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make nice collection
Pages 10-13



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Bishop rededicates roomier Sacred Heart Parish church

BY JODI MAGALLANES



JODI MAGALLANES

Bishop D'Arcy begins the rededication Mass of the church of Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw on Sept. 12. The parish amplified the church area, the sanctuary, a chapel and added four new classrooms to their school during a reconstruction project that took place in 2008 through Palm Sunday of 2009.

WARSAW — Praying that it would serve as “a place of salvation and sacraments,” Bishop John M. D’Arcy blessed and rededicated Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw on Sept. 12, after the church and school were both physically expanded in a construction project that wrapped up this spring.

To ease crowding, and at the suggestion of the diocesan committee on art and environment, the entire sanctuary was moved 40 feet to the west during the 2008-09 construction. Yet further west, a 32-seat chapel was added roughly where an adoration chapel had stood. A shared tabernacle remains between the two.

The parish’s namesake in stained glass moved west as well, as did both sides of the church — creating an alcove on each side of the widened sanctuary, one of which now houses musical instruments and the other, altar server seats and a handicap ramp.

Pews for 200 additional worshippers were added in the main church area as a result of the enlargement, and four classrooms in the school, which are being utilized as fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade classrooms. A fourth, multipurpose room where art, music and science classes can be held means that third grader Rachel Boyle is no longer singing in the school library.

“It’s nice to have the extra space for music. She’s in the choir, just sang at the Mass,” Dad Pat Boyle said after the rededication Mass. “The kids seem to really be enjoying it.”

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Ministered with great love and care

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Anniversary couples celebrate with special Mass, reception

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — Couples observing their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries this year gathered Sunday afternoon for a special celebratory Mass at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne with Bishop John M. D’Arcy as presider. Afterwards, they and family members in attendance enjoyed a reception with refreshments, socializing and picture taking at the nearby Grand Wayne Center.

The cathedral was filled nearly to capacity as Bishop D’Arcy spoke of the love of Christ for his people and how that love is expressed between man and wife. He reminded them, “This Mass is about renewing the gift of oneself to God and to one

another ... love each other as Christ loves his church.”

Bishop D’Arcy also reminded his audience of the declaration of Pope Benedict XVI making this the Year for Priests, as it is the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests. He asked couples to reflect on the important role of priests in their own lives, from the one who officiated at their wedding to those who hear their confessions, dispense sage advice and baptize their children. “There is no holy marriage without priests,” he said.

Finally, an expectant hush filled the cathedral as the anniversary couples were

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YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

In the lingo of his favorite sport, baseball, Bishop John M. D’Arcy is now pitching in extra innings.

Two years ago, he reached the mandatory retirement age for bishops and filed the required resignation papers, but so far, there are no announcements regarding the name of the ninth bishop of this diocese.

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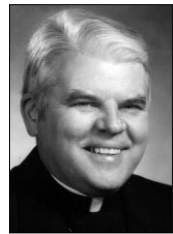
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The beauty of Catholic moral teaching in the area of sexuality



NEWS
& NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A weekend of faith

It all began, as it so often does, in Warsaw, the midpoint between our two major cities. Our Family Life and Pro-Life Office had arranged an extraordinary meeting concerning a matter with moral implications, but so little noticed. I refer to infertility. Women who hunger to have children and for whatever reason, find it difficult to conceive. We should say men and women, because it is truly a family matter.

Over 100 people came; priests, candidates for the diaconate, men and women involved in parish ministry, descended on the Ramada Inn. The first speaker was Father Tad Pacholczyk, a scientist and theologian, who shared with us the ethics and the consequences of in vitro fertilization — IVF. So many are placed on this road with its severe consequences: huge expenditure of money; morally offensive methods and sad and frustrating results. There are over 400,000 frozen embryos in fertility clinics all over the country. He shared both the moral implications and human implications of IVF, and the low success rate. Father Tad brought out clearly the distinction between the child who comes forth, sometimes, from this method who must always be seen as a gift; and the method, which is opposed both to church teaching and the natural law, and with such terrible consequences.

A story of courage and faith

The next speaker was Dr. Patrick Holly. Dr. Holly is a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, and the father of seven children. But what he now shared before this large group of pastoral ministers working each day to assist couples was something we all found to be inspiring.

He related how, although a Catholic, he would provide contraceptives and perform sterilizations as part of his practice. Troubled by it, he read again "Humanae Vitae," the historic encyclical of Pope Paul VI on this subject. He mentioned a visit at a Japanese restaurant, where the chef referred to him and his family as "a good Catholic family." God's grace is everywhere, even in Japanese restaurants. He went home with the realization that he was not a good Catholic. He was providing contraceptives. He had several children at this point and his wife had had three miscarriages, but he received the light and grace to know that God was calling him to change how he practiced medicine.

He understood this would be costly financially, and he did not know where it would lead. But he went to work the next morning and informed his staff that he would no longer prescribe contraceptives or perform sterilizations. He turned to Dr. Thomas Hilgers at Creighton University in Omaha.

Dr. Hilgers had long since established the Pope Paul VI Center. He, too, had read "Humanae Vitae" and took notice, as Dr. Holly was beginning to do, of the requests that Paul VI had made to scientists and physicians to examine this question from a scientific point of view, knowing that morality is also good science and good medicine. Dr. Holly went to the Pope Paul VI Center for further training and became certified as a Creighton model medical consultant.

There are many methods of Natural Family Planning, and Dr. Hilgers has used his method to develop the science of NaProTechnology, which is a set of medical and surgical procedures designed to treat infertility in a way that is completely in accord with church teaching and which has a much higher success rate than IVF. All of this was laid out clearly for us by both Father Pacholczyk and Dr. Holly.

I had the good fortune at being at table with a woman from St. Pius X Parish, Granger, who came in with several others from that parish. She shared with us the cross and the pain she had experienced in her struggle to have a child and how moved she was, even to tears, that there were so many present, including outstanding scientists and pastoral leaders who understood the pain of not being able to have a child, and were working for people like herself in a way that is sound and moral, and according to the plan of God; and that treatment for her infertility through NaProTechnology was being pursued in a way that was moral and respectful of human dignity.

Then Lisa Everett, mother of seven, who along with her husband, Fred, has worked beside me for over 23 years on so many matters, spoke and explained the various resources and literature, which their department was making available to all those in attendance. This was followed by a period of question and answers.

Open to life

What was especially moving was to realize anew the teaching of the church that the marital union must always be open to life, and that this teaching is beautiful. Why have we not done better in teaching this truth? I shared a few thoughts afterwards, since I have lived through this controversy. I remember as a young priest at St. Mary's, Beverly, Mass., baptizing an average of 10 to 15 children every Sunday. New life was all around us. Pope Paul VI, in his teaching, foresaw much of what would come upon us. Much criticized at the time, his teaching, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, is only now being more understood. His message was prophetic. He predicted things, like in vitro fertilization and saw clearly the connection between contraception and the direct attack on human life in the womb.

One left Warsaw feeling very hopeful. In a few remarks at the end, I spoke of the second visit of Pope John Paul II to this country. We bishops had morning prayer and breakfast with him at one of the old California missions, not far from Los Angeles. Later that day, he would celebrate Mass at Dodger Stadium before 80,000 people. But the morning prayer was with bishops only.

Four talks were given by different bishops.

One concerned the pressing moral questions. In his response, the Holy Father said that in the great and difficult moral issues we should teach in such a way that people would see church teaching as attractive and be drawn to it. A few months later, at lunch with several other bishops during the "ad limina" visit, I reminded him of what he said, and asked, "Holy Father, how do we do this?" The pope became very serious. Philosophical. "It is necessary to understand the soul of the woman. All these things which were meant to liberate her; premarital sex, birth control, abortion. Have they liberated her, or have they enslaved her?" The challenge he gave to the bishops on that lovely sunny day at the old mission in California must be taken up. It seems the beauty and attractiveness of Catholic moral teaching have only now begun to find a serious hearing among many people. We must take up the challenge to share, especially with our young people, the beauty of Catholic moral teaching in the area of sexuality and marital life, and the value of Natural Family Planning which respects the law of God and the dignity of the woman.

Chapter two

So much for Friday. On Saturday evening, I was at Corpus Christi Parish, South Bend, for the liturgical installation of Father Daryl Rybicki. Despite the conflict of the Notre Dame-Michigan game, the Mass was well attended and a lovely supper followed. I said to Father Rybicki that this event was marked by much joy. So many of the people there knew Father Daryl from his previous assignments at St. Adalbert, St. Hedwig, St. Matthew, along with Saint Joseph's and Marian high schools, institutions where he exercised educational leadership. It was like a homecoming for him, and for his dear mother and for the people. So many people thanked me for sending him there. He is already well launched, quite happy and it was a joy to be with him.

Sunday

Off east from my comfortable quarters with the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration to Sacred Heart, Warsaw. This generous parish has enlarged their church and school. I blessed the expanded church and preached and paid tribute to Msgr. Jim Wolf, who has given excellent pastoral leadership there. I reminded them how important this small town is. It is a place for orthopedic construction where they build knees and hips and all kinds of things. People come to live there from all over the country, and I have always told them to make the Eucharist and the church their anchor. I always meet people there from my hometown; and I am most proud of this parish and its Catholic school.

Not yet finished

Back to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for the Jubilee Mass for those married 25, 50 and 60 years. I often think of my dear parents and how they would love to have such a Mass with the bishop.

Word arrived early in the weekend that we had lost our beloved Father Ronald Ramenaden, a priest of our diocese who came to us from far away Sri Lanka. I hope to say more about him next week.

Science at the service of life

Father Tad Pacholczyk lectures in South Bend

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — In our technological society, many competing claims are set forth about the correct relationship between science and religion, with some people arguing that science and religion are incompatible.

Father Tad Pacholczyk addressed those claims in a talk here Sept. 11 in which he explained that “Science and religion need each other precisely because they meet in the human person.” As a theologian as well as a scientist with a doctorate in neuroscience, Father Pacholczyk is director of education and a staff ethicist at the National Catholic Bioethics Center. He is an engaging speaker who is able to explain complex issues in simple language, and he lectures and consults widely on bioethics topics.

Father Pacholczyk used a lively slide presentation to talk about “Science at the Service of Life” at a banquet hosted by the diocesan Office of Family Life in McKenna Hall on the University of Notre Dame campus.

He first discussed five common misconceptions about the relationship between science and religion. The claim that science can directly find God, or prove his nonexistence is false, he said, because “God is hidden, nonmaterial and transcendent.” However, scientists can “find” God indirectly as they carry out their research, the priest said, citing several famous scientists who reported that the sciences enabled them to see the power, wisdom and goodness of God.

The second misconception is that supernatural action is a legitimate subject of scientific inquiry. That is false, Father Pacholczyk said, because science is incapable of directly investigating supernatural actions, such as miracles. Supernatural phenomena can be studied only indirectly since they cannot be reproduced and are out-



ANN CAREY

Bishop John M. D'Arcy joined the noted theologian and neuroscientist, Father Tad Pacholczyk, at the Sept. 11 banquet where Father Pacholczyk spoke on “Science at the Service of Life.”

side the natural order.

Another misconception is that the scientific method is the only way to acquire truth. Some people are tempted to reduce all ways of knowing to the scientific method because so much has been learned that way, he said. However, this is a materialist view that dismisses the existence of God, divine revelation and a natural grounding in ethics, as well as the concept that humanity can participate in a reality that transcends itself. The domain of science has inherent limitations, he continued, and the failure to grasp that is a “common intellectual error.”

Misconception four is that science can answer all questions, even those about meaning, value, purpose and ethics. And even though science lacks the tools to address the questions of ultimate reality or values, scientists sometimes “pontificate” on matters outside their competence without any grounds for verification, Father Pacholczyk said.

The last misconception the priest discussed was that science and religion should have no overlapping interface because they are distinct realities. Father Pacholczyk disputed that claim, again quoting several famous sci-

entists and theologians.

Father Pacholczyk said that Leon Kass, who was the chairman of President George W. Bush's Council on Bioethics, summed up this concept perfectly when he said we must raise the ethical questions, for “There may be some things that men should never do. The good things men do can be made complete only by the things they refuse to do.”

This is a “huge challenge” in our technocratically driven society that has the desire to move ahead with science “at full steam and at all costs,” Father Pacholczyk said.

“This issue of ethical blindness in science ... or that somehow science can provide its own basis for practices and action, I'm convinced represents one of the greatest dangers to mankind,” he continued.

Father Pacholczyk concluded his talk by showing a slide of a tiny newborn baby being cradled in a man's large hands.

“I am convinced, ultimately, that the true measure of the greatness of a society will not be in terms of its gross national product or its military might: The true greatness of a society will always be measured in terms of how it treats its weakest members.”

echoed that sentiment, “Faith — it's always there,” she said.

Russell and Sharon Sorg, parishioners at St. Aloysius, Yoder, noted the need to keep God in a marriage. Sharon said, “Marriage is between husband, wife and God. If you don't have God in there, you won't succeed.”

Frances and Boris Kuzeff of St. Therese Parish also acknowledged God's presence in their lives. “Faith keeps everybody together,” said Frances. Larry and Gloria Spieth of St. John the Baptist, New Haven, advised couples to go to church together.

Jeff Young and his wife Theresa came from St. Mary Parish in Huntington to attend the special celebration. Active in Knights of Columbus, Jeff noted the importance of the church in their family's life and the necessity of communication between spouses.

Mary and Keron Ledwuih of St. John the Baptist Parish agreed on respect for one another as vital to a long-lasting marriage. “But some days it's 90-10 and some days it's 50-50,” said Mary.

Fellow St. John parishioners Marion and Marie Aksamit advised couples to be kind to each other. And Carmen and Enrique Olivas reminded spouses to love and help one another.

Sunday's special celebration with dozens of anniversary couples represented hundreds of years of strong faith in God and commitment to his church, and to each other. They would surely agree with Bishop D'Arcy when he said, “Prayer should be part of this important day.”

In South Bend the Wedding Jubilee Mass will take place at St. Matthew Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 11.

Father Ronald Ramenaden, pastor of St. Robert, North Manchester, dies at 67

NORTH MANCHESTER — Father Ronald Ramenaden died Wednesday, Sept. 9 at St. Robert Parish, where he was serving as pastor. His body was discovered Sept. 11 when parishioners came for Friday morning Mass. He was 67.

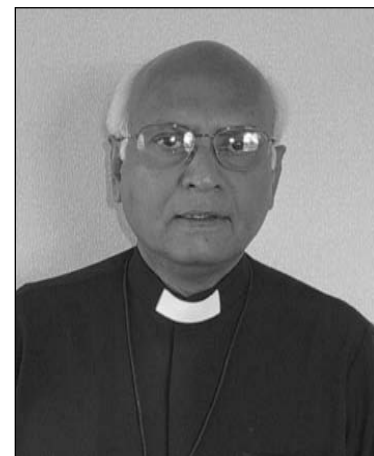
Father Ramenaden was an Oblate priest, ordained in 1970, who came from Sri Lanka to serve as a missionary in the diocese. He was originally stationed at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, and has served as pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester, since Oct. 15, 1997. Father Ramenaden was incardinated as a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in 1997.

Benedictine Father Bernard Ramenaden, his brother, serves as pastor of St. Gaspar Del Bufalo Parish, Rome City.

Father Ramenaden was a devoted and faith-filled priest says St. Robert's parishioner Terri Mathias. “He ministered with great care and love and made the parish needs his priority. He was very knowledgeable and loved to share stories of his life before he came to the U.S. He was very spiritual. I'll always remember that,” she adds.

The St. Robert's pastor was also known for his generous nature and helpfulness. He was known to stop and speak with the children of St. Robert's on a regular basis and spoke of his concern for their catechesis. That concern translated to the entire parish as well. Jeanette Dziabis says, “He was very interested in the parish and its needs.”

Father Ramenaden was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to the late Nicholas and Irene Babapulle



FATHER RONALD RAMENADEN

Ramenaden on Aug. 7, 1942. Surviving are his brothers Father Bernard Ramenaden of Rome City, Neville Ramenaden of Colombo, Sri Lanka, one sister, Gladys Wensuslaus Rodrigo of Colombo, Sri Lanka, two nieces and one great-nephew. His brother Maurice Ramenaden preceded him in death.

Services for Father Ramenaden were held Sunday, Sept. 13, at St. Robert Bellarmine Church with reception of the body and Vigil Service at 5 p.m. Visitation followed the service until 7 p.m. and on Monday morning, Sept. 14, prior to Mass at the church. The funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, followed by a luncheon offered by the parish. Burial took place in the priests' section of the Fort Wayne Catholic Cemetery on Monday afternoon.

Memorial contributions may be made for Masses or the missions in Sri Lanka. Condolences may be sent to www.delughtermckee.com.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

asked to rise, “renew the sacred moment” and reaffirm their marriage vows to each other. Bishop D'Arcy congratulated them, saying, “You have remained faithful and exhibited responsibility.”

Later, many of the anniversary couples who attended the ceremony confirmed the importance of faith in their long-time marriages.

Bob and Mary Wilson came from Albion where they are members of Blessed Sacrament Parish. Mary said, “Faith ... You can't make it without that.”

Anne Marie Wilson of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish glanced at her husband Charlie and

WARSAW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“They seem to be very happy with the results. Everyone seems to think it's a little warmer,” concurred pastor Msgr. James Wolf.

“This church is the church of the Sacred Heart, the church of Jesus pouring out his love for us from his Sacred Heart ... That's where the church began — with the pouring out of his love, his sacrifice,” Bishop D'Arcy said, relating Jesus' cross of death and resurrection with the cross of Warsaw parishioners, who took on the burden of paying for the renovations themselves over a three-year period between 2005 and 2008. The \$1.9-million cost was lessened by many donations, particularly that of free labor, accord-

ing to project coordinator Chuck Whitcraft. The parish's Knights of Columbus chapter did much of that labor and also took it upon themselves to refinish the baptismal font in a more attractive color, he said.

The parish is already holding some weekday Masses in the new chapel. Whitcraft said that 24-hour access to the chapel from an outside door is a feature that will soon be available to worshippers as well.

Bishop D'Arcy prayed that those present for the 11 a.m. rededication Mass would experience the presence of God, and told parishioners that the consecration of the stones used in the construction was really a consecration and blessing of the living stones who make up the parish faith community.

An outdoor parish picnic followed the rededication Mass.

Hahn speaks at St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

SOUTH BEND — “It’s a joy to be here not only to share this evening but to also bask in the afterglow of Notre Dame’s opening victory,” Dr. Scott Hahn proclaimed to the enthusiastic crowd of 500 people. Hahn, renowned speaker and bestselling author, greeted his audience at St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude Church with a topic of special local interest.

Hahn shared his early faith journey as a teenager who was in trouble with the law. After several appearances in the juvenile court system, he attended a retreat to get to know a girl he admired. At the retreat he recalled a speaker who pointed to the cross and said Christ paid a debt he didn’t owe.

“So by the end of the weekend I decided to open my heart and make Christ my personal savior and to give my life to him, as Christ had for me,” Hahn said.

Later he was invited to a Bible study group studying the book of Revelation. The group leader was teaching that they were at the end of time and awaiting the Antichrist and the rapture where people would be “left behind.”

After a few months, Hahn decided to read the Bible on his own. Over the next two years he read it three times and fell in love with sacred Scripture. During his third year of Greek study in college Hahn was surprised as he was translating the book of Revelation for a semester project that the words Antichrist, rapture and second coming did not appear.

As the semester progressed, Hahn met Kimberly, “the most beautiful girl on campus.” They later married and moved to Boston where Hahn studied the early church fathers and earned a master’s degree in theology at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Following graduation Hahn and his wife moved to Fairfax, Va., where he began his first job as a Presbyterian minister. Early in his ministry, Hahn delved more deeply into the concept of the body and blood of Christ while reading the first five chapters of John. It was at this point that Hahn discovered John’s Gospel showed that the Eucharist was not meant to be symbolic as he had learned in the Protestant faith, but the actual body and blood of Christ.

Amid all the confusion on his



Dr. Scott Hahn signs one of his many best selling books during a reception following his talk at St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude Parish on Sept. 6.

faith journey, Hahn was approached by a teacher in a Presbyterian seminary to teach. Reluctantly, he agreed and began his first class on the Gospel of John. The discussions in the class regarding the meaning of Scripture in John’s Gospel led to spirited debates.

During one such discussion Hahn challenged the students with a question. “Where does the sacrifice of Jesus really begin and does it start at Calvary?” he asked.

One undaunted seminary student replied that the sacrifice began in the upper room, which led the class to the conclusion that Eucharist and Calvary are inseparable. The seminarian then announced gleefully, “That’s what I learned as a kid from the Baltimore catechism.”

Hahn knew that something stronger was pushing him to live out what he had been teaching his students so he resigned

from the seminary and his vocation as a minister in the Presbyterian Church. He was accepted into the doctorate program at Marquette University in Wisconsin, where he attended Catholic Mass with some trepidation. As he watched he was struck by how saturated the Mass was with Scripture. When the priest announced the words of consecration Hahn whispered under his breath, “My Lord and my God, I know that is you.”



PHOTOS BY KAREN CLIFFORD

Dr. Scott Hahn sits down with *Today’s Catholic* for a one-on-one interview on current issues facing Catholic families.

are enjoying the meal.”

Kimberly “came home” to the Catholic church at the Easter Vigil in 1990.

At the conclusion of Hahn’s talk, a reception and book signing were held in the parish basement. Father John Delaney, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude, remarked that Hahn shows people outside of the Catholic Church that the gift of the Catholic faith comes from the time of the apostles and Jesus himself.

Father Delaney noted that Catholics shouldn’t take their faith for granted as well. “As Scott said in his talk you really need to be thankful for what we have. The presence of Christ is in the Eucharist and we don’t always come with the ability to appreciate what is really there.”

Scott Hahn shares Catholic beliefs

Today’s Catholic sat down with renowned speaker and bestselling author Dr. Scott Hahn during his visit to St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude where he spoke on Sept. 6.

Today’s Catholic: In today’s culture, couples and families are bombarded by images of sex and violence on a daily basis. How do we have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and still grow closer to each other in the midst of these images?

Hahn: It’s never been harder to be Catholic and to raise a Catholic family. But it’s never been more exciting and important. Given the nature of our sex-saturated culture, what we have to do is recapture the notion that sex is not just great, but it is sacred and holy. When you take something sacred and just treat it like it is just good and fun, you desecrate it.

In the sacrament of matrimony, where we live out true love, and you can experience the life-giving power of covenantal sex, that is the only way that we can convince the world that what they really settle for is counterfeit. The Catholic Church alone gives us the truth of love.

Today’s Catholic: I have a non-Catholic friend who does not understand why she cannot receive the Eucharist. Could you explain why the Catholic Church believes that a non-Catholic is not considered in full communion with the church?

Hahn: I’ve gone through my own personal development on

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this. When I was a new convert as a teenager, I saw the Eucharist or Lord's Supper as a sign of love, but only a symbol. It was like a handshake. When I became a Presbyterian, I realized it was more than that. It became like a kiss, a real symbol of intimate love. When I became a Catholic, I realized it was more than a handshake and it's more than a kiss. It's comparable in the Catholic tradition to the marital embrace, the life-giving love of marital intimacy. And I would say that once you understand that, then you begin to realize that if the Eucharist is a handshake or hug then it's there for all. If it's a kiss, you can kiss outside of marriage. But if it really is a one flesh union where Christ is giving himself body, blood, soul and divinity to his bride, then it really calls for a public commitment that is nothing less than a covenant to that bride.

Today's Catholic: What is your opinion of the new "mega" Protestant churches with the massive theatrical productions and rock concert music and settings? What would you say to friends who are attendees to help them see the fullness and richness of the

Catholic faith?

Hahn: I don't want to criticize any non-Catholics. I would say this: The desire to make the faith seeker friendly is a good thing. But the desire to transform the church as Christ founded it into something that is really defined by supply and demand and market forces is pointing the church in the wrong direction. It's trying to transform a church that is really God's family into a business to build up the customer base.

It seems to me that the church ought to see itself not only as a family, but as a hospital for those that are needy. It's not a health spa, it's not an all-star team, it's not just trying to recruit people and get bigger and bigger, so that our numbers beat your numbers. The church isn't something that we started, but what Christ started. He said, "On this rock I will build my church." The more carefully we look at the rock of Peter on which Christ said "I will build my church," he didn't say "Peter, go build me a church, and James and John, you go build me one too, and we will reunite after a couple of thousand years." The father sends the son to build one family and a

family is one of those beautiful places we love to call home. And yet in the home is where we find that we take each other for granted. As the family of God we have to be very patient with each other and be willing to grow at God's pace and not simply adopt business models.

Today's Catholic: What would you consider the best way of reaching fallen away Catholics and encouraging them to come back to their faith? What would you tell them?

Hahn: Welcome them home. Look at the church, you've got questions, everybody does. The church is a home, it's a family, it's not just a denomination, and it's not just an institution. God is the father, the Son is son and they pour out their spirit to make us one in terms of sons and daughters. So please come back and visit us.

But I will also tell you this, if you reach out to fallen away Catholics or non-Catholics, make sure you are enjoying the faith because a joyless Catholic on one level is a contradiction, and on another level it's not uncommon. And there is nothing on earth that we should enjoy more than this life that takes us to heaven and enables

YEAR *of* PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

There is, however, no shortage of back channel sources who claim to know who the next bishop will be; dentists, barbers, nurses and others in the position to whisper in one's ear, seem compelled to share information filtered from an obscure monsignor in Pitchfork, Wyo., or from someone's pal who found classified papers in the chancery dumpster.

Meanwhile, Bishop D'Arcy vigorously maintains his demanding schedule and enjoys every minute of it. "I love everything a priest does," he says, "hearing confessions has always been important to me, preaching, and teaching and offering the Eucharist. I have always loved working with young people."

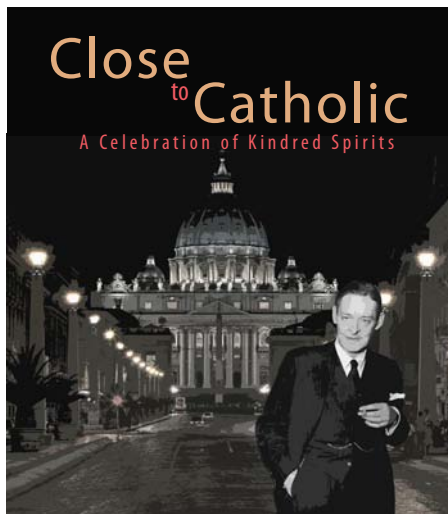
When asked how to increase the number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, Bishop D'Arcy mentions an interesting quote from Pope Benedict XVI; "It is not like hiring employees" ... vocations are the result of prayer, and he reminds us that Jesus spent the night in prayer before choosing the apostles.

A loving home where a family rosary was recited daily and the

warmth and goodness of loving parents, plus the influence of his parish, Our Lady of Presentation in Brighton, Mass., were defining factors in his own vocation.

An experience he had more than 15 years after his ordination proved that our plans are not always God's plans. As a professor in a St. John's Seminary, he heard persistent rumors that he would be named as a bishop. This was a disturbing thought, because he felt well placed in the work he was doing. As the undertones continued, he sought advice from his spiritual director, who told him to study what a bishop does. This advice combined with a summer of prayer brought about a feeling of acceptance, and when the call came, his answer was yes, and for this diocese it has meant the establishment of attainments which have residual benefits — the Annual Bishop's Appeal, the Legacy of Faith, the TV Mass, and the restoration of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, to name a few.

Now, in a manner of speaking, his bags are packed ... with destination and time of departure shrouded by uncertainty. What is certain about this man who enjoys everything a priest does, is that life will continue to give him great pleasure as he continues his journey with the Lord.



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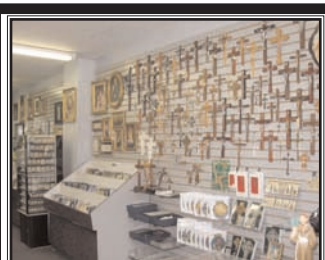
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USCCB, CHA officials encouraged about Obama's address on health care

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Barack Obama's pledge to continue the ban on the use of federal funds for abortion and to maintain conscience protections for health care workers in any health reform legislation was welcomed by two officials of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the president of the Catholic Health Association. Speaking with Catholic News Service Sept. 10, hours after Obama addressed a joint session of Congress and a nationwide television audience, Kathy Saile, director of domestic social development in the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, said the president's address offered an encouraging sign that the administration has been listening to concerns raised by the bishops and pro-life organizations about abortion funding in any reform legislation. Citing the bishops' long-standing belief that all Americans must have access to quality, affordable health care, Saile said the president's speech must be followed up with the appropriate changes in legislation currently pending in both houses of Congress. As currently written, the leading piece of legislation in the House, America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009, known as H.R. 3200, allows for federal funding of abortion. Language continues to be worked on in Senate reform measures.

Detroit Archdiocese, losing \$42,000 a day, announces restructuring

DETROIT (CNS) — A major financial restructuring plan for the Archdiocese of Detroit, which is losing approximately \$42,000 per day, calls for a 29 percent decrease in the number of employees, the sale of buildings, moving administrative support offices to a more cost-efficient property in the city, and the elimination of the subsidy for *The Michigan Catholic*, the archdiocesan newspaper. The six-county archdiocese will be reorganized into four regions for the delivery of programs, services and ministries to its 1.4 million Catholics under the restructuring plan announced Sept. 3 by Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron. The archbishop, who was installed Jan. 28, said he had accepted the restructuring recommendations from two separate committees, comprised of laypeople and clergy, following a six-month study on the financial viability of the archdiocese. "The financial realities of our current circumstances are sobering; the resulting changes for the administrative structure of the archdiocese are significant," he said. In addition to a decrease from 264 to 187 employees, other changes include the elimination of the subsidy for programming at

NEWS BRIEFS

NUN RECEIVES COMMUNION DURING MASS OF EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS



CNS PHOTO/NANCY WIECHEC

A nun receives Communion from Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley during the opening Mass of the eucharistic congress sponsored by the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington Sept. 11. The congress theme was the Eucharist in the context of Christian vocations to the priesthood, religious life and marriage.

the Retreat Center at St. John's, the sale of the Print Shop building and the outsourcing of studio productions for the Catholic Television Network of Detroit.

Pro-life leaders deplore murder of activist

OWOSSO, Mich. (CNS) — Pro-life leaders condemned the Sept. 11 murder of a Michigan man who was protesting against abortion outside a public high school in Owosso, 10 miles west of Flint. The suspect, arrested by police, said he targeted the man for his activism. The dead man, James Pouillon, 63, a General Motors retiree, was shot about 7 a.m. while protesting outside Owosso High School in the city as students were gathering for classes. A 33-year-old Owosso Township long-haul truck driver, Harlan James "Hal" Drake, was arrested later that morning. Police said Drake, once in custody, confessed to having killed a second man. The body of James Fuoss, 61, was found on the property of the gravel business he owned an hour after the Pouillon murder. Prosecutors in Shiawassee County said Drake had singled out Pouillon because of the visible style of his regular protests outside the school. It was not immediately disclosed why Drake killed Fuoss.

Pope to visit Malta in spring of 2010

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI plans to visit Malta next April to commemorate the 1,950th anniversary of St. Paul's shipwreck on the Mediterranean island. The bishops of Malta announced the papal visit Sept. 12, and Vatican Radio confirmed it the following day. A Vatican trip planner was to travel to Malta in October to lay the groundwork for the visit. The trip will give the pope a chance to highlight once again the figure of St. Paul, who according to tradition shipwrecked on Malta in the year A.D. 60 while on his way to Rome to stand trial.

Second volume of 'Jesus of Nazareth' expected next spring

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI's second volume on the life of Jesus is likely to be completed sometime next spring, a Vatican spokesman said. The book is expected to cover Christ's childhood, passion, death and resurrection. The first volume, the best-selling "Jesus of Nazareth," was published in 2007. The spokesman, Father Federico Lombardi, told Catholic News

Service Sept. 13 that next spring was a "realistic" target date for completion. He added that readying the manuscript for publication and translating it into other languages could add to the timeline, however. The pope has been working on the volume over the last two years, especially during his summer vacations. When he broke his right wrist at the start of his vacation in July, he was said to have been particularly disappointed because it meant he couldn't write for several weeks.

Vatican encourages strong content in religious education

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a letter to bishops' conferences around the world, the Vatican said true religious education in schools is at risk of being replaced with a more "neutral" teaching about religious ethics and culture. The result is confusion and indifference among students, whose faith can sometimes be put in danger, said the letter, issued by the Congregation for Catholic Education. "A form of education that ignores or marginalizes the moral and religious dimension of the person is a hindrance to full education," it said. Dated May 5, the letter was posted on the congregation's Web site Sept. 9, just

as most schools in Europe prepared to reopen. The text immediately ignited a debate in Italy over the proper balance between religious content and the secular nature of public schools. The letter addressed the issue of the Catholic identity of church-run schools, but much of its attention was focused on religion classes in public schools. It said the nature and role of religious education in schools has become the object of debate.

Human trafficking remains largely in the shadows across the US

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Darko Mihaylovich likes to tell his fellow Kentuckians that if they think human trafficking doesn't exist in the state they'd better think again. As the director of migration and refugee services for Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Louisville, Mihaylovich knows that on any given day he or a member of the statewide human trafficking task force could run across a trafficking victim. Since March 2008, "we have identified ... 31 victims," he told Catholic News Service. "It is happening here." Mihaylovich knows the number of discovered victims in Kentucky is far below those in such entry points as New York, Washington, southern California, Texas and Florida. But, as he tells anyone who will listen, human trafficking exists everywhere. Trafficking victims — called "survivors" by advocates — are considered modern-day slaves by law enforcement officials and outreach workers alike. For the traffickers, the motivating factor is money. For the trafficked, the dream is a better life, but it never becomes so.

Sociologists, educators see challenges for children of single parents

WASHINGTON (CNS) — This fall, the student body across the United States includes almost 17 million children raised by single mothers, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Another 2.6 million school-age children are being raised by single fathers, while 2.8 million more have neither mother nor father in the household where they live. Children raised without the presence of both parents can face greater academic challenges, according to reports from the U.S. Department of Education. One study, for example, says children of single mothers without involvement by the nonresident father are much more likely to have disciplinary issues and repeat grade levels. "The broad statement of course would be: the more stable home, the stronger marriage, the student will be better at everything," said Karen Ristau, president of the National Catholic Educational Association. Whether a couple's strong marriage leads to better reading results for their children, Ristau declined to say.

Catechetical Institute Day to be held Nov. 7

SYRACUSE — The diocesan sponsored Catechetical Institute Day each year draws nearly 300 Catholics eager to explore a wide variety of doctrinal, liturgical, spiritual and faith formation topics. The event is open to all and is specially designed to be a day of continuing formation for catechists, catechetical directors and all those who have generously volunteered to educate others about the beauty of the Catholic faith.

Catechetical Institute Day will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, at Wawasee Middle School in Syracuse. The day combines the efforts of multiple diocesan offices including the offices of catechesis, Hispanic ministry, worship, youth ministry and family life.

The theme of this year's day will be "Celebrating the Gift of the Priesthood." This year's event will feature Bishop John M. D'Arcy as the keynote speaker. Bishop D'Arcy's keynote will focus on the priesthood as a gift to the church and will "provide us with the opportunity of renewing our understanding of God's love for us manifested through our priests."

Catechetical Institute Day will begin at 8 a.m. with the keynote address. Mass will follow shortly after the keynote. There will be three sessions of workshops including a total of 41 workshops with nine presented in Spanish. Workshops will address many catechetical topics, which will help form parish catechists.

A few workshop topics include "Lectio Divina: Praying with God's Word," "Igniting Your Students for Confirmation" and "Discipline in the Catechetical Classroom." These workshops will be given by a number of skilled presenters, many from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Workshops are presented by priests, directors of religious education, teachers, parents, youth ministers and many others who have devoted themselves to passing on the truths of the Catholic faith. Many of the presenters have received graduate degrees in theology from the University of Dayton and the University of Notre Dame.

In addition to these formative workshops, participants will have time to explore the different catechetical resources available from the leading Catholic catechetical publishers in the country. A few of the publishers present will be Loyola Press, Our Sunday Visitor, Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum Division and RCL Benziger. Participants will also have time to peruse the Cathedral Bookstore's wide selection of books and gifts.

Those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith are invited to attend Catechetical Institute Day. To view the workshop offerings and register for this day, visit www.diocesefwsb.org/OC/cid.htm. Preregistration is required. The registration fee is \$15 and includes morning refreshments and lunch. The registration form should be sent to P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801, in care of Janice Martin.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

QUEEN OF PEACE INAUGURAL EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION



KAREN CLIFFORD

Father Dan Scheidt recites the fourth decade of the rosary during Queen of Peace Parish's first Eucharistic Procession on Sept. 4. The entire student body of the Queen of Peace School as well as parishioners who attended morning Mass prayed the rosary as they processed around the grounds. Five stops were made where participants prayed a responsorial prayer with Father Scheidt.

Annual Life Chain Rosary, respect life panel set Oct. 4

SOUTH BEND — The Saint Joseph County Right to Life organization will sponsor the Annual Life Chain Rosary to pray for the end of abortion at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 4, along Ironwood Road between Edison Road and State Route 23.

Following the rosary, parents, teens, youth group members, adults of all ages and denominations are invited to the 40 Days for Life mid-way event to be held at Marian High School, 1311 S. Logan St., at Dragoon Way at 3 p.m. for a social and to meet with a panel of professionals at 3:30 p.m. who will discuss respect for life issues.

For more information contact Dick Dombos at (574) 271-7853.

Father Pfister to offer Book of Revelation sessions

FORT WAYNE — The diocesan Office of Catechesis is sponsoring a three-week adult faith formation session on the Book of Revelation facilitated by Father John Pfister on Thursday evenings of Oct. 8, 15 and 22. The sessions will take place from 7-9 p.m. in the Archbishop

Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne.

Father Pfister, pastor of St. Mary Church, Huntington, will help participants to understand how the Book of Revelation is quite different from how many television evangelists and popular authors present it. It is not a book of fear, but a book of hope for the faithful Christian. Father Pfister will offer historical context and an understanding of the apocalyptic style of writing in the first session, and encourages participants not to miss the first informative session.

There is no cost to participants, however, registration is required. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/OC under "Adult Education" or call (260) 399-1411 or e-mail jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org by Friday, Oct. 2.

Office of Family Life sponsors essay contest

SOUTH BEND — The Office of Family Life is sponsoring an essay contest for high school students in October to mark Respect Life Month. The topic is "Abortion: An American Holocaust" and is open to all high school students in the diocese, including those who attend public schools or are home-schooled. John and Monica Sikorski, assistant directors for youth and young adult outreach for

the Office of Family Life, will coordinate the judging for the contest. The first-place winner will receive \$150 and a free trip to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life in January 2010 on the diocesan bus trip. The second-place winner will receive \$75 plus a free trip to Washington, D.C., while the third-place winner will receive a free trip to Washington, D.C. The topic of the contest ties in with the fact that this year, in addition to attending the March for Life, students and chaperones on the diocesan trip will also visit the Holocaust Museum.

The essays must be 1,200-1,500 words in length, typed, double-spaced and include a cover page with name, age, grade, school and phone number. The deadline for entries is Oct. 31. Send essays to Essay Contest, 114 W. Wayne St., South Bend, IN, 46601.

Big Brothers, Big Sisters celebrates Bishop Luers seniors

FORT WAYNE — While a majority of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters mentors are over the age of 18, the agency has a unique program called First Mentors that recruits high school students to be matched with elementary students on the waiting list. Bishop Luers High School was one of the first high schools to participate in the

First Mentors Program where high school students get their first experience in mentoring and children can get their first exposure in developing a new relationship, as well as see how fun high school can be.

During the 2008-2009 school year, there were 30 Bishop Luers' students who participated in the Big Brothers, Big Sisters First Mentors Program. At last month's Big Brothers, Big Sisters Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner, two Bishop Luers students were recognized for their extraordinary efforts and dedication to the program.

Seniors John Doctor and Paul Johnson, who have been first mentors since 2007, were each nominated for the "First Mentor of the Year" award. Both young men have a great relationship with their "little" and understand what it means to mentor a child.

This year's recipient was Bishop Luers senior Paul Johnson for his work with his Little Brother Addam. Paul said, "I have come to understand that my actions around Addam have a strong influence on him. It has made me more aware of how my actions affect others to the point where I strive to be a person who influences people in a positive manner." Johnson's parents and Addam were present the evening he received his award.

For more information on Big Brothers, Big Sisters or to volunteer contact the agency at (260) 456-1600 or visit www.bbbsnei.org.

University of Saint Francis dedicates new hall

FORT WAYNE — A year's worth of work came to fruition Sept. 2 at the dedication of University of Saint Francis' Clare Hall.

University officials, staff and community members gathered for this special day outside the 42,000-square-foot dormitory. At a total cost of \$6.2 million, the facility, Clare Hall, currently provides suite-style, state-of-the-art accommodations for 146 students.

Executive Vice President Stacy Adkinson spoke, followed by Sister M. Elise Kriss, OSF, president of the university, who offered some background on the building's namesake. As the cofounder of the Franciscan movement, St. Clare devoted her life to prayer, penance and service.

The campus has a tradition of giving gifts to the needy upon the completion of a new housing facility. Thus in the tradition of St. Clare's service, the students will build a Habitat for Humanity house for a needy family, scheduled to be completed by December. In addition, the students will donate a washer and dryer and other household items to the house.

The Clare Hall project is part of the university's initiative to enhance residential life. The last capital project is the restoration and renovation of Bass Mansion. The first building on campus, the mansion has long been a symbol of the university and a popular community attraction. Long-term plans call for the transfer of some offices to the Bass Mansion.

— Lauren Caggiano

Small town miracles

BY MARK WEBER

GARRETT — “There is no way we can feed this crowd,” the disciples tell Jesus in the biblical account of the miracle of the loaves and fishes. The opposite attitude is found at the St. Martin Soup Kitchen at St. Joseph Parish in Garrett, where Jami Koble, soup kitchen director and her crews of cooks and servers meet with a “can do” attitude twice weekly as they provide an average of 300 carryout meals to grateful walk-ins every Monday and Thursday year round.

Their work is a hands-on miracle in a small parish in a small town, performed by Christians of various denominations dedicated to getting the job done in a manner that is practically anonymous.

On serving days, three or four people arrive at 8 a.m. to prepare food. They work several hours. Another group arrives later in the afternoon to serve the carry-outs from 4 to 6 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

Once a year, food is served on location; at Thanksgiving, a traditional turkey dinner is provided to approximately 300 people.

In adjoining quarters at St. Joseph Parish, a steady stream of



MARK WEBER

Jami Koble, director of St. Martin's Soup Kitchen at St. Joseph Parish, Garrett, is a cook, server, driver, grant writer, recruiter of volunteers and trouble shooter who finds satisfaction and fulfillment in a Hoosier version of serving the multitude.

women of all ages visit the St. Martin Clothes Closet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until noon and from 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursday afternoons. They select

from a generous inventory of “gently worn” clothing and toys.

Visitors are mainly from DeKalb County and are required to be unemployed or have special needs. Each family is given a number and is allowed one visit per week, at which time they sign in and may select a limited amount of clothing, i.e., three blouses, three pairs of slacks, etc. Visitors are also supplied with personal needs, purchased by St. Martin's, such as soap, toilet paper, diapers, wipes, shampoo, baby lotion and razors.

When available, the closet also provides surplus food from the St. Martin Soup Kitchen, including soup, vegetables, fruit, cheese and cookies.

St. Martin's Clothes Closet was founded 10 years ago under the direction of then pastor Father Thomas Lombardi; a new venture in a new millennium. When one considers how many diapers, snowsuits, sweaters and bars of soap have been received in that time by grateful souls from volunteers from various churches in Garrett who keep St. Martin's Clothes Closet flourishing, it's obvious that it's establishment was a splendid idea.

40 Days for Life events announced in Fort Wayne, South Bend, Warsaw

The 40 Days for Life campaign will begin its largest national campaign in more than 212 cities in 45 states, five Canadian provinces and Denmark, on Wednesday, Sept. 23. The days consist of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil and community outreach.

Within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, several events have been announced for the 40 Days for Life campaign.

In Fort Wayne, the kickoff rally will be held Sunday, Sept. 20, at the First Assembly of God located at 1400 W. Washington Center Rd., from 6:30-8 p.m. Shawn Carney, one of the founders and national campaign coordinator of 40 Days for Life, will be the keynote speaker. For additional information, visit the Web site, www.40daysforlife.com/ftwayne/.

In the South Bend area, the kickoff rally will be on Monday, Sept. 21, at 7 p.m. in the St. Pius X Parish, Granger, gym and will also feature Carney as the keynote speaker. The rally will be preceded by a Mass at St. Pius, which will be at 5:30 p.m.

The Oct. 4 midway event in the South Bend area will include a rosary chain, sponsored by the St. Joseph County Right to Life, at 1:30 p.m. The midway event will follow at 3 p.m. at Marian High School, 1311 S. Logan St., at Dragon Way with a panel of pro-life speakers.

Panelists and their topics include the following:

- Father Bob Lengerich, associate pastor of St. Pius X Church, Granger, on the topic of “Theology of the Body and the Culture of Life”;

- Dr. David Solomon, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame on

“Why There is No Middle Ground on the Abortion Issue”;

- Dr. Laura McGuire, M.D., who is active in respect life groups and a member of Queen of Peace Parish, speaking on “Just a Clump of Tissue? Medical Facts about Abortion”;

- Lisa Everett, who along with her husband, Fred, are the co-directors of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will speak on “Our Feminist Foremothers: Pro-Life Pioneers,” and Fred's topic is “The American Promise and the Absurdity of Roe v. Wade.”

The discussions will be followed with questions for the panel with Chuck Freeby as emcee for the program.

In South Bend, the Nov. 1 victory celebration will be held at the Little Flower Church Social Center at 6 p.m. Participants are invited to bring desserts to share.

Speakers for the victory celebration include the following: Steve Ziemba, Indiana state deputy of the Knights of Columbus; and Charles Rice, emeritus professor of law at the University of Notre Dame, who is also a champion of the unborn, and whose book, “What Happened at Notre Dame,” published by St. Augustine Press, will be available at the end of September.

For more information about the South Bend campaign, visit www.40daysforlife.com/south-bend/.

In Warsaw, a local vigil will be held at Planned Parenthood of Indiana, 630 S. Buffalo St. For additional information and updates, visit www.40daysforlife.com/warsaw/.



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THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Most of us have learned or are learning the skills of critiquing and evaluating. They are useful in many professions and for making good decisions. Unfortunately, all too often we use these same skills to assess other people. What I am trying to say is that, at least for me, it is easy to criticize and judge people and their actions. Sometimes we keep these thoughts to ourselves, but too often we share them with others.

Jesus tells us many times in Scripture that only God can judge because only God can look into a person's heart. Even though we might know this intellectually, it often does not stop us. After a while, we can fall into the trap of thinking we know all about others and how they should live their lives. Basically we are saying by our actions that we have the right to judge another person's behavior.

Unfortunately, this human tendency to judge is not an easy one to overcome. It takes a lot of work and discipline. We have

to consciously be on guard about saying anything that could harm another's reputation. Sometimes we may find ourselves with a group of people who likes to gossip. Too often they sit around and talk negatively about other people. Even though it may be hard, a good thing to do is to find a reason to walk away, or even better, try to change the subject or say something like, "Maybe we shouldn't be talking about so and so." It takes a lot of courage because we run the risk of being thought of as a righteous or blameless person, a goody-goody who never does anything wrong.

Another thing we can do when we are tempted to criticize or judge another person or situation is to remind ourselves that we don't know all the facts. Often we do not know what is happening in another person's life or situation. The person might be dealing with serious problems. Things might be falling apart in his or her family. Perhaps a close friend or family member is dying or the person is having severe finan-

cial problems. We don't know, and even if we did, it is not for us to judge another's behavior. Only God can do that.

Sometimes we can be guilty of judging even though we may not share our thoughts out loud. That is better than gossiping, but it is still judging and still causes harm. Even more difficult is to get to the point in our lives where we don't even have a desire to judge other people. Perhaps when we reach that goal we will reach sainthood!

When we are tempted to judge or talk ill of someone else, it might help to recall the story in the Gospel where Jesus tells a group of men who are about to stone a woman caught in adultery that the person without sin can throw the first stone. You know what happened. They all walked away and no one threw anything.

Every now and again it is good to remind ourselves that no one is perfect, and all of us need to give others the benefit of the doubt. It would be a much better world if we concentrated more on building

Sometimes we can be guilty of judging even though we may not share our thoughts out loud. This is better than gossiping, but it is still judging and still causes harm.



YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

people up and cultivating a positive attitude. There is already enough negativity around.

So, the next time you are tempted to say something negative about another individual, try to think of one of his or her good qualities and ask God to help you keep your mouth shut or as my mother would say, bite your tongue. It is not always easy, but it is what Jesus taught us.

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. mlavonis@cscsisters.org.

Double blessings, showered down: how a family grows

This is it.

This is the month that set the orbit for our entire year. We are gearing up for two events, which will happen in the span of a week, the blink of an eye: My younger brother, Tony, is getting married and my older sister, Angie, is having a baby.

The countdown we launched last winter, the number that felt so big and distant, is rapidly dwindling. Now we are scurrying around, setting things in place, whitening our teeth and watching our waistlines — especially Angie's.

There is a headcount to finalize and a nursery to complete, plus final check-ins with the deejay and the doctor. We will try to keep it all together, but it is all so tightly wound: steamed dresses and high hopes, shined shoes and tangled nerves.

My final wedding task — scan-

ning old photographs and arranging them into a slideshow — has made me aware of the swift passage of time. There is Tony, with all those freckles and the dimples in his upper cheeks. He is a ring bearer, a prom date, now a groom. There is Jodie, with those round brown eyes and that button nose, riding in a Huggies box, visiting Santa, traveling to South Africa, walking down the aisle. The snapshots play out just as the years did, in fast forward.

But my nostalgia isn't wistful; it is tinged with cheer, a sense that these two people belong together and that this growing baby belongs in our family. What looks like change, in many ways, is a continuation of what has been: the same traditions, the same sacraments, the same stories and songs.

I was reminded of that last weekend, when my dad took Angie's firstborn, 2-year-old Isaac,

to the zoo we visited every summer as kids. Dad is still a superb guide, whistling at the orangutans and pointing out the tigers. Sparky the Seal performed the same tricks, and Isaac clapped from Dad's lap.

We revisited the carousel we used to adore. Isaac looked timid on the big painted horse, but after making several rounds and finding us waving from the same spot each time, he finally broke into a smile. The band organ hummed Cat Stevens' "Another Saturday Night," and Dad sang along.

The next day the aunts threw Jodie a bridal shower, where we supplied her with towels and blankets and Tony trivia. I watched everyone greet her with genuine affection, and I knew, as Teresa wrote in her card, that Jodie

already has become a part of our family, just like that little baby, whose face and name we long to know.

Isn't that how life goes, that God showers down double blessings, and our thirsty souls are not only quenched, they are doused. We blink and quiver, stunned by how much the human heart can hold.

Pope Benedict XVI says our families provide "living images of God's love" — flesh-and-blood examples of divine mercy and undeserved kindness. When we learn to share bedrooms and bathrooms, attention and dreams, we serve as a "sign and instrument of unity for the entire human race."

This month my family will be thrilled by new additions and comforted by their familiar forms. We



TWENTY SOMETHING BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

are building on what has come before, blessed and ordained by the same everlasting God.

Soon we'll enter into a flurry of camera flashes and Hallmark cards, hugs and toasts, and somewhere between the chicken dance and the contractions, there will be grace pouring down.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at christina@readchristina.com.

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SENIOR SPIRIT

Unique POMS fund mission work

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Have you ever wanted just a bite of something sweet but not the whole dessert? If so, poms are for you.

Poms, an acronym for Passionist Overseas Mission Sweets, is the name Karen Robertson has dubbed her delightful bite-sized hand-dipped cakes. The unique recipe is an original from the longtime baker and the fruit of her baking has become her labor of love.

What began a while back as a friendly gesture has turned into a windfall for a mission priest in Haiti. Robertson, active member of St. Charles and St. Peter parishes, and her husband Jim made regular donations to the Passionists Missions after hearing one of their priests speak at a Mass in 2002. With each donation she wrote a note and soon she was corresponding with the staff of the Passionists Missions' office in Pennsylvania.

As Robertson became more familiar with the mission of these devoted priests through newsletters, one particular priest, Passionist Father Leo R. Frechette, touched her heart. Father Rick, as he is known to all, has served in Haiti for 22 years, first as priest and after a few years of study in New York in the 1990s, supported by his religious order, a doctor of osteopathic medicine as well.

Father Rick's commitment to serving the poor is evidenced in his involvement in supplying clean water to the natives of the area, as well as attending to over 30,000 children and adults at the country's only free pediatric hospital and outreach clinics he established and oversees there. In addition to his medical ministry, Father Rick ministers to the Haitian children in the street schools as well as over 500 orphans, many of whom are physically or mentally challenged at St. Helene, the orphanage he established in a mountain village.

His belief in the sanctity of life inspires Robertson as on Thursdays Father Rick gathers the bodies of the babies and children who have succumbed to the many

diseases, such as AIDS and tuberculosis, or the starvation spreading throughout Haiti, and wraps them gently for burial in paper mache coffins crafted by the locals there. The funeral ceremonies include a procession with a band up the mountain to the cemetery.

Robertson prays every Thursday at the area abortion clinic and says, "I always think of Father Rick and his respect for life."

Robertson admits she has sent all extra funds to Father Rick for several years. She says she "began begging" through Lenten newsletters to friends for additional donations and was humbled to receive close to \$3,000 for the Haitian cause. Recently she began praying fervently for a way to make more money for the doctor priest who has sacrificed so much to help so many. "For the last six months, I've been praying to the Holy Spirit to tell me what to do," she says.

Her answer came at a restaurant where she offered her tasty treats as gifts to the wait staff there. One of the waiters requested the cakes for his girlfriend and when Robertson delivered the dozen cakes the grate-



Karen Robertson, right, works with helpers Bill Hess and Sheila Johns to make poms, bite-sized cakes dipped in chocolate. Poms, Passionist Overseas Mission Sweets, sales benefit Father Rick's mission work in Haiti.

Above, Father Rick, also a doctor in mission in Haiti, poses with an order of poms.

"You can't just have anyone help. They have to be like-minded people, quality people."

The baked cake is crumbled and mixed with a secret ingredient, rolled by hand into bite-sized balls, dipped in chocolate and decorated with sprinkles. She offers several flavors from chocolate to banana.

The orders are packed in custom boxes that are handcrafted and beautifully wrapped from mat board scraps Robertson uses from her job at a framing company. All proceeds go to Father Rick and his missions. Ingredients are purchased by Robertson or donated by friends.

Who has been supporting Father Rick through the purchase of these wonderful little treats? Parishioners, friends, restaurant staff and so many more. "Jacob Meyer, a seminarian, loves them," says Robertson. "He will be our poster boy," she adds chuckling.

Robertson has been baking for events for area parishes, baby and bridal showers and teacher gifts since April and hopes to bake poms for as long as she can. She was delighted to have the opportunity to meet with Father Rick a second time in Scranton, Pa., where she and her baking team sold the poms at a novena conference. It was there that Father Rick introduced her to two Haitian women who wished to learn the art of baking poms, a skill that would offer the women the opportunity to make a living in Haiti selling their poms to the local bakery.

Her hope for the future of poms is to have local restaurants place regular orders, all for the people of Haiti. And though this kind hearted, dedicated woman has never touched the faces of the children Father Rick ministers to, she says, "We're called to serve all nations, not just here. This is how I can help the people of Haiti. ... Each pom is a prayer."

For more information about Father Rick and his Haitian mission visit www.compassionweavers.com.

To order poms call (260) 485-0061 or e-mail eightkids8@aol.com

ful server paid her \$10.

"The money went right to Father Rick," says Robertson, adding that orders soon started coming in prompted by word of mouth and she has collected almost \$8,000 from her poms sales.

Father Rick traveled recently to Fort Wayne to speak of his mission in Haiti at Masses and Robertson was thrilled to finally meet him in person.

Two friends who had the opportunity to meet Father Rick were soon at Robertson's side assisting her with kitchen duty. Sheila Johns says, "Once I heard the stories and the importance of the mission I wanted to help." Bill Hess agrees saying, "I'm grateful to have the opportunity to maybe make a difference. It's not hard and it's so much more fun when we do it together."

Robertson says she couldn't do it without her two friends and the neighbor who bakes the cakes for her. She adds with conviction,



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Holy Cross Sister Aloysia Marie Mulcaire, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday, lectures at Mass at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto.

Holy Cross centenarian continues to serve God's people

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — It is a rare day that one does not find Holy Cross Sister Aloysia Marie Mulcaire, who celebrated her 100th birthday on July 16, at daily Mass in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary's College and in the convent dining room enjoying a meal with the other sisters. Sister Al, as she is fondly called by many, also serves regularly as a lector at Mass and proclaims God's word in a clear, strong voice.

Her Irish brogue and twinkling eyes are giveaways that she was born in Ireland. Margaret Mulcaire hailed from a good, Catholic family. She was number nine of 10 children. Several first cousins, two aunts, two brothers and two sisters, had religious vocations.

Sister Aloysia Marie's connections to the Holy Cross family go way back. Her aunts, Sisters Aloysia and Miriam, knew Father Sorin, the founder of Notre Dame personally, and her sisters, Sisters Maria Gemma and Miriam Gertrude, were Sisters of the Holy Cross. She agrees that all these vocations had a strong influence on her decision to follow God's call.

As a teenager she sailed across the ocean from her home in County Limerick and found her way to South Bend, where she entered the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1927 at the young age of 16. The first thing the community did was send her to Saint Mary's Academy to finish high school. Eventually she earned a bachelor's degree from Saint Mary's and a

master's degree from the University of Detroit.

Sister Aloysia Marie's primary ministry was education. Thirteen of her 54 years of teaching were spent at Holy Cross School in South Bend. She also served seven years at St. Patrick School.

Her former students and those who served with her would agree that she ran a tight ship. She was a disciplinarian, but the children learned. "All I had to do is give them that look," she says.

Sister John Margaret Dietzen, who was principal when Sister Aloysia Marie taught at Holy Cross School, recalls that the sixth graders were afraid of her and by the time they reached eighth grade they were begging to be in her homeroom.

Her life of ministry did not end when she stopped formal teaching in 1985. She served as a hostess and receptionist at Moreau Seminary, worked as a secretary, and, up until recently, helped every day in the convent library. She continues to touch many by her ministry of prayer and her Irish wit.

Asked what advice she would give to someone who wants to live a long life, Sister Aloysia Marie declares, "Live a good, family life where there is love and friendship. Never be afraid to ask your family members anything or tell them anything."

She says it is all about relationship and understanding.

Seventy-eight years as a professed Sister of the Holy Cross are a true witness of her faithfulness to God and his people. And she is still going strong.

Sister Ellen Taylor works technology in with newfound hobby

BY ANN CAREY

SOUTH BEND — The only kind of camera Sister Ellen Taylor had used in her 50 years as a Sister of the Holy Cross was a disposable point-and-shoot camera. Then, as a gift for her recent golden jubilee, she was given a digital camera.

"When I got the digital camera, I was clueless about how to use it," Sister Ellen told *Today's Catholic*.

She also was determined to learn about her new camera, and the perfect opportunity presented itself at the Forever Learning Institute (FLI), where she enrolled in a digital photography class. FLI offers a wide variety of classes to students aged 50 and over and is located in the Little Flower Parish Center in South Bend.

The timing was also perfect, for the spring semester at FLI begins in February, and Sister Ellen had just arrived at the Holy Cross motherhouse in February of this year, after retiring as a pastoral associate at St. James Parish in Lewiston, Idaho.

Not only did Sister Ellen learn to use her new camera in the class, but she excelled in her class assignments, as one can see from her photograph on this page. Now she's a confident digital photographer who enjoys photography for pleasure, as well as for capturing reference photos for her other hobby of painting with water colors.

Sister Ellen gives the credit for her success to the digital photography teacher at FLI, Ed Weiss.

"My advice to other seniors is to find a class where a person will explain the material without assuming you know a lot of things," Sister Ellen said. "Ed was very open to the questions, because it really helps to have someone who will give you a clear explanation and will be patient and show you. Most of us don't have that technological background that our young people have. That's what I really appreciated about Ed's class."

Like all the teachers at FLI, Weiss is a volunteer with experi-

ence in his subject matter. He told *Today's Catholic* that since he has been a commercial photographer for 52 years, he feels that he has a lot to offer others in learning his techniques and tricks of the trade.

"The world famous photographer, Ansel Adams, learned from his father that to have knowledge and not share it is a sin," Weiss observed. "Being a great admirer of Ansel Adams, I feel it is my duty to share my God-given knowledge."

Weiss, who also teaches a FLI course on Apple computers, said that his classes are always filled to capacity, and he has an enthusiastic response from the students.

"Most of the students are eager to learn," Weiss said, adding that he doesn't "baby" his photography students. "I make them work with three assignments and a final assignment that encompasses five specific compositional goals. Most of the students give me feedback that they learned the most when they were challenged with the assignments."

Weiss said that it has been proven scientifically that learning new features of cameras and computer programs will keep the mind young and full of enthusiasm, and he says the same applies to him.

"I attribute my ability to be mentally agile at my age to the fact that by teaching, I, too, am challenged in order to offer 52 years of professional experience and to keep more than one step ahead of my students," Weiss said.

Sister Ellen observed that one of the most interesting things she learned in the class was that a digital camera is really a mini-computer.

"So it was really fun to learn the menus and modes and settings that gave me control for taking pictures that I'd never had before. And it was fun just to see the pos-



SISTER ELLEN TAYLOR



PROVIDED BY SISTER ELLEN TAYLOR

Sister Ellen Taylor took this photograph of the holy oil in her convent church for an assignment to show form. She was attracted by the way the light illuminated the oil.

sibilities and play with them. You can go ahead and take pictures and see what the results are because with digital cameras, it not costing anything to go around and take pictures."

Sister Ellen wishes that she had been able to take more photographs during some of her ministry assignments, which included overseas stints in Bangladesh and Israel, as well as her hometown of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Now she will have other photo opportunities in her new ministries in South Bend, though the location won't be quite as exotic. Sister Ellen will work part-time at Saint Mary's College in the Justice Education Program and the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership. Additionally, she has been invited to join the board of directors of FLI and will teach a class there this fall on "Bible Wisdom for Today."

Even with this busy schedule, Sister Ellen said that she's looking forward to having her weekends free to pursue outside interests such as photography and painting, a luxury she did not have with the demands of a full-time job.

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A NEW APPROACH TO SENIOR LIVING

Holy card collection cultivates a link to the past

BY DIANE FREEBY

MISHAWAKA — It's a link to the past that today brings one woman closer to her faith. That's what Mary Jo O'Neil says about the holy card collection she's cultivated for the past 30 years.

A collection of some 2,000 holy cards began with one token of her husband's appreciation. While on business in California, Chuck O'Neil brought back his wife a framed collage of holy cards he found at an antique shop.

"I was so taken by the older cards," recalls O'Neil, who is a

long-time parishioner at Queen of Peace in Mishawaka. "I wondered where they came from and how you get them."

After discovering a couple more cards at a local antique shop, O'Neil was hooked. She learned that most antique dealers don't carry holy cards, but after placing a few ads in various magazines, treasures began appearing in her mailbox.

"It was breathtaking for me to open these up," says O'Neil of the packages she received. "I got



One of the oldest holy cards.



PHOTOS BY DIANE FREEBY

Mary Jo O'Neil, parishioner of Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka, shows her holy card collection, which is on display in the school's library and in her home. The holy cards, some of which date as far back as 1831, have been a hobby she started 30 years ago.

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letters from a lot of ladies in their 80s or 90s saying, 'I've treasured these all these years and I'm so worried something will happen when I'm gone.' They worried the cards might get thrown out."

O'Neil received holy cards of all kinds, along with a few other religious items. She says she received so many rosaries and medals that for a while she sent those to Catholic missions in Africa. The holy cards, some of which date as far back as 1831, remained her focus.

Many of the cards are hand-designed, with black-and-white etchings pre-dating the cards hand-colored by nuns. O'Neil has one card with a black-and-white image, and says she later came across another card with the same image colored in by hand. Others have designs made by pin-pricks. O'Neil says the older cards with lace are her favorites.

"These are my most special cards," she explains, holding up a

card with the year 1847 written on the back. "These are the oldest and you can see when you hold it how delicate they are. I can't tell you how excited I got about these when I collected them, and I still do. If I was not feeling well I used to sit there and look at them, and go over them all the time."

Not sure what to do with all the cards she acquired, O'Neil displayed some of her favorites in frames at home, and put the rest in acid-free notebooks. The rest of her collection remained stored away in boxes for many years.

That changed when Queen of Peace received a new pastor three years ago. The O'Neils invited Father Dan Scheidt over for dinner and learned they had a common interest.

"He said he wanted to bring old holy cards back," smiles O'Neil. "I said, 'What! Old holy cards? Are you kidding me? You know, you've hit the jackpot!'"

O'Neil showed Father Scheidt her extensive collection of holy cards, and soon plans were made to display the collection in the library at Queen of Peace. She put the cards into frames and had such a steady supply that they ran out of space in the library. Some hang in her children's homes, and other cards are available when someone is looking for a specific saint.

"I worried myself about what was going to happen to them," says O'Neil of her cards. "I don't have to worry anymore because now I know there are people who want them!"



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Pilgrim travelers share a mystery of faith

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

DECATUR — Seven is a lucky number. That seems to be the case for Joe and Jody Beauchot, parishioners of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur, who have visited Fatima seven times in three decades.

What started as an interest turned into a life-changing experience Jody, 77, recalls the simple gesture that shaped their future. A lifetime reader of Fatima materials, she recommended Joe read a particular book on the subject. He, too, became engrossed in the mystery of the apparitions and was interested in the possibility of a pilgrimage.

The couple did some research and found an all-expense paid trip to Portugal for \$469. More than 180 people, both lay and religious, travelled with them to Europe.

That was in the early 1980s. Six more trips followed over the years, with the latter being in 1986. Jody recalled the first trip as if it were yesterday: "When we got over there (Joe) said, 'we need to go back.'"

After the initial trip, it was decided they would return and lead a subsequent pilgrimage. There were 188 people on the second trip, many of whom had never been on a plane before, Jody noted. On a later trip, five of their seven children accompanied them. It was a special experience to share a mystery of faith with young minds.

In addition to the time spent with family and friends, Joe, an 81-year old retired International Harvester employee, said a "highlight" of the pilgrimages was carrying the statue of the Blessed Mother in the candlelight procession each evening. This

rite is carried out daily at 6 p.m. by the locals, in remembrance of the religious visions experienced by the three children in 1917.

Joe has a special place in his heart for the Blessed Mother because of her transforming power in his life. A shy and reserved man, he was able to address a large crowd through her graces. Moreover, Joe said the site where Our Lady appeared exudes holiness.

"You feel a presence there," he said. "That's what got me."

That feeling was so special they wanted to preserve it the best way possible. The Beauchots returned with countless statues of the Blessed Mother, votive candles and holy water to keep the spirit of Fatima alive in their daily lives. Today their kitchen, filled with religious items and rosaries, is a bit of a shrine to Our Lady of Fatima.

Big changes have occurred since their first visit to Portugal. The Beauchots noted they have seen Portugal become more Americanized. At first, the local fare was mainly seafood; now fast food restaurants are easily accessible. Furthermore, the towns near Fatima have become more developed, or in their words, no longer "back woodsy."

The Beauchots offer a few words of advice for would-be pilgrims. First, they remind the faithful that group trips are typically the safest and most affordable. Most of the time, all meals and accommodations are included. And perhaps, most importantly, they stress the need for prayer before embarking on such a life-changing voyage.

The Beauchots would like to return to Fatima next year, health permitting. In the meantime, they are active in the Blue Army and St. Mary Parish. The couple has nine grandchildren.

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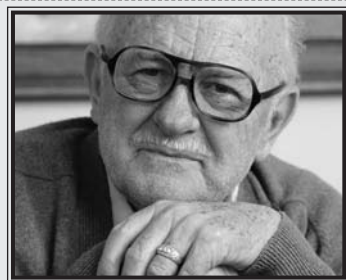
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EDITORIAL

Youthful attitude benefits any age

According to Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia on the Internet, "old age consists of nearing or surpassing the average life span of human beings."

The boundary between middle age and old age cannot be defined exactly because it does not have the same meaning in all societies. In some parts of the world, people are considered old because of certain changes in their activities or social roles. For example, people may be labeled "old" when they become grandparents, or when they begin to do less or different work, as in retirement.

In North America and Europe, people are considered old if they have lived a certain number of years. The age of 65 often is considered to be the beginning of old age because, until recently, United States and British citizens became eligible to retire at this age and draw full Social Security benefits. Since 2003, however, the age at which a U.S. citizen is eligible for full Social Security benefits has begun to increase gradually, and will continue to do so until it reaches 67 in 2027. Currently, it is 66.

The aged often experience a general physical decline and become less active. Old age can cause people to have limited regenerative abilities and be more prone to disease, syndromes and sickness. In most parts of the world, women live, on average, longer than men. In the U.S. and Sweden, the disparity can be nine years or more. According to 2004 U.S. government statistics, life expectancy at birth was 80.4 years for women and 75.2 years for men.

All that said, if you fit or are about to fit in the old-age category, don't be in a hurry to call it quits. Just because you have wrinkles and liver spots on your skin, gray, white or disappearing hair, lessened hearing and/or worsening eyesight, reduced agility and maybe even difficulty thinking clearly or recalling memories does not mean you are not capable of continuing to live a full, active and even enjoyable life.

According to Father John Catoir, director of the Christophers and author of a series of daily reflections titled "Three Minutes a Day," age should not keep you from enjoying life. "The most important thing to remember is to keep a youthful attitude whether you can be physically active or not. There are many opportunities for fulfillment. Don't be afraid of growing old," he writes.

Father Catoir tells the story of Bill Zimmerman, an avid golfer who, at age 69, still competes with men half his age. He won an amateur golf championship 50 years ago, and still plays tournament golf. Zimmerman says, "Golf is a game that too often men stop playing once they become senior citizens." But according to Zimmerman, the game gets to be more fun as one gets older. He adds, "Older people miss a lot by not continuing to play."

There are countless examples of individuals who became famous in old age. Author Harry Bernstein published his first book, "The Invisible Wall," at 96; James Fisher returned from retirement as a blacksmith to become the first person over 100 years old to achieve the ACA accountability qualification; Mae Laborde began acting in her 90s; and, finally, but by no means last, Arthur Winston, at age 100, retired from his job working for the Los Angeles Metro after 72 years missing only one day, that being for his wife's funeral.

It's how you play the game

Entertainer Kathie Lee Gifford in a new book titled, "Just When I Thought I'd Dropped My Last Egg," says it this way: "For years our society has perpetrated the perverse notion that once nature is done with us — especially women — we're done, too! But it's a lie, and we don't have to cooperate with it. Who says we have to hoist our beefy carcass onto the gurney and disappear into the sunset? Not me. Because you know when we're really done? When we drop dead, that's when.

"But until that day comes," she continues, "I believe we can experience creativity far beyond our wildest expectations. We can give birth daily to something beautiful and meaningful in ways we've never dreamed."

Gifford says for her it's been a matter of coming to grips with reality. "Sometimes life doesn't march on; it limps. Sometimes it's on a walker and sometimes it's on an IV drip in the ICU. What's for sure is that we're going to have ups and downs, good days and bad, triumphs and tragedies, shock and awe, and everything in between. How we deal with it is ultimately what makes the difference between a life well lived and a life, well, ... lived."

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

Sen. Kennedy, abortion, and the party of the little guy

The death of Sen. Edward Kennedy has unleashed for me a flood of memories and triggered a number of rueful meditations. I come from a family of intense Kennedyphiles. Both of my parents — Irish and Catholic to the bone — deeply admired the Kennedy family. My mother was especially fond of Rose, the pious and energetic matriarch of the clan.

Magazines and newspapers reporting the assassination and funeral of President Kennedy were cherished keepsakes in our home when I was growing up; and the murder of Sen. Robert Kennedy (when I was eight) is one of the most vivid and poignant memories of my childhood. For my father, the Kennedys represented the continuation of the great Democratic tradition stretching back through Hubert Humphrey, Adlai Stevenson, Harry Truman, FDR, all the way to Al Smith.

One of my earliest political memories was joining in with my father in lustily booing Richard Nixon as he appeared on the TV screen accepting the nomination of the Republican party at their 1972 convention in Miami. My father just didn't care for Republicans,

seeing them as the representatives of the interests of the rich. Democrats, he often told me, stick up for the little guy, the oppressed, those who fall through the cracks of the society. And they were, he argued, the politicians most in line with the instincts of the Catholic social teaching tradition. My uncle Tommy, another dyed-in-the-wool Democrat, often worried that, as my father moved into the upper middle class, he might commit the unforgivable sin of voting Republican.

Now that's the political background out of which I came. My own thinking evolved in response to the "malaise" of the Jimmy Carter years and the success of Ronald Reagan's embrace of the free market and his principled opposition to communist ideology.

But I will confess that much of my father's fierce Democratic sensibility remained in me, especially as I deepened my appreciation of the Catholic Church's social doctrine in regard to the poor and the disenfranchised.

I suppose you could say that I was, like a lot of people in my generation, a bit eclectic in my politics, drawing inspiration from both sides of the spectrum. As my thinking continued to develop, the greatest problem I began to have with the Democratic party finally had nothing to do with economic theory or even with geo-political strategy; it had to do with abortion.

I understood very well the arguments of feminists and women's rights advocates concerning freedom of choice, but I just couldn't buy them, since the choice in question was the option to snuff out an innocent life. When the Democratic party embraced abortion-rights as a plank in its

Democrats, he often told me, stick up for the little guy, the oppressed, those who fall through the cracks of the society.

platform and eventually as a non-negotiable principle, I found myself on the horns of a dilemma: how could I reconcile my father's party of the little guy with the party that was allowing for abortion on demand?

And this brings me back to Ted Kennedy and the Kennedy legacy. I think it is safe to say that, over the past 30 years, there has been no stronger and more consistent advocate of abortion rights than this late "lion of the Senate."

But it was not always so. In 1971, just two years before *Roe v. Wade*, Sen. Kennedy responded to a man named Tom Dannelly of Great Neck, N.Y. who had written to the senator expressing his views on the matter of abortion. Here is how Kennedy responded: "While the deep concern of a woman bearing an unwanted child merits consideration and sympathy, it is my personal feeling that the legalization of abortion on demand is not in accordance with the value which our civilization places on human life. Wanted or unwanted, I believe that human life, even at its



WORD
ON
FIRE

FATHER ROBERT BARRON

earliest stages, has certain rights which must be recognized — the right to be born, the right to love, the right to grow old."

And he went on: "when history looks back at this era it should recognize this generation as the one which cared for human beings enough to halt the practice of war, to provide a decent living for every family, and to fulfill its responsibility to its children from the very moment of conception."

For my money, that's one of the best and most theoretically consistent defenses of the pro-life position ever articulated. And it came quite appropriately from the leader of the party of the little guy. In 1971 anyway, opposition to abortion was a naturally Democratic position, whereas today a pro-life Democrat is practically an oxymoron, and almost every major Democratic politician, locally or nationally, feels obligated to parrot pro-choice ideology if he wants his party's nomination.

Edward Kennedy was in many ways a great and significant legislator. In regard to civil rights, nuclear disarmament, protecting the interests of the disabled, health care reform, etc., his achievements are substantive indeed. But his reversal of position on the most compelling moral issue of the day is, I think, an indication of a fatal inconsistency at the heart of Democratic politics. And it goes a long way to explaining why people like me, who are by tradition predisposed to vote for the party of the little guy, balk, hesitate, and protest.

Father Robert Barron is the founder of Word on Fire Ministries (www.wordonfire.org) He is also the Francis Cardinal George Chair of Faith and Culture at University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. Ordained an archdiocesan priest in Chicago in 1986, he also has published numerous books, essays and DVDs.

Thinking about membership to the Knights of Columbus?

This October the 72 jurisdictions of the Knights of Columbus will be extending a hand to all Catholic men to join the ranks of the largest Catholic men's fraternal organization in the world. But membership in the Knights does not come without consequences.

Membership in the Knights of Columbus means solidarity with our parish priests and bishops during this Year for Priests that began on June 19. We must always remember parish priests dedicated their lives to serve the Catholic community. The Knights of Columbus are proud of our priests and honor their witness to our faith and their courage at a time when the church is facing constant challenges.

Knights will be asked to pray for our priests to help them repair a wounded Catholic culture. Yes, our priests need the laity more than ever to ensure they never



THE INDIANA KNIGHTS

BY BOB HARTENSTEIN

stand alone in the hostile attacks on our church. The unity of the church is strained, and the Knights must be there in full support.

As a Knight, you must be prepared to fight for religious liberty on all fronts: Where legislation is introduced at the state and federal levels to change the tax exempt status of churches and religious groups such as the Knights of Columbus; in states where bills were introduced to strip Catholic bishops and priests of their governing authority; and where bills have been introduced forcing the acceptance of alternative lifestyles in schools, thus undermining the very foundation of historical socie-

ty. As a Knight, you will be asked to defend a strong family life as well as community involvement. You will be asked to witness and promote charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

Members of the Knights are opposed to pending health care reform that would use tax dollars to fund abortions and stem-cell research that advocates the death of an infant for possible health cures.

As a member of the Knights of Columbus you will be asked to defend the traditional marriage

KNIGHTS, PAGE 16

Live the model of humility and service



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

25th Sunday Mk 9:30-37

Protestants, accustomed to reading the King James, or authorized, version of the Bible, often ask Catholics why Catholic versions, or the Catholic liturgy, include the Book of Wisdom. The King James Version omits it.

Wisdom was one of several Old Testament discounted by the biblical scholars who prepared the English version for King James I of England.

The Roman Catholic Church, long before the Reformation and certainly since, has taught that Wisdom indeed is the word of God. Wisdom provides this weekend with its first reading.

Wisdom was written amid cultural warfare in which the Jews had to fight for their identity. Many had left the Holy Land to find better conditions elsewhere. Living elsewhere meant that they were in the midst of pagans.

These pagans had all the advantages, and they were firmly in control. Ignoring all these advantages was not easy. Especially, Jewish parents had to inspire their children, understandably impressed by the dazzle of the pagan world, to hold fast to the seemingly rigid demands of the religion of their forebears. The Wisdom Literature, including the Book of Wisdom, developed as

part of this effort to defend, explain and perpetuate the ancient beliefs of the Chosen People.

More directly about this weekend's reading, Wisdom very clearly illustrates the struggle between good and evil, between God and human evil. This conflict causes a situation not best described as two ships passing silently in the night. Rather, there is no place for evil in the presence of God, and vice versa.

The Epistle to James offers us the second reading. This clear and frank message speaks of those human activities that are at root and in expression evil. The epistle warns that hardness of heart, and wicked intentions, lead humans to unholy but also destructive behavior.

St. Mark's Gospel supplies the last reading. Jesus predicts the crucifixion. He forecasts being seized and delivered to evil persons. He also declares that after the crucifixion, in three days will come the resurrection. He will prevail.

It is important to note that in this reading, as so often in all the four Gospels, Jesus gathers together the apostles as special students, especially called, and personally commissioned to build the church.

However, they still are humans, vulnerable to human pettiness and sin. Reminding them to be servants to all, Jesus calls them to humility and to live in the model that the Lord has set.

In this model will be security.

Reflection

The church has called us through the biblical readings at Mass these weeks to discipleship. It has not led us down a primrose path. Last weekend, it called us to ponder, to celebrate, and to connect with the cross. If we truly fol-

low Christ, we must walk the path through a hostile world to our own Calvary.

In this weekend's first reading, from Wisdom, we are reminded once more that discipleship is not easy. The world stands utterly opposite Jesus. We cannot stand midway between Christ and evil. We must choose one or the other.

If we choose evil, as the epistle recalls, we move toward our destruction.

However, Jesus is with us. He is with us in the teachings of the apostles whom the Lord commissioned to continue the work of salvation. In their teachings, applied even now in the visible, institutional church, we hear Jesus. He is with us in the sacraments, also conveyed to us through the twelve.

Jesus does not thunder into our hearts and homes. We must welcome the good and saving crucified Savior. The first step in this process is to acquire the humility to know who we are and what we need. We are humans, with all the dignity and limitations within the term. We need God with us in Jesus.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 2:12,17-20 Ps 54:3-4,5,6-8 Jas 3:16-4:3 Mk 9:30-37

Monday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Ps 19:2-5 Mt 9:9-13

Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8,12b,14-20 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9 (Ps) Tb 13:2-4,6-8 Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8 Ps 149:1-6,9 Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Hg 2:1-9 Ps 43:1-4 Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Lk 9:43b-45

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplisson

Catholics, unlike some groups, have no problem honoring Mary, Jesus' mother. This quiz looks at some of the titles which have been used over the years.

- The name Mary derives from this Hebrew original:**
a. Murray b. Miriam c. Millicent
- What was special about this name in ancient times?**
a. Mary was the first woman to be called this name.
b. It was reserved for wives of the Davidic family.
c. Nothing, it was a common name
- Mary is often referred to in Greek as "Theotokos" what does this mean?**
a. God's daughter b. God bearer c. Goddess
- This type of name (Theotokos) is often referred to as doctrinal. Why?**
a. It is a contrivance of quiz writers to sound important.
b. It means they are not related to doctrine.
c. They derive from or support teaching about Mary, they are not just honorific.
- We actually know the origin of that title. It came from**
a. the fifth century Council of Ephesus
b. the 16th century Council of Trent
c. the 19th century Vatican Council
- Mary is, much to some people's surprise, also referenced in this book**
a. the Quran
b. the Annals of the Third Reich
c. the Legend of Gilgamesh
- An honorific title used of Mary "Stella Maris" if often translated**
a. Stella Dallas b. Light-filled Mary c. Star of the Sea
- The name "Mary Magdalene" tells us what about Mary, mother of Jesus?**
a. Nothing, it refers to a different person.
b. Mary's attributes as magnanimous
c. Mary's own home town
- In the New Testament, the title "Mary wife of Clopas" proves**
a. nothing it refers to another person.
b. that Mary married twice.
c. that Mary was from the region of Clopas now in Syria.
- The reference to Mary mother of James means**
a. that Jesus had a brother.
b. that James's mother was also called Mary.
c. that if you add up all the letters in Mary's name you get a number of letters.
- Although the Regina Coeli in Rome bears a title of Mary, this building was, in the 20th century, a notorious**
a. basilica b. prison c. spaghetti factory
- Sometimes titles ascribed to Mary refer to apparitions. Which of these is not one?**
a. Our Lady of Lourdes
b. Our Lady of The Lamp
c. Our Lady of Fatima
- And this title refers to an apparition in the New World**
a. Our Lady of Guadalupe
b. Our Lady of Izmir
c. Our Lady of Knock
- This name, which refers to our lady, is unusual in that it is the name of two famous locations, not just one**
a. Our Lady of Kazan
b. Notre Dame
c. Santa Maria de Luis Rey de Francia
- And this medieval name applied to, especially to portraits or statues of Mary, long before it applied to a modern singer**
a. Bella Donna b. La Donna Mobile c. Madonna

ANSWERS:

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

The priestly character of the church

For the good of the church, Pope Benedict XVI has declared a Year for Priests lasting until June of 2010. One should not think this only concerns the priest. Since a priest is a servant of the body of Christ, it concerns everyone in that body, including laity and religious.

The Notre Dame Center for Liturgy would therefore like to offer a series of reflections on the priesthood. Through the kindness of the editors at *Today's Catholic* these reflections will find a home in these pages once a month.

In all the remaining reflections through this year, we will talk about what is distinctive to the ordained priesthood. It is their year. But in this first piece we pause and remember the common priesthood of the whole church.

The church teaches that all priesthood comes from Christ. He is the high priest, the first priest, the primordial priest. If the whole church has a priestly character, it comes from him.

The lay Christian participates in Christ's priesthood in a different way than the ordained priest does. Thus the heading in the Catechism

of the Catholic Church says, "Two participations in the one priesthood of Christ."

There are various names to distinguish them. Sometimes they are named by the originating sacrament. Then the catechism says "baptismal priesthood" and "ordained priesthood." Sometimes they are named by the ministry specified. Then it says "common priesthood" and "ministerial priesthood."

This does not mean the two ways of participating in the one priesthood of Christ are in competition. How could they be? In the kingdom of God (unlike in the world), there are no power struggles. Not between the head and the body, not between the Father and the Son, not between the Son and the Holy Spirit, not between the priest and the laity.

The common priesthood of all the laity has its source in baptism. The Scriptures in 1 Peter say Christians are a "chosen race, a royal priesthood." The catechism affirms this. "By baptism they share in the priesthood of Christ, in his prophetic and royal mission." — CCC 1268. By the fruit



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The Year for Priests

of baptism, "the person baptized is incorporated into the church, the body of Christ, and made a sharer in the priesthood of Christ." — CCC 1279.

This places obligations on the laity. We can take a few samplings out of the catechism.

- In the home, or domestic church, "the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the priesthood of the baptized in a privileged way." — CCC 1657.

- By praying the Liturgy of the Hours the laity "exercise the royal priesthood of the baptized." — CCC 1174.

- The pious practice of "sacramentals derive from the baptismal priesthood: every baptized person

is called to be a 'blessing,' and to bless." — CCC 1669.

- A daily life of love is involved here, too. "The common priesthood of the faithful is exercised by the unfolding of bap-

tismal grace — a life of faith, hope, and charity, a life according to the Spirit." — CCC 1547.

Most of all, the common priesthood is exercised by assisting at Mass. Full, active, and conscious participation at the holy Eucharist is an obligation of baptismal priesthood. "The celebrating assembly is the community of the baptized." — CCC 1141. No one is inactive.

But the ordained priest has a special responsibility, special ministry, and special grace. And those we want to explore in future reflections.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for September 20, 2009

Mark 9:30-37

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: A lesson in servant leadership. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

GALILEE	ANYONE	DISCIPLES
THREE DAYS	UNDERSTAND	AFRAID
CAPERNAUM	HOUSE	ON THE WAY
SILENT	SAT DOWN	CALLED
TWELVE	FIRST	LAST OF (ALL)
SERVANT	CHILD	MIDST
HIS ARMS	MY NAME	SENT ME

AT CAPERNAUM

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

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Faith and reason, irrationality and terror

The media's obsession with salvation-through-latex in the matter of AIDS prevention in Africa so dominated the coverage of Pope Benedict XVI's March pilgrimage to Cameroon and Angola that one of the most impressive addresses of the pontificate was virtually ignored. Delivered to the Muslim leaders of Cameroon at the apostolic nunciature in Yaounde on March 19, Benedict's concise remarks represented perhaps the most refined statement of the point the pope has been making since his September 2006 Regensburg Lecture sent the world press into another tailspin.

Here are the key passages: "My friends, I believe a particularly urgent task of religion today is to unveil the vast potential of human reason, which is itself God's gift and which is elevated by revelation and faith. Belief in the one God, far from stunting our capacity to understand ourselves and the world, broadens it. Far from setting us against the world, it commits us to it. We are called to help others see the subtle traces and mysterious presence of God in the world, which he has marvelously created and continually sustains with his ineffable and all-embracing love. Although his infinite glory can never be directly grasped by our finite minds in this life, we nonetheless catch glimpses of it in the beauty that surrounds us. When men and women allow the magnificent order of the world and the splendor of human dignity to illumine their hearts, they discover that what is 'reasonable' extends far beyond what mathematics can calculate, logic can deduce, and scientific experimentation can demonstrate; it includes

the goodness and innate attractiveness of upright and ethical living made known to us in the very language of creation.

"This insight prompts us to seek all that is right and just, to step outside the restricted sphere of our own self-interest and act for the good of others. Genuine religion thus widens the horizon of human understanding and stands at the base of any authentically human culture. It rejects all forms of violence and totalitarianism: not only on principles of faith, but also of right reason. Indeed, religion and reason mutually reinforce one another since religion is purified and structured by reason, and reason's full potential is unleashed by revelation and faith."

For three years now, the Holy Father has been quietly insisting that the problem of jihadist terrorism and the lethal threat it poses, both to the West and to Muslims of moderate temperament, is rooted in the detachment of faith from reason. Cut that cord theologically, and you end up with a God of sheer willfulness who can command anything, including the murder of innocents. Tighten the cord that binds faith and reason in a mutually supportive synthesis and the religious case for jihadist terrorism collapses of its own irrationality.

No one knows why Islam, which in the early Middle Ages created cultures open to philosophical inquiry and respectful of the canons of reason, underwent what seems to have been a kind of intellectual shutdown, so that by the 14th century the wellsprings of intellectual imagination had largely dried up throughout the Islamic world, leaving only the endless



THE
CATHOLIC
DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

exegesis of Islamic law by Muslim lawyers. Whatever its causes, however, this desiccation was a crucial factor in creating the irrationalism of contemporary jihadism, embodied in the Taliban slogan, "Throw reason to the dogs — it stinks of corruption."

It would be helpful if western governments took this history seriously — and took the pope's analysis of the problem of faith and reason seriously. It is not government's task to foster the kind of interreligious dialogue implied by Benedict's speech in Yaounde: an interreligious dialogue that aims to understand revelation through reason, thus opening up the prospects of a joint exploration of the "splendor of human dignity" and the implications of that dignity for religious freedom and the governance of just societies. On the other hand, governments that don't recognize that the detachment of faith from reason defines the fault-line between the jihadists and the rest of us are likely to misread what remains a mortal threat, eight years after 9/11.

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

KNIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

unit as that between a man and a woman. At the 127th annual convention of the Knights of Columbus held Aug. 5, Knights adopted a resolution to achieve legal and constitutional protection of marriage; but we Knights — in the trenches — are the men needing to witness to the truth of marriage and family. It is time to reconstruct the family to a prayerful cohesive unit.

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you will be asked to defend life from conception to natural death. Knights have called on legislators everywhere to protect the religious conscience of doctors, nurses and health care workers, guaranteeing their right to refuse to perform abortions, assisted suicide and euthanasia or any

medical procedure that would destroy life.

The 1.78 million Knights have promised their unconditional support for the full protection of life everywhere. Are you ready to join our ranks in the defense of life? Are you prepared to join the nationwide 40-Days for Life campaign from Sept. 23 to Nov. 1, a prayerful vigil combined with fasting at abortion clinics around the state of Indiana?

Every October and March, the Knights of Columbus extend a hand to all practicing Catholic men to grow our membership in every parish possible. If your church doesn't have a Knights' council or you are looking for a way to join, e-mail Dale Waters, state membership director, at membership@indianakofc.org.

Robert Hartenstein is the communications director for the Indiana Knights of Columbus.

Sports

CYO Panthers, Holy Cross poised for a showdown

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Week 3 of Catholic Youth League (CYO) football action saw a battle of the St. Johns between the 0-2 Raiders and the 0-2 Eagles. It was the Eagles who got their first win of the season with a 36-0 victory on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 5. Four touchdowns were executed by Coach Jim Carroll's young men in the first quarter with yet another scored with just over a minute left in regulation.

Continuing their winning streak, the Holy Cross boys advanced to 3-0 with a 28-16 win over the St. Jude Eagles. Next up, the St. Vincent Panthers defeated JAT (St. Elizabeth-St. Joseph/St. Aloysius/St. Therese) by a score of 30-22 in a hard-fought game decided in the fourth quarter.

Michael Fiacable led the way for the undefeated Panthers by rushing for two touchdowns and throwing for two more from his quarterback position. Ryan Watercutter and Kyle Hartzog were on the receiving end of the scoring passes.

Coach Cory Kitchen summarized, "Our kids played hard. We feel very fortunate to come out with a win against a good football team."

JAT's Nic Morken, Trey Casaburo and Braeden Thiele scored touchdowns in the loss.

St. Charles downed the Royal Reds from Queen of Angels/Most Precious Blood (QA/PB) in the final contest of the day at Bishop Dwenger. Taking the positives out of the loss, Coach Jeff Weddle reported that his defensive unit recovered a fumble while safety Ryan May had three huge tackles in open field saving long runs by the Cardinals, which could have proved devastating. Royal Red defensive end Jacob Mazurak and defensive tackle Matt Bubba also added key sacks.

Noah Vorndran returned an interception nearly 60 yards for

the lone score when QA/PB lost to the undefeated Holy Cross team in Week 4 action, 26-6. The Cardinals, however, increased their win streak to three with a 6-0 victory over the JAT Knights on Sept. 13 at Bishop Luers. In a hard-fought battle between two very evenly matched teams, the score was in a 0-0 deadlock at the half. St. Charles dominated the

pigskin for much of the first two quarters and continued to control the tempo in the second half led by their work-horse Brian Gabet's 44 yards rushing and touchdown.

The St. Jude Eagles improved to 2-2 with a 30-0 win over St. John-New Haven. Coach Pat Henline reports that the shutout was led, once again, by Luke Palmer, while crediting Gus Schrader and Jon Poore for a large part of the scoring and rushing attack.

In another Week 4 matchup, the St. Vincent Panthers defeated St. John, Fort Wayne by a score of 40-0. Panther quarterback Michael Fiacable ran for two touchdowns and threw for another to lead the attack. Jordan Bly rushed for a score and Stephen Colligan caught the scoring pass. The Panther special teams unit also factored in the scoring as Kyle Hartzog scored on a kickoff return and Colligan converted five of five on extra point kicks.

Coach Cory Kitchen summarized, "It was a great effort in all three phases today — our defense pitched a shutout, our offense was explosive when it needed to be and our special teams were very special." He added, "I was very proud of the way we came out and were ready to play right away against a very well-coached program."

The win sets up a showdown next week as the Panthers (4-0) face off against the undefeated and reigning champs, Holy Cross on Sunday, Sept. 20. The game will air at 1 p.m. on Redeemer Radio 1450 AM live from Bishop Dwenger field.



USF FOOTBALL OPENS SEASON WITH 55-0 WIN Not bad for an opener: University of Saint Francis 55, Iowa Wesleyan College 0, with 600 yards in total offense, 172 yards total offense for IWC. The game was the Cougars 53rd straight win at home and head coach Kevin Donley's 230th career win on Sept. 12 before more than 4,000 fans. Along with a 53rd consecutive home win, USF posted its third season-opening shutout in its last four season-openers. The Cougars won their 10th consecutive season opening game and their 11th straight home opener starting the program's 12th season.

ICCL Blazers, Cougars battle the gridiron

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — Turning the tables would be the theme as the St. Matthew (St. Jude, Our Lady of Hungary) Blazers opened their season against the West Side Catholic (Holy Family, St. John the Baptist, St. Adalbert and Corpus Christi) Cougars at Saint Joseph's High School field.

The Blazers were dominated by the Cougars two weeks prior in the jamboree and had something to prove when they stepped on to the field on a beautiful September day.

The Cougars started with the ball and were promptly stopped on downs by the stingy Blazer defense. As the Cougars punted, the low liner was plucked out of the air by Jonathon Wallisch and he raced 35 yards untouched into the end zone for the first points of the game. The points after try was missed by Tyran Ottbridge.

The Cougars again started with the ball and turned it over on downs thanks to the swarming Blazer defense. The Blazers didn't take long to get things going, on the first snap from scrimmage, Ottbridge scampered around end for a 42-yard touchdown. Again Ottbridge's PAT was missed, but the Blazers held firmly to a 12-0 lead with 3:13 left in the first quarter.

A fumble recovery by Blazer

Wallisch on the ensuing Cougar possession gave the black and orange great field position again. After a 15-yard pitch to Dominique Sanders, Ottbridge seemed to have another touchdown under his belt only to have the 20-yard run called back because of a penalty. The setback did not stop the relentless Blazer attack, two plays later — a 20-yard jaunt by Sanders and a 7-yard rumble from Ottbridge carrying Cougars with him into the end zone capped the drive.

The Blazers took no chances with their kicking game and handed the ball to Sanders for the point after try making the score 19-0 with 11.1 seconds left in the first quarter.

After changing positions a couple of times, it looked like the Cougars finally were in a rhythm starting with the ball at their own 30 with 2:43 to play in the half. The Cougars amassed three first downs and were on the move until an errant Adam Gonzalez pass found Tyler Schweiss for an interception. Schweiss raced down the sideline for more than 20 yards dodging would-be tacklers as the horn sounded. He was knocked out of bounds ending the half, Blazers up, 19-0.

To start the second half the Blazer's head coach, Mike Ernst encouraged his squad by saying

the game was 0-0 and that the Cougars would be a different team for the remainder of the day. Ernst's team responded quickly with a 46-yard touchdown run by Sanders only 1:12 seconds into the half making the score 25-0.

The rest of the contest was a defensive battle highlighted with an intersection by Sanders at the 15 and that would be the closest the Cougars would get to pay dirt. Four knees in the victory formation sealed the deal for the Blazers.

"All of our successes today were because of our line; Connor Russell, Jaun Cruz, Patrick Fischer, Matt Nagy and Neil Smith," exclaimed Ernst. "The lines fine work let our backs find the holes, not bad for an opener."

"We are a first year staff and we have added schools to the program and there will be some growing pains," explained Cougar skipper Todd Lukens. "We need the kids to buy into the program, I am convinced, with hard work, we will get better as the season goes along."

In other action, the Mishawaka Catholic Saints took on the Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders. After a scoreless first half, Casey Coleman scored the lone touchdown in the game for the Crusaders on a 2-yard plunge. Ryan Wobbe booted the two-point conversion to make the final, 8-0.



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Book of historic ND football team will please ardent football fans

"Loyal Sons: The Story of the Four Horsemen and Notre Dame Football's 1924 Champions"

REVIEWED BY ANN CAREY

"Outlined against a blue-gray October sky, the Four Horsemen rode again."

Many people are familiar with this famous line that opened Grantland Rice's sports story about the 1924 Notre Dame football team's victory over Army that led to Notre Dame winning the national title for the first time. Not many people know much about that 1924 Notre Dame team, however, nor do they know that the team's successes helped dispel prejudice against Catholics at a time when the Ku Klux Klan was leading attacks against Catholicism.

Jim Lefebvre's new book, "Loyal Sons: The Story of the Four Horsemen and Notre Dame Football's 1924 Champions" (Great Day Press, Minneapolis, 2008, \$24.95) tells the story of that his-

toric football team in detail that will please ardent football fans. Of specific interest to Catholics, the author also recounts how that 1924 team inspired Catholic pride across the nation, helped reduce prejudice against Catholics and launched Notre Dame as a national symbol of Catholicism, instilling a passion for Notre Dame that has been handed down for generations.

In May of 1924, Notre Dame students clashed in the streets of South Bend with hooded Ku Klux Klansmen who were in town for a rally, and the KKK succeeded in painting Notre Dame students as hooligans, although accounts differ as to who started the melee. Nevertheless, Holy Cross Father John O'Hara, Notre Dame's prefect of religion, was concerned about the public's image of Notre Dame students and hoped that Knute Rockne and his football team could help improve that image. To do that, the

Notre Dame team members were expected to conduct themselves with dignity and honor, and of course, to win football games.

The 1924 team met all of these expectations, defeating powerhouse Army and going on to defeat Stanford in the 1925 Rose Bowl. Father O'Hara led a three-week road tour on the way to, and home from, the Rose Bowl to "showcase Catholic pride and achievement" to Notre Dame alumni, Knights of Columbus chapters and fans across the Midwest, South and West. Thus, Catholics across the country embraced Notre Dame as a feel-good success story for Catholics who had been marginalized in so

many other areas.

Lefebvre's book is, of course, mostly about football — sometimes in too much detail for the average reader — but the book is worth reading even for non-football fans, who can skim over the play-by-play descriptions. Not only does "Loyal Sons" offer insights into the ties between Catholic pride and Notre Dame, Lefebvre's research also reveals other fascinating, if

more trivial data about the 1920s and Notre Dame lore.

The author will be signing books at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore from 3 to 5 p.m. Sept. 18 and from 1 to 3 p.m. on Oct. 2. On Oct. 2, he will speak at the 8 p.m. Knights of Columbus smoker at Sacred Heart Parish Center, Notre Dame.



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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

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 e-mail: d.quinn@stvinc-centelkhart.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.

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.

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 TVs, 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.

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 John M. 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.

Octoberfest party

Granger — St. Pius X, 52553 Fir Rd., will have an Octoberfest Saturday, Oct. 10, from 7:30 to midnight. Tickets are \$10 per person and include dinner. Beer, wine and soft pretzels are extra. Wil Smaka's Music Connection Polka Band will provide entertainment. Adults only with babysitting available on site with reservations by calling (574) 674-5582. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Council 4263.

Oktoberfest

Fort Wayne — St Charles

Catholic Church will celebrate Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 5-11 p.m. at the Father Thomas A. Brandon Council 451 Knights of Columbus Hall, 600 Reed Rd. Special Oktoberfest menu and dancing to the music of the Freudemacher Band. All adults over the age of 21 are welcome. Admission is free.

Spaghetti dinner

Columbia City — St. Paul of the Cross Parish will have a spaghetti dinner Saturday, Sept. 19, from 6-7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children 5-12 and children 4 and under free. \$20 max per family.

St. Adalbert plans fish fry, salad bar

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry and salad bar Friday, Sept. 25, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-out \$8, children 5-12 \$3.

International Day of Peace commemorated with candlelight vigil

Fort Wayne — Just Peace of the University of Saint Francis will host an inter-faith candlelight

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Robert Lee, 90, St. Charles Chapel

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Mishawaka

Robert A. Blair, 68, Queen of Peace

Thomas J. Lentine, 89, St. Bavo

New Haven

Richard J. Martin, 77, St. Louis-Besancon

Eugene L. Lothamer, 80, St. Louis-Besancon

Plymouth

James D. Lehman, 66, St. Michael

South Bend

Dorothy Hums, 84, St. Matthew Cathedral

Providencia Rivera, 85, St. Adalbert

Mary M. Kowalski, 87, St. Catherine Siena at Sacred Heart

Theodore S. Zmyslo, 86, Corpus Christi

Viola Schaller, 93, Christ the King

Waterloo

Marguerite M. Harter, 94, St. Michael the Archangel

vigil commemorating the International Day of Peace Monday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. at the downtown library plaza.

Bake sale and rummage sale benefit Altar and Rosary Society

South Bend — A bake and rummage sale will be held at St. John the Baptist Parish Friday, Oct. 17, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 18, from 8 a.m. to noon. Sunday will include a \$1 a bag sale.

Saints Alive! announces softball tournament

Fort Wayne — A softball tournament to benefit Saints Alive! will be held Saturday, Oct. 3, and Sunday, Oct. 4, at Turners. Entry fee is \$500 per team. Call (260) 496-4801 for information.

Haunted Castle announces opening

Fort Wayne — The Haunted Castle and the Black Forest, 8965

Auburn Rd., sponsored by the St. Vincent Scouts, will be open all Friday and Saturday nights in October and Thursday nights Oct. 15, 22 and 29, and Sundays Oct. 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 7-9 p.m.

Knights announce pancake breakfasts

Granger — St. Pius X Knights will host a pancake breakfast on the second Sunday of each month in the auxiliary gym after the 8:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses.

St. Mary plans fall fest

Decatur — St. Mary Parish will have a fall fest Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19 and 20. Saturday Mass will be at 4 p.m. with a chicken dinner for \$7 pre-sale or \$8 at the door. The Uncles will perform from 5-7 p.m. and Endgame from 8-11 p.m. Sunday will include a corn hole tournament. Food will be available. For information e-mail stmarys-fallfest@gmail.com.



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