the service and students from Manchester College and Huntington University will assist in preparations for the service.

Regular Taize Prayer Services are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Victory Noll Center.

Stained glass classes and kaleidoscope workshop available through USF

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis will offer Stained Glass classes and a Kaleidoscope workshop this fall.

The Introduction to Stained Glass class will be held on Sundays from Sept. 27 through Oct. 25. Sessions will be held at the Rolland Center for Art and Visual Communication on Leesburg Road from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Content includes design principles, types and qualities of glass, basic cutting and construction techniques, and the final project, a finished 18x24 inch glass panel. Cost is \$145 per participant; tools and glass will be provided.

At the kaleidoscope workshop, participants will learn how to build and use a kaleidoscope. The workshop will be held Sunday, Nov. 1, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the Rolland Center. Cost is \$75 per participant; tools and glass will be provided.

Instructor Rhonda Freeman, who has worked in glass for over 30 years, has expertise in hot glass, blown glass, leaded glass, foiled glass and mosaic. Having worked at Waterford Glass Company in Waterford, Ireland, Rhonda currently owns her own studio.

For more information or a registration form, contact the School of Creative Arts at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.

Eastern Catholics in northeastern Indiana sought

FORT WAYNE — Interest has been expressed in starting an Eastern Catholic mission parish in Fort Wayne to serve people in that city and in surrounding northeastern Indiana and northwestern Ohio. There is currently no such parish in those areas, and all Eastern Catholics — Ukrainians, Melkites, Maronites, Ruthenians and many others — have no parish home.

Historically, there used to be, from 1967 until sometime in the last 1980s or early 1990s, a small mission parish in Fort Wayne. This mission met biweekly in the chapel of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception downtown, where the Byzantine liturgy was served by the pastor of the Ukrainian Catholic parish of St. Michael the Archangel, Mishawaka.

Those interested are asked to contact Subdeacon Adam DeVille, Ph.D., Department of Philosophy and Theology at adamdeville@gmail.com, (260) 749-6871, or adeville@sf.edu, (260) 399-7700 ext. 8120.

Huntington youths deepen liturgical and service life

BY KAY COZAD

HUNTINGTON — The youth at Ss. Peter and Paul Church have not been sitting idle this summer thanks to their dynamic parish youth program. In addition to the regular weekly high school small group meetings, after-school middle school ministry, youth group Sunday gatherings, service opportunities, retreats and dodge ball Sundays, under the guidance of Jerid Miller, pastoral associate for youth ministry, adult formation and R.C.I.A. and Jon Stotts, pastoral associate for youth ministry and liturgy, 10 Huntington North High School students had the opportunity to travel on a Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) mission trip to serve the poor.

The YNIA summer mission program, according to Miller, is three-fold. First, it “gives youth an experience of broader church by gathering with other Catholic youth from across the country.” It also “provides hands on service experience” and lastly it puts that “experience into the context of Catholic social

teaching.” Miller says, “It challenges the participants to go back home and get involved in service to those in need in their community.”

Five students were assigned to Miller, who accompanied the group to Cincinnati, where they worked at Visions, a daycare facility that supports poor urban families. Stotts accompanied five other students to Baltimore where they painted offices and served lunches to the homeless at the Franciscan Center, an outreach agency that provides emergency assistance to those in need.

All the teens returned home with a renewed desire for service opportunities and were anxious to get to work within their own community.

Miller says, “To begin we are focusing on the needs of our

parish families and the elderly trying to identify those in our own parish community that are in need.”

About his summer service experience in Baltimore, sophomore Bryce Johnson wrote in “Exsultet,” the parish newsletter, “It showed me what real struggling people actually look like. And that

“To begin we are focusing on the needs of our parish families and the elderly trying to identify those in our own parish community that are in need.”

JERID MILLER



PROVIDED BY SS. PETER PAUL PARISH

Jon Stotts, left, pastoral associate for youth ministry and liturgy at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington, was an adult leader at a Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) mission trip in Baltimore this summer. He stands with Katlyn Stebing and Mariah Strass, both students at Huntington North High School (HNHS), Meagan Harrell, adult chaperone, and Chris Landrum, Bryce Johnson and Mike Hinen, also HNHS students. In front is JJ, a staff member of the high school where the team stayed.

doing anything to help, even something little, is always appreciated. Visiting Baltimore has given me the want and desire to help our city!”

The summer missions were divine venues for these faith filled teens to prepare for this year’s youth group theme — “community.” Miller reports, “As we meet over the course of the year to explore what that theme means in terms of our Christian identity and mission we work towards preparing the youth for a culminating

experience the following summer by participating in a YNIA mission. ... Next year we are looking at sending three or four groups as this program becomes a cornerstone of the Ss. Peter and Paul youth ministry.”

Another summer opportunity was participation in an annual retreat to St. Meinrad Archabbey in southern Indiana. The program, One Bread, One Cup, is a five-day liturgical leadership conference focusing on the word, sacrament and mission of the Catholic Church for high school youth and campus and youth ministers,” according to the archabbey’s Web site www.saintmeinrad.edu. Two newly confirmed students, Paul Bickel and Courtney Karst accompanied Jon Stotts this year.

The program, says Stott, taught the students, who joined over 100

others from around the U.S., how to “live from a liturgical standpoint.” The days were filled with the chanting of the Liturgy of the Hours, along with contemporary services. “But it was all done with respect and reverence,” he reports.

The students participated in small group theological reflections and general sessions taught by monks on Scripture and the sacraments. They enjoyed recreational opportunities after lunch as well. Afternoons were geared toward service groups where students learned about and practiced the art of being an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, cantor and more. The inspiring days were well balanced with theological teaching and social events.

An added bonus of the conference was adult leadership sessions for the chaperones. “It reaffirmed the ministry and empowered us to see what we could do,” says Stott, who found meeting the adult ministers there a positive networking opportunity.

His hope for the students — “I hope this will be one of the solutions to the crisis we’re facing in youth ministry. The kids don’t know why they’re Catholic. They haven’t had the experience to enter into the life of Christ as to influence their life decisions. By giving them this experience rooted in tradition we tell the kids they can be part of it at the parish. It starts and ends with liturgy.”

Student Paul Bickel felt the retreat was worth the time. “It’s a life changing experience,” he says. Courtney Karst agrees saying, “It was inspirational seeing other teenagers who also unconditionally love God.”

Miller and Stott are encouraged by the students’ response to the summer offerings and look forward to guiding them this fall in local service ventures.



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Bishop D'Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund awards tuition assistance

BY ELISA M. SMITH

FORT WAYNE — Twenty-nine Catholic elementary students in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are being awarded tuition assistance of \$200 each for school year 2009-2010 from the Bishop D'Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund. Thirteen students are from Fort Wayne area elementary schools and 16 are from South Bend area schools.

The Bishop D'Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund is a restricted endowment fund within the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana. It was established by Bishop John M. D'Arcy with gifts from the 50th anniversary of his priesthood, in memory of his late sister, Mary Caprio, and from other special donations. The purpose of the fund is to grant tuition assistance to Catholic students in Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The fund will make distributions each year based on an annual payout of 6 percent of the value of the fund at June 30. Recipients will be awarded financial assistance based on need by a committee appointed by Bishop D'Arcy that consists of Daniel Fitzpatrick, James Fitzpatrick, John Gaughan, Joseph Ryan and Elisa Smith.

Bishop D'Arcy celebrated 50 years as a priest on Feb. 2, 2007. He contributed gifts that he received from the golden jubilee of his priesthood to create the Bishop D'Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund. In addition, when his sister Mary Caprio, died in September of 2007, Bishop D'Arcy requested that memorials be given to this fund. Moreover, a special gift from a family foundation was contributed to the Bishop D'Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund in May 2008. The total value of the fund was approximately \$97,000 as of June 30.

The committee sent letters and application forms in April to principals and pastors of all Catholic elementary schools in the diocese, inviting them to recommend one student who qualified for tuition assistance based on financial need. Also, the committee requested a written essay, not more than 100 words, from each student who applied, titled "Why Catholic Education Is Important to Me."

Each award granted a student is for one time and nonrenewable.

To donate cash, stock or a planned gift to the Bishop D'Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund, contact Elisa Smith, director of planned giving, at (260) 422-4611 or esmith@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

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TIM JOHNSON

Bishop John M. D'Arcy, top row, right, in addition to installing Father Cyril Fernandes, top row, left, pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne on Sept. 6, presented checks to recipients of funds from the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Accepting checks, front row, from left, were Theresa Teders of Catholic Charities; Anne Koehl for the Women's Care Center; Dr. Michael Mastrangelo for Matthew 25; Ann Helmke of Vincent Village; Sue Merz of the Fort Wayne Christ Child Society; and back row, next to Father Fernandes, Amy Woodfill of the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen; Donna Brooke for the St. Vincent de Paul Society; and Jim Christie and Sally Ley for The Franciscan Center. A total of \$44,500 was awarded. A South Bend check will be presented in October.



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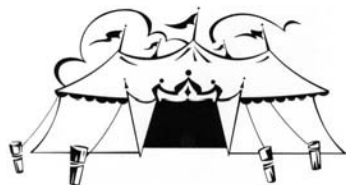
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'Be still and know that I am God'

St. Francis De Sales:

Living a devout life in an un-devout world

BY LINDA FURGE

Most of us learned how to pray at a very early age. That is a good thing in that we have grown quite comfortable with prayer since it was incorporated into the very fabric of our lives when we were very young. But since we have been doing it for so long, we may also tend to take prayer and praying for granted sometimes.

As St. Francis de Sales tells us, we have not been created because God needs us. Rather we have been created ... "with an intellect to know him, memory to be mindful of him, will to love him, imagination to picture to (ourselves) his benefits, eyes to see his wonderful works, tongue to praise him, and so on..." (First Part of the Introduction, 10).

In other words, we pray because our very nature as creatures demands and needs it.

As always, Jesus is our teacher and role model with prayer and its place in a devout life. Through the Gospels and reflections of great spiritual writers, we learn how to become one with Christ — even as "The

Father and I are one." — In 10:30. St. Francis tells us that, just as Jesus did, we should "practice mental prayer" by incorporating it into our daily routines, setting time and distractions aside in a quiet place — wherever we might find it.

The presence of God

While we can choose various forms of prayer, such as the rosary, formal prayers like the Our Father and Hail Mary or praying with Scripture, every form of prayer always begins, St. Francis says, by placing ourselves in God's presence. By that we mean an intentional awareness that God is present to us "... in all things and all places." (Second Part of the Introduction, 2).

And so often, just like praying, we may take the presence of God for granted. Along with our first prayers, we learned early on that God is everywhere and "lives" in heaven. We learned that, while God is powerful enough to create the whole universe, God is also very close to us, loves and listens to us, and protects us from all harm.

It seems hard to reconcile an all-powerful Being who is in heaven (transcendent) and "has the whole world in his hands" with someone who loves you and knows you intimately (immanent) and who even provides for the lowly birds in the sky and the lilies in the fields.



Sharing Faith

More Shared Faith literature can be found at www.diocesefwsb.org/OSD

Awareness of God's presence

God's immense and overflowing love created the universe and makes him transcendent from us. And it is that very same enveloping and sustaining love (like the air we breathe) that also allows us to trust that he is very close to us, intimately knowing our innermost being and personally caring about our smallest needs and concerns. In fact, when we consume the Eucharist at Mass, God enters into our bodies and literally becomes a part of us. When we realize and understand the very personal nature of God's love for us, that, as written in Acts, "in him we live and move and have our being," we feel in our hearts "... great reverence toward God who is so intimately present in it." (Second Part of the Introduction, 2).

Yet another way to become aware of the presence of God is through the realization that we

are incorporated into Christ's body, that wherever we are, there is Christ whom we recognize as present in the persons with whom we interact each day.

And, finally, one last way to be aware of God in our lives is to remember his promise that he is with us to the ends of the earth and to the end of time.

Our awareness of the presence of God in our lives is important to prayer in a devout life. In "The Committed Life," William Meninger concludes, "So you see, my friend, there are many ways in which you can present yourself to the presence of God as you begin your prayer. Indeed, this practice, if it appeals to you, can be your very prayer itself. Just be still and in an awareness of God's presence. At times nothing more is necessary."



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Safety is concern in church survey of west side neighborhoods

BY JUDY BRADFORD

SOUTH BEND — Families living near two west-side churches were most concerned about the safety of their neighborhoods, in a recent door-to-door survey.

Canvassers for St. Adalbert and St. Casimer Catholic churches spent a recent Saturday asking residents in the largely Hispanic neighborhood for their opinions on a variety of subjects. Each team of two included a Spanish-speaker.

The survey project, "Holy Ground," sought comments on church and community.

"We're talking about holy ground, which is sacred," explained Jesusa Rodriguez, lay leader of the project. "We all live here and should take care of our neighbors, invite each other in and engage with one another."

Of the 50 to 70 homes surveyed, comments about safety came to the forefront.

"They were very open about home invasions and being vandalized," said Rodriguez. "They spoke about cars driving too fast and how police don't come around as often as they should. They also talked about youths being out after curfew and some of the elderly said they stay inside because they're afraid to go out. They don't feel safe."

Rodriguez said the canvassers were also surprised, however, at residents' willingness to get involved. "All of them said they would step up," she said, should the church decide to lead the way in improving safety.

In the past, St. Adalbert's has led the way in neighborhood issues. Several years ago, townhall meetings were held at the church to air concerns about power lines proposed across Olive Street, the main north-south route on which the church is located.

Rodriguez said families, most of whom were renting their homes, were also asked about their opinions on the church.

Some said there were too many rules and too long of a preparation time for confirmation of youth into the Catholic faith, leading them to go to other Catholic churches for that rite, or to other types of churches. They said they wanted to be "welcomed and embraced" when they enter the church doors, and they would like to have more one-on-one time with the pastor.


"One lady said that when one person in the church is having a bad day, it spreads," said Rodriguez.

Canvassers were instructed to listen, and not argue.

"If people started talking about the parish, we were to remember that this was a listening campaign, and that was it. That's what ministry is all about. I love this work because it gets us out into the parish. People say what's in their hearts."

Father Chris Cox, pastor of St. Adalbert's, said the project recognizes that all live on holy ground and must take pride in it.

Rodriguez took a leadership role but says that Father Cox set the example. "He's walking in God's footsteps, and that's the example that we all see and follow."



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Friends of L'Arche bring joyful noise unto the Lord

BY KAY COZAD

NOTRE DAME — The Sacred Heart Crypt Church was filled with a joyful noise on July 14 when the Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community members of South Bend celebrated a special Mass with Holy Cross Father Tom Jones, current pastor of Sacred Heart, and members of the parish at large. The eucharistic celebration is an annual event that has integrated some of the disabled members of the area into parish life.

The Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community, a group of disabled adults who gather for spiritual formation and renewal as well as socialization, have met for over 30 years in a variety of settings.

Originally initiated by Virginia Bosco, a mother of a disabled daughter, along with Holy Cross Father Tom Smith, currently director of Holy Cross Missions Center, the program, based out of Sacred Heart Parish, is modeled after Jean Vanier's L'Arche community concept, where assistants — caregivers of those with disabilities — and the disabled, also referred to as core members, live in single dwelling homes interdependently in an attempt to care for each other in a transformative relationship.

Unfortunately the original plan to purchase a single dwelling in South Bend that would become one of the 135 official L'Arche communities did not come to fruition. So the disabled population in the South Bend area continues to live in group homes or waiver apartments with support staff to assist them with their daily living efforts.

Father Smith says, "We decided to be happy with who we are and create a community of religion with people with disabilities who join us in prayer. We are learning what is most fundamental to our religion — loving, treating



KAY COZAD

Core members of the Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community join choir members by playing guitar and singing at a special Mass on July 14 in the Sacred Heart Crypt Church. Holy Cross Father Tom Jones celebrated the Mass, which integrates some of South Bend's disabled population into parish life.

everyone with equal respect and openness."

He and a group of caring volunteers at Sacred Heart work together to extend a welcoming hand to interested handicapped adults and continue to correspond with the L'Arche group in Chicago in an effort to maintain their mission.

Currently Diane Beach of Sacred Heart Parish and Shelly Zabukovic of Our Lady of Loretto, are the lead volunteers. Providing spiritual formation activities as well as social events that integrate core members with the parish population is their goal. The Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community is governed by an informal board with six members and financed through donations.

The group meets in the Parish Center twice each month for Mass, to which they are transport-

ed by staff members or Friends of L'Arche volunteers. Zabukovic, who coordinates all volunteers, the Masses and other activities, secures meeting locations, sends out invitations, e-mails and finally calls each of the homes of the disabled with information or reminders. She also works tirelessly to coordinate rides for those who are in need.

Her passion for this work stems from living with two disabled siblings. Her husband also has a challenged sibling and has lived in a L'Arche-like community serving the disabled.

"It's incredibly rewarding," says Zabukovic, adding, "It helps us find the gift in everyone. I encourage anyone to join them. You don't have to be part of any group. It's based on spirituality. We celebrate Mass but it's non-denominational," she says pas-

sonately.

Each year fresh, new activities are added to the roster of old favorites for the Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community. Old favorites are the Thanksgiving meal, Christmas party and annual spring retreat. The Sacred Heart Parish Center offers a perfect spot for these activities with its chapel, meeting and banquet rooms.

But dances, picnics and even ball games are offered as well. Along with staff and adult volunteer helpers, Beach reports that there are several Notre Dame students who participate in the activities, one of whom plans to move to a L'Arche community upon graduation.

The July 14 Mass was celebrated with music and singing by the choir made up of musicians and several Friends of L'Arche core members, one of whom strummed

his guitar joyfully. One of the readings was proclaimed by a core member and all partook of the Eucharist and liturgical prayers. Each core member has his own style of worship and the friendly smiles were contagious.

"We all have a relationship with God and not the same way to show it," says Zabukovic. "All the different ways are good. Some shout out prayers. All are expressing joy and love."

She adds, "And it's good for our folks to see how the parishioners pray."

Father Jones, who stepped in for Father Smith, who was unavailable for the July 14th Mass, celebrated his inaugural Friends of L'Arche Mass that day and moved about the crypt as he delivered his homily on supporting each other as the apostles did. "We come needy and vulnerable. And we receive from the people we serve. ... It's an exchange of gifts, in love, in Christ," he says.

Of the Mass shared with the Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community 30-year Sacred Heart parishioner Denise Hagerty says, "We enjoy their coming. They've been coming a long time. We see the faces so we feel connected to each other." She and her family looked forward to participating in the picnic following the special Mass as well.

Father Jones remarks, "It's an important part of our ministry in the diocese and our church. This is good for our community. They teach us how to enjoy the moment ... as they overcome their disabilities. That's the kind of attitude, as part of Christ's community, they mentor to us."

For information on the Friends of L'Arche/Emmaus Community at Sacred Heart Parish contact Shelly Zabukovic at larch_southbend@msn.com.

For information on Jean Vanier and the L'Arche communities visit www.larche.org.

Priest studies sign language to better minister to deaf Catholics

BY JESSIE ABRAMS

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The silence of the hallways is only interrupted by intermittent laughter and the occasional sound of moving chairs. A man noiselessly converses with someone on a higher floor, turns away and heads up a spiraling staircase to join his companion.

At Gallaudet University in Washington, an institution specializing in undergraduate liberal arts education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, the pervasive quiet does not suggest a lack of activity.

During one of Gallaudet's summer sessions, many classrooms were full of hearing and deaf stu-

dents learning everything from elementary sign language to how to prepare for interpretation exams.

Father Thomas Rozman, pastor of St. Patrick Cathedral Parish in Harrisburg, Pa., was practicing signing with his classmates in one of the rooms, with desks in a circle to maximize visibility. He is in his second consecutive year of summer studies at Gallaudet and is taking American Sign Language II, or ASL, in an effort to help more deaf Catholics feel a part of their faith.

"They feel like they don't have a home in the church because they can't communicate," Father Rozman, who is not deaf, said. "A deaf person who wants to go to confession can write, but it's

uncomfortable."

The Harrisburg Diocese has a focus on including Catholics in worship and parish life, Father Rozman told Catholic News Service. About two years ago the diocese established an Office for Ministry with People with Disabilities. Currently, most of the interpreters are laypeople. The priest said he was not aware of other priests in his area learning sign language.

In Harrisburg in June, Father Michael Depcik, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales who is himself deaf and ministers to deaf Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago, celebrated Mass for the deaf and hearing communities at St. Patrick Cathedral.

The special Mass further

inspired Father Rozman to continue his own efforts to communicate better with Catholics who are deaf. He said he learned 96 percent of Catholics who are deaf have never been to Mass — a statistic that both saddened him and encouraged him to create change.

"Evangelization is so important in the church and I think it's troubling when we hear that 96 percent of Catholics who are deaf don't go to church," Father Rozman said. "I think that we as evangelizers need to get the word across and a way of doing that is for someone to learn sign language and help them (deaf Catholics), especially with confession."

In addition, he said clergy need to understand that people who are

deaf are a close-knit community and "don't see deafness as a handicap; they see it as a culture."

Because ASL is not a direct translation of English, Father Rozman said he often has to communicate using finger spelling, the rapid movement of fingers to represent individual letters. He admits this skill has proved one of the language's biggest challenges because of how quickly many deaf people can form the letters.

He said he regularly uses online sources to take timed quizzes on four different speeds he humorously referred to as "slow, medium, fast and deaf." Although he can eventually communicate his thoughts correctly, it is still often difficult to understand what others are signing, Father Rozman said.

The challenges of adult autism

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — With acceptance comes peace, and through crisis, our faith can be strengthened. Those are things Lisa Caponigri has learned as she raises her three children, one of whom is autistic.

The daughter of a Notre Dame professor, Caponigri is known as a pioneer to area parents who have autistic children. When Bobby was born 20 years ago, little was known about the broad-range spectrum. Classic characteristics of autism include impaired language and social skills.

“He was a very bubbly, happy, gorgeous little boy,” recalls Caponigri. “The only thing I can compare it to is a veil that came down in front of his eyes and gave him sort of an empty look. He didn’t really want to interact with his sister, who’s only 18 months older.”

Those early years were difficult. Lisa, who is also mother to 22-year-old Felicia and 16-year-old Guido, stayed up that first night after Bobby’s diagnosis, crying. She fought the autism label, even as she sought help for Bobby.

True peace seemed to elude her, and two marriages ended in divorce. Despite that sadness, Lisa says she clung to her faith and her family, drawing on something her mother reminded her during a particularly difficult time: “God is good!”

“My mom, who is a convert to Catholicism, used to say that all the time,” says Lisa. “I think that in the greatest challenge, and in our darkest moments, I do believe what my mother said to me. God is good! And he does come to you, and he does strengthen you when you’re facing these things.”

After a diverse career that has taken her around the world, Lisa is happy to call South Bend home again. She and her family faced many new challenges when Bobby grew into adolescence, but Lisa says the community provides amazing resources.

“Not one place provided me what South Bend has provided me,” she says, referring to the dedication of teachers in the special education department of the South Bend Community School system, as well as the people at Logan Center. Bobby is currently enrolled at Eggleston School, in a program for people with special needs after they age out of high school.

Bobby will later join Logan Industries, where he can cultivate his interests in art and gardening. The Notre Dame-Saint Mary’s Special Friends Club, which pairs college students with young men and women who have special needs, provides Bobby with a social outlet.

Bobby is usually nonverbal,



DIANE FREEBY

Lisa Caponigri’s children, Guido, left, and Felicity help their mom care for Bobby and attend school just blocks from their home. Guido is a sophomore at Saint Joseph’s High School and Felicity, who is also co-guardian with Lisa, attends the University of Notre Dame. In addition to her upcoming book on autism, Lisa has written another book illustrating the importance of families spending time together. In “Whatever Happened to Sunday Dinner,” Caponigri shares cherished Italian-American recipes and simple tips to get the family back to the dinner table.

but Lisa believes her son is a very bright young man who would have benefited greatly from earlier intervention that is more readily available now than when he was younger. Challenges change as the child grows up and for these reasons, Lisa is writing “Entering Adulthood with Autism,” due out later next year.

“The most difficult years have been since Bobby turned 17,” admits Lisa. “I saw an entirely different side to his personality. It’s his reaction to hormones and development that... ‘non-autistic’ men handle in a different manner. Even for non-autistic men, that’s a difficult period of life.”

Through that stage, Bobby went from a loving and affectionate child to one who was more aggressive physically. Lisa worried about the future and finally sought help. She hired aides to stay with Bobby in her home, and also relied on her other son who now stands 6 feet-1 inch.” Lisa says Bobby respects his brother.

As with many Catholic parents of special needs children, Lisa wanted Bobby to experience the sacraments. She benefited greatly from the kind words of a Notre Dame priest who said Bobby could still be in God’s presence even if he couldn’t receive the sacraments.

“I was hung up on that, too,”

admits Lisa. Finally, I just accepted it. At night a lot of times I just say prayers with Bobby. ... I know he has his own spiritual journey and it’s a great one.”

Parishioners at Sacred Heart, Lisa is pleased both Felicity and Guido attend Mass regularly and are making their Catholic faith their own.

“Their faith has been strengthened, absolutely,” says Lisa of her children. “They talk to me all the time about the challenges I face every day. ... People comment all the time on my other two

children. ... I believe they have an added dimension now because they’ve lived with Bobby. They love Bobby. They love a sibling with special needs.”

Resources for young adults with special needs

South Bend

- Logan Community Resources, Inc. (574) 289-4831
- ND-SMC Special Friends (574) 631-3657 or sfriends@nd.edu
- South Bend Community School Corporation — adult special education (574) 283-7505

Fort Wayne

- Autism Community Together (A.C.T.) www.actpositive.org
- Children’s Autism Center www.childrensautismcenter.org

State and national

- The Autism Society of Indiana www.inautism.org
- Autism Society of America www.autism-society.org
- www.autismspeaks.org

Book

- “Entering Adulthood With Autism”
By Lisa Caponigri
(release date: December 2010)

EDITORIAL

Are we really different?

The media today is typically inundated with an influx of information and the newest findings on disabilities and mental illness. Statistics on just about any disability can be found, including one of every 150 children will be diagnosed with autism this year or an estimated one in every four adults suffers from a diagnosable mental disorder each year. Research is being conducted on several fronts in an international effort to address these conditions.

And while it is important to compile statistics, create viable treatments and work to meet the needs of the challenged, we as followers of Christ are called to see each human being as an individual — a precious gift of life.

The individuals who make up these statistics are each a unique creation of God, as we all are, with his or her own special needs. Are we really that different? Though our needs may vary from one to the next, our innate desire to love and be loved — to belong — unite us in a very real sense. It is a foundational element of the dignity of life.

Catechesis and the sharing of our Catholic faith is a perfect opportunity to include another — to foster a sense of belonging. Our churches should offer a safe place to come and be yourself.

The Catholic Church has recently begun to develop programs to catechize our disabled children. Some of our local churches have initiated grassroots programs led by mothers of children with disabilities to teach them about our faith with activities adapted to their intellectual levels. There is an ever-growing need for this type of catechesis.

But these children grow up and become adults with special needs. How do we, as church, meet those emotional and spiritual needs of the adult individuals in our midst who only seem different due to the need to use a wheelchair, short attention span or unrefined behavior?

One group, L'Arch, established in 1964 by Jean Vanier, has found a unique way to meet the spiritual needs of the disabled. In this week's issue you can read about a local chapter in South Bend that welcomes those with disabilities into the church, offering them their own weekly Masses, social events and an annual Mass attended by the disabled and parishioners as well. Vanier's premise is that "relationship is formative." Each has a gift to offer and something to teach the other.

From the mothers of special needs children to the leaders of our church, the message of belonging and redemption is clear. In his homily on the Jubilee of the Disabled in December of 2000, Pope John Paul II said, "The season of Advent, which begins today, spurs us to prepare ourselves to welcome the Lord who will come. But how should we prepare? This important celebration we are holding highlights the fact that a concrete way to prepare ourselves for this meeting is by closeness and sharing with those who, for whatever reason, are in difficulty. By recognizing Christ in our brethren, we are preparing to be recognized by him at his final return."

Something to give

We are one church, one body in Christ. When one is challenged we all are challenged. We must open our hearts to those ongoing challenges we all face in sharing our faith. We must inspire as well as be inspired.

During Pope Benedict XVI's papal visit to the U.S. in 2008, Neyshadli Kenney, from St. Ursula Learning Center in Mount Vernon, thanked him when he blessed 56 disabled youths and their caregivers in the chapel of St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, eloquently saying, "Your presence inspires us to be stronger Christians and love Jesus more. May your presence also remind everybody in our world that all human life is sacred, even when challenged."

We can take a lesson from the L'Arch community as well as our local and national special needs advocates and open our hearts and minds to all who dwell in our communities, including those challenged by mental illness or disability. We have the opportunity to share our lives, our love and our faith with them. And with that comes the opportunity to be inspired by them. We all have something to give.

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

ND board of trustees' core membership includes priests

Regarding Bishop John D'Arcy's "The Church and the University" (Aug. 30, 2009 *Today's Catholic*), in a section of the article headlined "The Silent Board," D'Arcy chides the Notre Dame Board of Trustees for irresponsibility in not intervening in the crisis over Obama's invi-

tation to receive an honorary degree. He states that the present moment "requires spiritual and intellectual formation on the part of the men and women of industry, business and technology who make up the majority of the board."

Leaving aside the implications of this observation for the lay members of the board, he fails to mention that the board also contains a significant number of members who are Holy Cross priest-professors and priest-administrators and one who is a Holy Cross bishop who spent the last 20 years of his priesthood at Notre Dame before being appointed

Bishop D'Arcy's auxiliary bishop and, later, the Bishop of Peoria. With this kind of core membership, does the board deserve D'Arcy's suggestion that it lacks the spiritual and intellectual formation to do its job? If D'Arcy had simply followed the suggestions in a companion article to his in *America* (Aug. 31, 2009) by Archbishop John Quinn ... as ND President John Jenkins, CSC, has tried to do, this crisis would never have occurred.

Robert N. Barger, Ph.D.
Josephine Barger, M.A.
Notre Dame

Pulcheria — witness to the Catholic faith

"Do you suppose we could have the body of Mary here in Constantinople? We would give it all due reverence ..."

In these or similar words Pulcheria, empress of Constantinople, along with her husband, the Emperor Marcian, petitioned Juvenal, bishop of Jerusalem, when he had come in A.D. 451 to attend the fourth general council at Chalcedon.

Bishop Juvenal told them, according to St. John Damascene, that "Mary died in the presence of the apostles, but her tomb, when opened at the request of St. Thomas, was found empty; whereupon, the apostles concluded that the body was taken up to heaven." — that had been the story that had come down to his day. St. John Damascene lived from 690-749.

Pulcheria's brother, Theodosius II, was emperor when Eutyches, abbot of a monastery just outside of Constantinople, was teaching that the human nature of Jesus of Nazareth had become so absorbed by his divine nature that he was not only one person (as a previous Council of Ephesus in A.D. 431 had determined, and permitted Mary to be called "Mother of God"), but only possessed one nature, the nature of God. "Monophysites" his followers came to be called — "One-nature-ites."

The Emperor Theodosius II backed Eutyches and his followers, and was pressured by them to convoke a council to examine the issue. The pope at the time, Leo I (440-461), was against the idea of such a council, especially with the emperor backing Eutyches. But it happened. In A.D. 449, at Ephesus, the pope reluctantly agreed, was unable to attend but sent three delegates to represent him along with a letter explaining the mystery of the Incarnation with special references to the questions

raised by Eutyches, which came to be known as The Dogmatic Letter.

At the council, only the friends of Eutyches were allowed to have a voice in the proceedings, the papal delegates were ignored, and the letter was never read to the assembly. Flavian, the bishop of Constantinople, one of those who had complained to the pope about Eutyches, was expelled from his position and died shortly after. Anatolus was set up as the new bishop. Leo I called the council a "robber council," a name that has endured, and the pope refused to accept the new bishop.

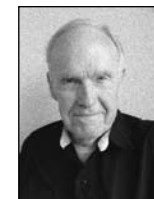
But then, all changed. Theodosius II suddenly died as the result of a fall from his horse while hunting, and his sister Pulcheria acceded to the throne.

With the approval of Leo, she convoked a new general council at Chalcedon, a community adjacent to Constantinople, to which some 600 bishops came, the largest contingent ever at a general council up to that time, opening on Oct. 8, 451 and closing on Oct. 25, 451 with Pulcheria and her new husband, Marcian, present.

At the conclusion, she and her husband were applauded and compared to Constantine and Helena, of recent fame, and a decree of faith was proclaimed: "We teach ... one and same Christ, Son and Lord, the Only Begotten One, known in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation."

Eutyches was dismissed from his position at the monastery and died soon after. Leo I approved the council's actions in regard to the Catholic faith — but not some of the other decisions — and letters of appreciation were sent Pulcheria and Marcian and to the bishops who had taken part in the council.

Pulcheria died in 453, and her great intervention and promotion of Christian doctrine. She is a saint



TRACT
FOR OUR
TIMES

BY FATHER BILL PEIL

in the Catholic Church and her feast day is Sept. 10. Her feast day is especially observed by the Greeks, and, at least for some time, in Portugal and Naples. Before she died, she brought the body of Flavian back to Constantinople for an honorable burial, erected three churches in Constantinople dedicated to Mary as the Mother of God, and built several hospitals and houses for pilgrims. St. Cyril of Alexandria wrote her a letter in which he commended her for holding on to "true church doctrine."

Well said. And one can only add "unwaveringly." She was a providential instrument that enabled the church in her time gently, but firmly, to nourish the fragile seed of the belief in the divinity of Christ into the mighty oak of "Jesus of Nazareth, the nature of God and the nature of man united in one Person, the Son of God."

This, in turn, enables every newly baptized child to be handed a golden platter of Christian beliefs. And if one were to look closely at it, it would be found to be splattered with the blood, sweat and tears of untold numbers of defenders of the Catholic faith over the centuries, among whom Pulcheria of Constantinople shines like the sun.

Father Bill Peil is retired from the Diocese of Gary and resides in Fort Wayne.

The loss of dreams

Sandra and her husband Bill had spent the last 45 years raising children, building careers and investing in their retirement. They dreamed of traveling the world and spending time with their children and grandchildren in their golden years. But those dreams were dashed when Bill died unexpectedly of a heart attack.

Sandra was devastated by her loss and sought the support of family and friends. As she worked through her grief in the weeks following the funeral, she began to take stock of her life.

"I've not only lost my husband, but I've lost my life as I knew it and all the plans we made together. Bill and I were planning to travel after he retired. Now what do I do?" she asked, feeling lost and despondent about the future.

As those of us who have lost a loved one know, dreams for the future can be pilfered in an instant. But many times we don't recognize that dimension of loss

until weeks or months after our loved one has died.

"What do I do now?" can be a paralyzing cry. I recall speaking with a financial advisor following my 32-year-old husband's death. As we spoke of the future, I was unable to picture any life but the nightmare I was currently living. I felt in my heart that my children would never need money for college because I could not envision seeing them growing up.

But as I embraced my grief and learned more about myself as a single parent, I began to understand that working through my grief would allow my heart to slowly heal. And my young daughters and I would begin to develop a "new normal" way of life, which included plans for the future.

In any relationship in which we love another, we naturally perceive the future unfolding with our loved one actively present and involved. But death ends the possibility of any future plans.



KAY COZAD

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

This dimension of loss can be a dilemma when facing any type of loss. Parents who have lost a child mourn not only the presence of their beloved son or daughter but also their child's potential life, including educational achievements, career successes and family choices. A child who loses a parent will forever mourn the possibilities of what the presence of that parent would bring to a graduation, wedding, birth of a child, etc. And the list goes on.

In Sandra's case as she bemoaned the thought of a future

HOPE, PAGE 16

Jesus, the suffering servant is example



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 8:27-35

The last and third section of the Book of Isaiah provides the first reading for this weekend in Ordinary Time.

This passage is one of several similar sections in Tristo-Isaiah. These sections together are called the Songs of the Suffering Servant. Poetic and expressive, they figure in the liturgies of Holy Week and Good Friday because Christians historically have applied them to Christ, the Lamb of God.

Who was in the mind of the author of Tristo-Isaiah as these songs were written? Was he thinking of himself? Was he thinking of another loyal and devoted follower of the Covenant who faced many difficulties? Was he thinking collectively of the Chosen People?

In any case, the picture of the Servant is complete. The Servant is steadfast. Hardships and obstacles abound in the Servant's path to fidelity. But, God unflinchingly provides strength and guidance.

Assured of God's help, and resolute in faith, the Servant is undaunted in obeying God.

For its second reading, the church this weekend gives us a passage from the epistle of James. At the time of the Reformation, the differing opinions regarding

texts such as this reading literally caused wars. It affirms the classic Roman Catholic interpretation of revelation. God gives us the healing and empowering grace so that we can believe.

However, we must ratify our belief in our worthy Christian conduct. It is not a question simply of following rules and regulations. Rather, it is to conduct ourselves so that in everything we replicate Christ.

St. Mark's Gospel furnishes the last reading.

In this story, Jesus and the apostles have gone to the region of Caesarea Philippi. This region is often in the news even today, and it has been the scene of much violence in the past 30 years. In general, it is the region now called the Golan Heights, territory claimed by modern Syria but taken militarily by Israel about 40 years ago. Parts of it still are under Israeli control.

At the origin of the Jordan River, it is picturesque and placid.

Such was the setting for this powerfully revelatory reading. Jesus questions the apostles. His identity is the issue. They respond by reporting the various proposals people put forward as to the Lord's identity. "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, others one of the prophets."

Then Jesus bluntly asks the apostles about their thoughts as to the identity of the Master. Note that Peter speaks for the group. Also note Peter's firm answer. "You are the Messiah!"

Jesus then gives the twelve a special lesson. It is one of many occasions within the New Testament in which the apostles appear as special students. They heard from Jesus lessons not given to the rank and file. They were

special.

When Peter interjects his own, human thinking into the discussion, Jesus reprimands him.

Then Jesus tells the crowd that discipleship means carrying personal crosses. It is frank and somber advice. To follow Christ means the willingness to sacrifice even earthly life itself.

Reflection

Living the Christian life by acts of genuine love and deep faith, all in reflection of Jesus, always has been challenging. Certainly the martyrs, from those who died in ancient Rome to those dying today, know very well this aspect of discipleship.

Blessedly, Americans do not face this test of discipleship. But, they face everyday the mighty attacks to the Gospel from our culture. We too must sacrifice if we wish to follow the Lord.

The fact is that, however the challenges come, overcoming opposition and being loyal to Christ results in peace in this life and joy in the life eternal.

READINGS

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a Ps 116:1-6,8-9 Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35

Monday: Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1-2,34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13 Ps 101:1-3,5-6 Jn 19:25-27

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16 Ps 111:1-6 Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16 Ps 111:7-10 Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12 Ps 49:6-10,17-20 Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16 Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 8:4-15

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplisson

In the seventh month we look at lucky seven in the Bible and beyond.

- Who in Genesis saw seven fat cows and seven skinny cows in a dream?**
a. Daniel b. Pharaoh c. Joseph
- Who, in Genesis, lived 782 years after the birth of Lamech?**
a. George Burns b. Methuselah c. Abimilech
- The Jews were told when observing Passover to eat this for seven days:**
a. Kosher pork
b. The bread of Life
c. Unleavened bread
- In the aptly named Book of Numbers we learn that in the seventh month the Jews are to perform rituals which are now associated with**
a. the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
b. the Feast of Lots (Betha)
c. Hanukah (Christmas)
- Leviticus prescribes as seven days the quarantine period for**
a. captured foreign slaves
b. people with skin disease
c. repentant Christians returning to the fold
- The Book of Judges records how the Bejaminite army included 700 men handpicked because of this possibly sinister fact:**
a. They were all left handed
b. They were all Philistine converts
c. They were all able to speak Aramaic
- According to the Book of Baruch, the Jews are told they will be exiled here, by Nebuchadnezzar for a period seven generations long**
a. Des Moines b. Egypt c. Babylon
- In 1 Samuel in a series of contrasts the barren wife**
a. has seven co-wives
b. has seven husbands
c. bears seven sons
- The king Jehoiachin is descried in Jeremiah 22 as childless. This is not exactly so as he had**
a. seven sons
b. seven children whose gender is unknown
c. seven daughters
- The author of Psalm 119 praises God seven times a day because his**
a. laws are arbitrary
b. nature is caprice
c. edicts are just
- We are told of a famous female follower of Jesus "... from whom seven demons had gone ..." Who was she?**
a. Miriam wife of Clopas
b. Mary Magdalene
c. Salome wife of Herodias
- In Act 13 Paul reminds his listener that God destroyed seven nations in this land, which he then gave to the Israelites**
a. Canaan b. Palestine c. Jordan
- According to tradition and the catechism, which biblical prayer has seven petitions**
a. The Lord's Prayer
b. the Hail Holy Star
c. The Creed
- This ecclesial center was reputedly built on seven hills.**
a. Canterbury b. Mecca c. Rome
- The traditional list of the seven seas includes this one that was dry for the Jews but gave the Egyptians an unanticipated bath**
a. the Red Sea
b. the Dead Sea
c. the Sea of Galilee

ANSWERS:

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

St. Paul was born in Tarsus

Where was St. Paul born?

St. Paul was born in Tarsus in modern southeast Turkey or ancient Asia Minor in the area called Cilicia during the first years of the Christian era. St. Paul is often called Saul of Tarsus. Saul is the Hebrew and Paul is the Roman name. St. Paul was born a Jew, but he also became a Roman citizen. Tarsus today has about 130,000 inhabitants.

E. Blake says the city of Tarsus existed 4,000 years before St. Paul was born. It was one of the important towns of the ancient Hittite empire. Originally Tarsus was a seaport town. Its harbor was a large lagoon opening on the Mediterranean Sea. But the lagoon has silted up. Now Tarsus is about nine miles from the sea and lies in the midst of rich farm land.

The Cydnus River flows through the city of Tarsus. Alexander the Great of Macedonia nearly drowned in this river in 333 B.C. Alexander made Tarsus one of his major mints. Queen Cleopatra of Egypt sailed up the Cydnus river on a decorated barge rowed by her slaves in 41 B.C. to

meet the famous Mark Anthony. The Roman orator Cicero lived in Tarsus in 50 B.C. The Roman emperor Julius Caesar visited Tarsus in 47 B.C.

Besides St. Paul, Theodore was also born in Tarsus and then became the archbishop of Canterbury in England in A.D. 668. Long before these famous people, the Assyrian king Sennacherib captured and sacked Tarsus in 696 B.C. A large rectangular cement enclosure near the center of town is called the tomb of Sennacherib's grandson Ashurbanipal (or Sardanapalus). This monument could have been a temple to the god Tarz for whom Tarsus is named.

A. Edmonds says St. Paul attended school in the large Jewish community in Tarsus and learned the trade of tent-making. St. Paul probably grew up knowing Aramaic (the language Jesus spoke), Hebrew, Greek (the business language of this time), Latin, and maybe the local dialect. As a young man, St. Paul went to Jerusalem to study under Gamaliel. St. Paul belonged to the pharisees, a Jewish sect that holds

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

both Scripture and tradition to be valid and binding.

M. Grant says Tarsus was the center of famous philosophical schools. Tarsus also had perfume industries.

At Tarsus today, you can see Cleopatra's Gate, also called St. Paul's Gate. You can also see St. Paul's well, said to be the well of the house in which St. Paul was born. Fodor says at Tarsus there are Roman baths and temples standing next to a basilica that is now a mosque. What is said to be the tomb of Seth, the son of Noah, is at Tarsus.

There is a hippodrome of St. Paul's time at Tarsus, as well as an ancient theater. There is also a concrete podium called the "Frozen Stone." In the foothills of

the Taurus mountains, nine miles northwest of Tarsus, is the Cave of the Seven Sleepers where Christian neophytes are said to have slept for 300 years to escape persecution. There is another Cave of the Seven Sleepers at Ephesus in Turkey. Ancient engineers cut a pass through the northern moun-

tains to the Cilician Gates. Both Xerxes and Alexander the Great passed through here.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for September 13, 2009

Mark 8:27-35

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: Jesus wants a profession of faith, in words and acts. Words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

DISCIPLES	VILLAGES	CAESAREA
SAY THAT I AM	JOHN	BAPTIST
CHRIST	TEACH	SON OF MAN
SUFFER	RISE	PETER
REBUKE	SATAN	AFTER ME
DENY	TAKE UP	HIS CROSS
FOLLOW ME	MY SAKE	SAVE IT

FOLLOW AFTER ME

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

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Take out the big guns

Country life agrees with me very well. I love the organic vegetables we are growing and eating. I love the space, the fresh air and the lack of nosy neighbors. But one thing I just can't totally get used to is the critters on the property. We have had some adventures with coyotes, groundhogs, deer and opossum.

I worry about raccoons the most, however, partially because I read somewhere that raccoons lead the pack in carrying rabies, partially because they're so destructive and mean, and mostly because they love to eat chickens, which we are raising in a backyard coop.

My 12 year old was doing her "chicken chores" this morning and spotted a huge raccoon out in the field. I decided to try to shoo the raccoon off the property the only way I know how — I went to get my son's paintball gun.

After a few texts to my son (who is away at college), I was able to figure out how to load the CO2 and paintballs. I put on the safety mask, which was more like a safety helmet that made me look like Darth Vader. I'm sure I looked like a fool, but like I said, we live in the country and the only ones around to laugh at me were the animals.

Those of you who shoot real guns will probably also laugh at me. But I have never shot a real gun so this was my weapon of choice. I am determined, and soon I discovered that I am also a good shot. I hit the raccoon from a respectable distance three times. All three times, however, the paintball bounced off his fur and he simply watched it do so. Then, he turned to me quizzically as if to say, "Really? Is that the best you can do?"

The raccoon didn't budge any of the three times, but rather repositioned himself in the field, laid down and continued to happily rest. I am obviously not a very good chicken defender, although I bet I'd do just fine in a game of paintball.

It seems to me that we, as a society, often go about fighting moral decay the same way I fought the raccoon, with paintballs instead of "the big guns." We sigh about the immodesty on the television, yet continue to turn on the TV. We complain that our teenagers are disrespectful, but we don't discipline them when they need it or carefully monitor their friends, activities or conversations. It takes more than a paintball to scare off or injure a raccoon, and it's going to take more than mere recognition of evil and feeble attempts to fight it in order to scare off the moral vices that threaten our families.

In 1 Thessalonians, St. Paul tells us "pray without ceasing," and that's a great start. We should continually ask for God's guidance in every single moment of every single day — at work, at home, as we're making decisions whether to let our son or daughter participate in the requested activity at hand or decisions about how we will spend our own free time. We should also be monitoring the computer, limiting electronics, (both for ourselves and our children) and talking with our offspring continually about what's going on in their lives, as well as offering moral guidance, non-threateningly, kindly, with love.

We definitely need to bring out the "big guns" too — which are the sacraments. Frequent confession and the guidance it offers is



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

Theresa A. Thomas

an important way to fight off moral challenges and sin in our lives, which our modern culture offers us regularly. We should put confession on the family calendar every month. We can conclude the family "confession date" with dinner at a local restaurant or trip for ice cream, and watch a miraculous change in attitude and action in all family members.

We should choose a day in addition to Sunday to attend Mass to pray for our families. Parents are entrusted with their children's souls to form and guide and hopefully return to God at the end of their lives. Receiving Jesus in the holy Eucharist will strengthen our souls, give clarity to our minds and magnify love and generosity in our hearts — all things which are necessary to combat moral evil.

I was silly. I used a paintball when a bb or stronger ammunition would have been better. Don't do what I did with the raccoon. In fighting moral evil, don't just use paintballs and feeble attempts. Take out the "big guns." And go get 'em!

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

HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

without her beloved Bill, she was encouraged to think that, though future activities would not include him, she might someday enjoy life again in a different way. Achieving that would mean redirecting her energy to new ventures of interest to her. Reinvesting emotionally in life requires a certain shift in the heart — an inner examination of core values and perceptions.

Following a period of time that allowed her to grieve deeply, Sandra began to experiment with volunteer work in her area in an attempt to find a place where she felt she could contribute. "After being Bill's wife for so long, I couldn't even think of what else I was good at," she said. Her search for meaning and purpose in life reflected Sandra's desire to live life more fully. And with

effort Sandra now finds purpose delivering flowers to patients in the local hospital as well as spending time with family and friends.

Many times, even years after the loss, those dreams you hold deep in your heart will resurface. It's okay to recall cherished hopes for the future. But the work of grief not only includes remembering and letting go, but also turning toward the future with new hopes and dreams, and trusting that you will find the right path.

Sandra muses as she finds her way, "I know now that though my life is different without Bill, it's still a good life."

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and news editor of *Today's Catholic* newspaper. She is the author of "Prayer Book for Widows," Our Sunday Visitor, 2004. She can be reached at kcozad@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Sports

USF SET TO TACKLE MOST CHALLENGING SCHEDULE The University of Saint Francis women's basketball program has set its 2009-10 schedule and Lady Cougars Coach Gary Andrews doesn't have many cream puffs on the slate heading into his eighth season with four NCAA II teams including 2007 NCAA Division II National champion Northern Kentucky; 13 games vs. NAIA Division II Poll members in the final regular season survey; 10 2008-09 post-season tournament qualifiers; and eight 2008-09 NAIA DII post-season tournament qualifiers including NAIA Tournament Semifinalist College of the Ozarks. "This may be the toughest schedule any USF team has had," Andrews said.

CYO roars into Week 2 football action

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

In the first game of Week 2 Catholic Youth League (CYO) football action, the Royal Reds from Queen of Angels/Most Precious Blood (QA/PB) downed St. John-New Haven, 16-8, in a hard-fought battle.

On their first drive, the Royal Reds' quarterback Talon Hostetler had some big completions and big runs gaining hard-earned yardage to get in scoring position. It was tailback Ryan Weddle who was able to finally punch in the touchdown and Noah Vorndran who added the kick to put QA/PB on the scoreboard first 8-0.

On the first drive of the second half, the Raiders were able to answer back in a similar fashion after a couple of big pass plays from quarterback Colton Painter, including a 30-yarder to Adam Hoffer, which ended in a hand off to David Peters. Peters, also the kicker, got one through the uprights tying things up at 8-8.

In the final quarter, the Royal Red defense recovered a fumble putting them in good field position. Hostetler took over with a couple of sneaks and a final sweep scoring with just under two minutes left in the contest. Vorndran had a second successful PAT putting his team ahead, 16-8. In an attempt to tie things up once again, the Raiders tried for another six, but Brian Yager had a big interception sealing the game for QA/PB.

In his second year with the Royal Red varsity, an excited Coach Jeff Weddle explained, "We will have a short celebration then be back on the field practicing hard for next week's game."

Because of the Labor Day holiday, Week 3 games were all played on Saturday at Bishop Dwenger Field with Week 4 games resuming on Sunday, Sept. 13, at Bishop Luers.

St. Vincent started out their 2009 campaign with a 40-0 victory over Queen of Angels/Most Precious Blood. Under the direction of second year Coach Cory Kitchen, Kyle Hartzog led the way for the Panthers with two rushing touchdowns, while Michael Fiacable and Michael Reecer each scored on the ground as well. Grady Eifert returned an interception for a score and Stephen Colligan was a perfect five out of five on PAT kicks.

The Panthers improved to 2-0 after a 26-8 victory over St. Jude in Week 2 play. Hartzog led the way with two rushing touchdowns. Fiacable threw for one touchdown and ran for another. Watercutter was on the receiving end of a beautiful scoring catch in the back of the end zone at the tail end of the first half.

Kitchen explained, "We started out a little bit sluggish, but we responded to the adversity well and took control in the second quarter. The kids played hard. We still have a lot to improve upon, but we are glad to be 2-0 out of the gate."

A tough St. Joe/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese (JAT) team downed a young St. John-New Haven group in the final matchup of the first week. Knight touchdowns were scored by Trey Casaburo, Braden Thiele (2), Quinton Gardner (2) and Samuel Lovejoy. Nic Morken led the team in tackles in an overall strong defensive effort for the 2008 runner-ups. Casaburo was four-for-four on extra point kicks while Andrew Schenkel converted the last one.

Both Mike Gigli and Troy Hoffer, a former Ball State safety, were in their first outing as head coaches at the CYO varsity level.

In their second outing, the JAT boys lost a physical matchup to the defending champs, Holy Cross, 26-12.

"It was a tale of two halves," summarized Gigli. "Our coaching staff is proud of the way our team came out and played the first half. Holy Cross is a much bigger and more experienced team. We competed for three quarters, but in the end their passing game was too much for our team to handle."

"Morken ran with heart and desire and kept us in the ballgame. His 146 yards rushing and two touchdowns were more than just impressive. Credit should also be given to the offensive line as well," he added.

St. John-Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Eagles were beaten in Week 1 by the defending CYO champs Holy Cross, and in Week 2 by St. Charles.

Eagles Coach Jim Carroll explained, "We're young with lots of new faces out for the first time. We'll work hard, push to get better and we'll be back."

Panthers and Saints square off for opening game of ICCL season

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — The opening contest on the 65th Inter-City Catholic League season started off with a bang as the two teams that have owned the championship for the past three years squared off here at Otolowski Field.

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints started the game off with a big kickoff return by Will Whiten that placed the ball deep in the St. Anthony/St. Joseph (South Bend)/St. Pius Panther territory. It took the Saints only two plays to have Dominic Ravotto scamper 14 yards for a touchdown.

The points after attempt were blocked as the Saints led, 6-0, after only 50 seconds of play.

It seemed the Saints were on the move again after Chris Coulter intercepted an Alex Ward pass, but the Panthers returned the favor as Oliver Page snatched a Coulter pass for an INT.

That play allowed Brian Mischler to take a hand off from Ward and dash 59 yards for a touchdown. Michael Farkas then connected on the points after boot to give the Panthers an 8-6 lead.

The Panthers maintained good field position after the Saints turned the ball over on downs, but Charles Fletcher intercepted a pass and raced 80 yards for an apparent touchdown only to have it called back on a penalty.

If the Saints were to score it would be the hard way, Ravotto and Joe Kavanaugh were used as a one-two punch to drive the ball the length of the field and have Coulter cap it off with a 1-foot plunge making the score 12-8, Mishawaka Catholic.

The second half started with three of the Panther backs; Mischler, Chris Lippert and Justin Drinkall sharing the pigskin and running the ball deep into Saint turf. Eric Mossey went high into the air to pull down a Ward pass at

the two-yard line. Two plays later, Greenan Sullivan hammered home the score making the game 14-12 Panthers.

The biggest play of the game may have been what followed, a kickoff by Farkus that pinned the Saints inside of their own 10. Field position would dominate the remainder of this hard hitting contest.

As the game wore on the Saints could only move the ball 20 yards a possession and the Panthers did the same. With fourth down and four to go on their own 18 with 1:05 on the clock the Saints came up two yards short. The Saints would have one more chance but the Panthers would close the door when with fourth down and one with 42 seconds on the clock, a sweep by Lippert gained the yardage needed for the first down and the game.

"When we drew Mishawaka Catholic for our first game, I knew

ICCL, PAGE 18



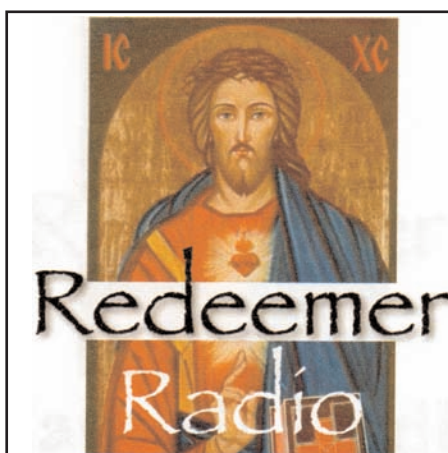
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ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

that we would be lucky to get out of here with a win," stated Kevin Sandor, coach of the Panthers. "Denton Gillis did a great job defensively all day."

"All that I can say is that our kids played hard and took advantage of a big break early," commented Tony Violi, coach of the

Saints. "Kevin is an excellent coach and we knew coming in this would be a difficult challenge for us."

In the other varsity game, the Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders topped the West Side Catholic Cougars, 26-0.

The Crusaders were led by Matt Monserez's two touchdown passes, one to Pat Swift for 35 yards and another to Ryan Wobbe for 20 yards. Casey Coleman had a 25-yard touchdown run and Pierre Byrne added a 40-yard touchdown run. Wobbe converted a two-point kick for the Crusaders.

Father Robert Barron's pioneering Web site expands into new territories

CHICAGO — Father Robert Barron is one of the world's greatest and innovative teachers of spirituality. The popular Catholic preacher and author is drawing a record number of visitors to his redesigned Web site, WordOnFire.org. Father Barron is also tapping YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and other new media tools to engage thousands of people — Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

"People aren't just spontaneously coming to our institutions anymore," said Father Barron, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. "We have to go out to get them. It's the way we have to go if we're serious about evangelizing the next generation."

Chicago's Cardinal George calls Father Barron one of the church's best messengers. Ten years ago, Father Barron had the foresight to launch his own Web site and soon became the first podcasting priest in America. Today, WordOnFire.org offers new, highly-interactive features that invite visitors on a global journey and into a deeper conversation about the spiritual life and the church's teachings.

Father Barron's online videos, audio sermons, and articles cover a variety of topics and media, offering compelling commentaries on everything from the best-selling



FATHER ROBERT BARRON

book "The Shack" to the Oscar-winning film "Slumdog Millionaire" to the recent controversy over President Obama's speech at Notre Dame. Visitors to WordOnFire.org can also take a virtual pilgrimage with Father Barron as he films a landmark, high-def epic adventure, The Catholicism Project. The documentary series will take viewers to over 30 locations in 15 countries and is hailed by writer George Weigel as

"one of the most significant efforts ever to advance what Pope John Paul II called 'the new evangelization.'"

"I'm very excited about the newly designed Web site. We are attempting to engage the culture with the Gospel of Jesus Christ," explained Father Barron. "And I would like to highlight that word 'engage.' All of the forums on the website are interactive, allowing the visitor to talk back, to raise questions, to elicit further comment. Why not use these amazing technologies? It's something the church has been behind on."

The mission of Word On Fire is to draw people into the body of Christ, which is the church, and thereby gives them access to all the gifts that Jesus wants his people to enjoy. In the same spirit of obedience held by the first disciples, who upon Christ's command cast their nets into the deep waters of the sea, Father Barron puts out into the deep waters of the world-wide Web. The Word On Fire Web site draws more than 300,000 visitors each year from every continent.

Father Barron is the director of Word on Fire and is the Francis Cardinal George Professor of Faith and Culture at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

St. Vincent School reunion

Elkhart — The first St. Vincent de Paul School reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Mother Teresa Center, 1114 S. Main St. from 3-5 p.m. An alumni Mass will follow. RSVP to (574) 293-8451 or email: d.quinn@stvincentelkhart.org.

Day of reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Sept. 30, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Francis of Assisi." Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Sept. 25 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

St. Adalbert School alumni plan get-together with Pierogi and polka fun

South Bend — A genuine pierogi-tasting contest, while listening to music and meeting old friends will be Sunday, Sept. 27, from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Heritage Center. All alumni are welcome to this free event. For reservations contact the parish office, or call Karen Sikorski at (574) 288-5708 ext. 215 so there will be enough Pierogi.

Light Weigh is coming to St. Vincent

Fort Wayne — A Light Weigh orientation meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the nursery (evening session) and on Monday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m. in the nursery (morning session). Come and find out about The Light Weigh Bible Study-Video Series.

St. Hedwig Chicken Dinner

South Bend — St. Hedwig Parish will have a chicken dinner Sunday, Sept. 20, at the Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St., from noon to 2 p.m. The buffet includes Polish fare and beverage. Advance tickets only by

Sept. 14. Adults \$9, children 6-10 \$4 and children 5 and under free.

Spaghetti dinner helps Gibault School

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner for the benefit of the Gibault School for Boys and Girls, Thursday, Sept. 10, from 4-6 p.m. Adults \$7, children ages 5 to 12 \$2.50.

Bishop Luers Men's Smoker Knight

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers will hold its Athletic Booster Club Men's Smoker Knight 2009 on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 7 p.m. to midnight at Bishop Luers High School. Watch Notre Dame vs. Purdue on two big screen TV's, food and beer provided, bring cigars or buy them there. Cost is \$25 per person.

Bishop Luers softball tourney

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will hold a homecoming softball tourney on Saturday, Sept. 26, at Tillman Park, 600 Tillman Rd. Round Robin 10-person, co-ed teams start at 9 a.m. Round robin tourney limited to six teams who will play five games. Awards following the final game at 1 p.m. Proceeds to benefit Bishop Luers. Cost is \$15 per player and includes team shirts, awards and beverages.

Daughters of Isabella meet

South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572 will celebrate a Corporate Communion on Sunday, Sept. 13, at the 9 a.m. Mass at St. John the Baptist Church on St. John Way. Breakfast will follow at Tom's on Lafayette Blvd.

Youth Rally announced

Fort Wayne — The High School Youth Rally, sponsored by the Office of Youth Ministry, will be held at Homestead High School Sunday, Sept. 27. A fun-filled,

faith-filled day with great music and videos, an interactive teen-expo, dynamic workshops and keynote speaker, Mass with Bishop D'Arcy, and the chance to meet teens from across the diocese is planned. Cost is \$20. Register with your parish youth minister by Sept. 18 and forms are available by visiting www.diocesefwsb.org/YOUTH or call Megan at (260) 399-1450.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Sept. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3.

Cardinal Fest announced

Fort Wayne — St. Charles Borromeo Church, corner of Reed and Trier roads, will be celebrating CardinalFest 2009 on Saturday, Sept. 19. Kids indoor and outdoor games begin at 3 p.m. with food service beginning at 4 p.m.

Saint Anne Society plans card party

South Bend — The Saint Anne Society will have a luncheon card party Sunday, Sept. 13, in the Our Lady of Hungary School auditorium, 735 W. Calvert St. Doors open at noon. Donation of \$5 at door. Bring your own cards.

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Donaldson

Sister Sharon Schaefer, PHJC, 92, Catherine Kasper Home Chapel

Fort Wayne

Donna D. Cary Ray, 77, St. Jude

Mary E. Rondot, 88, St. Patrick

Yvette Mary Haver, 87, St. Charles

Eldon Wayne Braun, 86, St. Charles

Leroy R. Guevara, 52, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

William O. Robey, 81, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Susan Elise Lawrence, 27, St. Vincent de Paul

Fannie Freehill, 84, Queen of Angels

Ruth D. Nix, 87, St. Peter

Helmut H. Wiegmann, 82, St. Peter

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Elizabeth L. Balas, 82, St. Pius X

Deborah N. Sandroni, 50, St. Pius X

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Huntington

Patricia J. Pollack, 78, Ss. Peter and Paul

Virgil Phillip Rowe, 61, Ss. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Zelma J. Tribbey, 99, St. Bavo

Patricia A. Moskwinski, 81, Queen of Peace

Wilma E. Selis, 92, St. Bavo

Larry A. Van De Putte, 59, St. Bavo

Andy A. Verstraete, 94, St. Bavo

Jennie R. Piatkowski, 81, St. Joseph

New Carlisle

Frances M. Nowacki, 88, St. Stanislaus

New Haven

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Donn Michael Singleton, 62, Little Flower

Antonia Rodriguez, 83, St. Adalbert

Ervin J. Ciesielski, 80, St. Adalbert

Jose Centeno, 51, Our Lady of Hungary

Ervin Frank Cukrowicz, 86, St. Casimir

Jeffrey Braunsdorf, 49, Holy Cross

Virginia Palmer, 81, Holy Cross

Priscilla M. Johnson, 73, Holy Cross

Joshua J. Reed, 15, Holy Family

Veronica R. Perez, 24, St. Adalbert

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SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Bishop John M. D'Arcy ordains Kevin Grove and Gerard Olinger to the diaconate in the Congregation of Holy Cross on Sunday, Aug. 30, at the chapel at Moreau Seminary.

ORDAIN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

who every time he offered Mass he offered his whole self to God. "Offer your whole self to God without reservation," said Bishop D'Arcy.

He reminded them that they are called to give their hearts to the people, especially the poor, and to the ministry of the church. They must stay close to the people and serve them unreservedly.

The church's instruction, given by Bishop D'Arcy, admonished those to be ordained to have undivided hearts and be firmly rooted and grounded in faith.

After the instruction, the candidates reaffirmed their vow of consecrated celibacy for the sake of the kingdom and also promised

obedience and respect to their bishop and religious superior. Afterwards those present called upon the communion of saints for their blessings upon them. Bishop D'Arcy then laid his hands over each candidate and prayed the prayer of ordination. Grove and Olinger were then presented with the vestments of deacons and the Book of the Gospels.

Bishop D'Arcy concluded the Mass assisted by the two new deacons who assumed the liturgical duties of deacons.

Deacon Grove, a native of Montana, entered Moreau Seminary in August of 2004. He will serve at St. Joseph Parish in South Bend until his ordination in April of next year.

Deacon Olinger is from Springfield, Pa. He, too, came to Holy Cross in August of 2004. His has been assigned to serve as deacon at the University of Portland until ordination.

BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

This month's featured selection:

"Render Unto Caesar" by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput

Reviewed by York Young

Should Catholic politicians who support abortion and laws that make abortion legal be denied holy Communion by the church? That has been the flashpoint question during the last two presidential races, when a Catholic who supported abortion in law was on a major party ticket (John Kerry in 2004; Joe Biden, vice president, in 2008). Many Catholics, even among a small group of friends, could likely find impassioned people on either side of the issue.

Even U.S. bishops have publicly come out on both sides. Some, who support such a move, look like they're hoping to get a public conversion from a politician. On the opposite side, some bishops warn about using the Eucharist as a weapon, which it clearly is not intended to be. One of the more reasoned approaches in the U.S. hierarchy on this topic has been posited by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, ordinary in Denver. His 2008 book "Render Unto Caesar" (Doubleday, \$21.95), titled after the infamous instruction of Jesus Christ, adroitly deals with how Catholics should respond and act in the public sphere.

Archbishop Chaput doesn't answer our opening question until the last of 12 chapters, spending the majority of the book talking about how all Catholics should act in today's society, not just the politicians. And when he

does give us his answer, it's a several step process, including an encouragement of the individual in question to merely not present himself or herself for Communion. Nowadays, Catholics too often don't think about what they are doing when they walk up the Communion line, but, the act of coming forward for the Eucharist says to God, and those present, I concur with Catholic teaching, which is God's teaching.

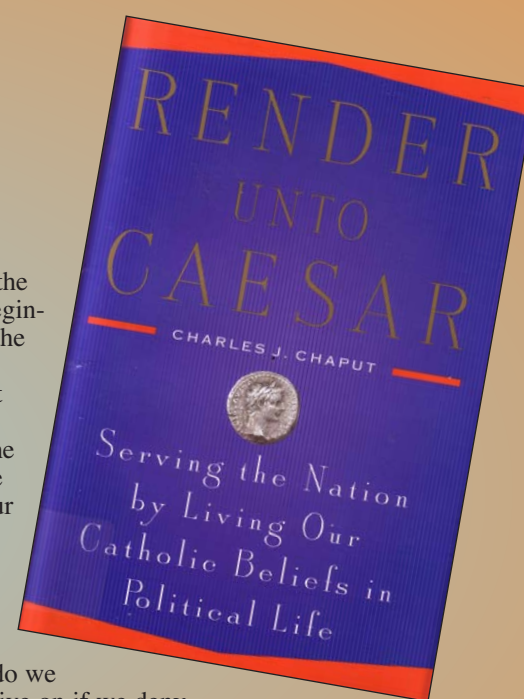
This book was developed after Archbishop Chaput had publicly made statements early in the election season that he could not, in good conscience, vote for any candidate that supported abortion. This statement countered some lay Catholics who had decided that if a candidate supported enough issues favorable to church teaching, even though abortion is not among them, then that candidate could be voted for. The discussion was ratcheted up when one individual in particular took his reasoning public and gained nationwide press for it.

Not all teachings have equal weight, however, and the church has always pointed out that life issues are foundational. Any law that allows the destruction of human life, at any stage, is unacceptable.

"Render Unto Caesar" is much more than a treatise on Catholic politicians and abortion law in America. Archbishop Chaput looks at how Catholics and their faith have contributed to the development of U.S. law, as

well as the growth of the country, beginning with the colonies.

His best chapters focus on the importance of using our faith to influence our decisions, because what else do we have to thrive on if we deny God's plans. Making choices that are for the betterment of mankind is everyone's duty, especially the politicians (look no further than the current economic crisis for some failure of this duty by us, and not just politicians). We all need to be making formed, faith-filled decisions with the help of a conscience formed in the light of Christ's teaching. "Render Unto Caesar" tells you why.



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