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Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration look anew at Franciscan spirituality and focus on the sacredness of creation

BY JUDY BRADFORD

SOUTH BEND — About 100 pet owners, and their pets showed up for a special blessing on Sunday, Oct. 4, the day set aside as the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology.

The new event, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, was part of a celebration to look anew at Franciscan spirituality, and focus on the sacredness of creation.

"It also ties in to our mission to the poor because we are to use only what we need in the way of water, food and goods, and not amass things just for the sake of amassing things," said Sister Agnes Marie, an organizer for the event.

The public animal blessings took place in the parking lot of Marian High School across the street from where the 120 sisters make their home, and also held a retreat on Saturday to study and reflect on the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi.

Franciscan Father Jim Kendzierski, chaplain of Our Lady of Angels Infirmary and Retirement Home on the campus, blessed the animals one by one as they arrived at the high school. "I'm just waiting for a snake to arrive," said Father Kendzierski, a little hesitation in his voice.

Luckily, no one brought a snake but there were lots of dogs, a few cats and one duck. In fun, one of the sisters dressed up as a mouse and she got a blessing too. All the animals behaved, and Father Kendzierski blessed the pet owners as well.



JUDY BRADFORD

Mary Mac Donald receives the blessing from Franciscan Father Jim Kendzierski while holding her 10-year-old Dachshund named Solow.

Many of the dogs attending have also been involved in pet therapy programs, which take them into nursing homes and retirement centers to give aging and disabled residents a mental lift.

"We realize that there's something very special in the creature world that we connect with," said Sister Agnes Marie Regan, a Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. "There is scientific evidence

that a person's blood pressure and stress level go down when petting a dog or cat. You can just see the delight in the person's face."

Co-sponsoring the event was the K-9 Crisis Response Team, which brings dogs to serve in disaster settings, such as floods

BLESSING, PAGE 20

YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



FATHER PAUL MILLER

Two days before D-Day with Allied Forces landing on the beaches of Normandy, June 4, 1944,

seven men prostrated themselves in the sanctuary of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception to receive the sacrament of holy orders from Bishop John Francis Noll. Among them was Paul David

YEAR OF, PAGE 5

Red Mass recognizes attorneys, judges and public officials

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — Celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, the annual Red Mass was held Sunday in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne, followed by brunch at the nearby Grand Wayne Center.

Bishop D'Arcy said, "The purpose of the Red Mass is to ask the Lord to send his Holy Spirit on lawyers, judges and public servants that they may have that same spirit of integrity and goodness as they serve the law and their fellow citizens." Its name is derived from the red color of the vestments of the celebrant, which is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. The Red Mass is currently celebrated on the first Sunday in

October in cities around the nation.

Bishop D'Arcy reminded his audience of St. Thomas More, who was executed in 1535 for refusing to sign an oath accepting the King of England as his religious authority. More said, "I die the king's good servant, but God's first."

The bishop noted that Thomas More was proclaimed the patron of statesmen by Pope John Paul II in 2000 and should serve as a model for those in the legal profession. He admonished his listeners to make a personal pledge to bring Christ into their daily lives as More did and said, "May all your decisions and deliberations be blessed."

At the brunch which followed the Red

RED MASS, PAGE 3

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: Lauren Caggiano,
Michelle Castleman, Karen Clifford,
Elmer J. Danch, Bonnie Elbersen,
Denise Fedorow, Diane Freeby, May
Lee Johnson, Sister Margie Lavonis,
CSC, Joe Kozinski and Deb Wagner

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Kathy Denice

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Kathy Voirol
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

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Jeanette Simon (South Bend area)

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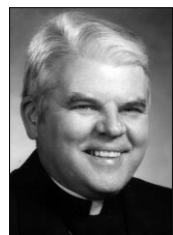
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'The bishop is not the name of an honor, but of a work'



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

St. Augustine and the bishop

St. Augustine said, "The bishop is not the name of an honor, but of a work." The Second Vatican Council was, among other things, a council for the reform and renewal of the Episcopal Office. The council saw the office as a service, a spiritual work, and in fact, quotes St. Augustine.

Augustine is right. It is a work, but also a joyful and blessed work, especially if one takes to heart St. Augustine's words, "Assist me by your prayerful support, so that my joy will be in serving you, rather than in being over you."

With our priests

For many years now, we have a study week each October. We go to Camp Potawatomi for three days. The first presenter was Professor John Clabeaux, of the Josephinum Seminary, where our theologians study. He gave two excellent presentations on St. Paul. I missed these two talks because of the pressure of activities, but the priests were very enthused and grateful.

Then came Father Brian Bransfield, a priest of the Diocese of Philadelphia. His focus was on the teaching of the church on marriage, with special emphasis on some of the moral problems. He discussed "Veritatis Splendor" ("The Splendor of Truth"). Many say this will be Pope John Paul II's most important teaching. An encyclical letter on moral theology or ethics. At the Second Vatican Council, the church was asked to develop a new moral theology. Pope John Paul II, who taught philosophy for many years, was truly an ethicist. This document has unquestionably changed the way moral theology is taught and perceived. I had the good fortune of being in Rome at the "ad limina" visit when the encyclical came out. I asked him at lunch what it was about. He said simply, "It is a response to relativism." Father Bransfield took us through this and other church documents, presented the teaching of the church on marriage and on the pressing ethical issues of the day, such as homosexuality and artificial contraception. I recalled in one of his discussions the words Pope John Paul II gave to us at his second pastoral visit. We met in one of the old California missions, and in his response to a presentation of an archbishop, he told us that we should, "so teach the difficult moral issues, such as the church's teaching on being open to life in such a way that people will be drawn to it." I asked him at the "ad limina" visit, "How do we do this?" He became very philosophical and quiet. We were at lunch with him. He said, "It is necessary to understand the soul of the

woman. All these things that were supposed to liberate her: abortion, premarital sex, contraception — have they liberated her or have they enslaved her?"

Father Bransfield presented, in a beautiful way, the liberating Catholic teaching on great moral issues. With a touch of humor and a wide scope, he enriched us all with his learning and his pastoral insight, fully in support of church teaching.

Our high schools

Off then, to South Bend, where the next two days I had brief visits to our high schools. I have now had a short visit to each of our four high schools, meeting with the principals, the director of campus ministry, and the head of the religion department. The one purpose is for a deeper integration of priests into each campus. We are unable to have a full-time priest at our high schools, but we will be able to place the priests in the classroom, in addition to administering sacraments and preaching. We have lined it up in a way that we think will be possible for the priests given their other responsibilities, and also effective.

Consecration of a chapel

I think second only to ordination, the consecration of an altar or a church is a most beautiful ritual in the church. So it was a joy to be at Our Lady of Mercy Chapel in a brand new building at Notre Dame. It is the second such chapel I have been able to consecrate in recent weeks. The ritual includes the Litany of Saints and the anointing of the altar. A real sense of the importance of the centrality of the altar is conveyed. In Catholic teaching, we find the following expression: "altare Christus est" — the altar is Christ. We consecrate the altar so that people will be consecrated and offer themselves to God. The living stones, as the ritual said. I was pleased to meet Tom and Mary Cabot, two exceptional people who made this beautiful chapel possible by their generosity. The altar in a Catholic church or chapel is both the table of the Lord's Supper and the sacrificial stone on which is presented, for our participation, the dying and rising of Christ.

Back to LaGrange

Down Route 20 the next day to St. Joseph, LaGrange. The second time in two weeks. I told them one more, and I expected to be on the payroll. Moving thoughts of the beautiful visit of my dear sister, Sister Anne D'Arcy, two weeks previously. This was for the 75th anniversary of St. Joseph Parish in a small Indiana town. As part of their anniversary, I blessed an exhibition on miracles linked to the holy Eucharist throughout the world over the centuries. It was a special joy to be with Father Mark Weaver, OFM, Conv., a wonderful Franciscan friar. He is a blessing because of his exemplary priestly life and also because he is fluent in Spanish and English and has brought many Hispanic Catholics closer to Christ and to the church and made them a full part of parish life.

Off then, through the dark and rainy night, down Routes 9, 6 and 3 to Fort

Wayne and home. And a chance to stay up late and prepare, what I hope, was a worthy talk for the Red Mass.

On Sunday, we had the Annual Red Mass for the judges and lawyers and political leaders at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Our speaker afterwards was Chris Godfrey, who played in three Rose Bowls with the University of Michigan, and also the Super Bowl with the New York Giants. He spoke about the importance of a spiritual life for professional people, especially attorneys, and drew examples from prayer concerning his own decisions about life. He is the founder of Athletes for Life, which provides an inspiring curriculum for young people.

The teachers' council

I have pledged to attend two meetings annually of our Council of Teachers. This is a representative group, half chosen and half appointed by me after being nominated by a school office. I am always deeply impressed by the teachers in this group. I had a chance to answer their questions and understand their concerns, and they come to know, also, the concerns of the diocese and the bishop. A special pleasure at this meeting was that it was the first meeting of the Council of Teachers attended by our new Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dr. Mark Myers.

Doing things twice

So you see there is plenty of diversity. Also, in this diocese, you do most things twice. On this coming Sunday, we will have our Red Mass for lawyers and judges and political leaders at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Having two major cities brings money to the fuel companies — fatigue sometimes to the bishop — and yet offers a beautiful and diverse ministry. I think celebrating Mass for the people, especially in one of our two cathedrals, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, but also in the small rural parishes of the diocese, brings me more joy now than ever. I don't fully understand that, but I think it is part of God's grace.

How about the Irish?

I have not seen any games yet, just bits and pieces because every Saturday afternoon I have had a Mass, usually a Mass for the installation of a new pastor. But after the events at LaGrange, I watched the end of a game with the Washington Huskies, including overtime, cheering along with the pastor. Another narrow escape, but so exciting, so much like the famed Notre Dame victories over the years. The quarterback is terrific and the team is coming together, and there will be more lovely autumn Saturdays. I personally plan to go to both the USC game and the game against BC. We have to beat BC. It has been too many years.

I will be in North Manchester Saturday for a retreat with all the eighth graders preparing for confirmation — about 900 of them. I look forward to it; and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Go Red Sox!

USCCB sees mixed results on health reform in Senate committee

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Senate Finance Committee made some progress toward a more affordable healthcare reform plan but failed to address concerns about abortion, conscience rights and the health of immigrants, officials of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said after the committee finished its work on its proposal Oct. 2.

The committee rejected amendments that would have written into the bill the long-standing ban on federal subsidies for benefits packages that cover abortions, with rare exceptions, and would have forbidden federal agencies, and state and local governments receiving federal funds under the bill, to discriminate against healthcare providers that decline to perform, refer for or pay for abortions.

"The bill remains deeply flawed on these issues and must be corrected," said Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities. "These problems must be corrected on the House and Senate floor."

On the inclusion of immigrants, the committee defeated amendments opposed by the USCCB that would have placed additional restrictions on legal immigrants and their families in accessing health care, but failed to improve the access immigrants currently have.

"Legal immigrants, who work hard and pay taxes, should be treated equally with U.S. citizens," said Kevin Appleby, director of migration policy and public affairs for the USCCB. "It is counterproductive to the general public health to leave them outside of the system, unable to access preventive treatment and dependent on emergency care."

Kathy Saile, USCCB director of domestic social development, said the bill took some steps toward improved affordability, but leaves "many families still vulnerable to high healthcare costs."

"As Congress continues to debate healthcare reform, it should take further steps to help at-risk poor and low-income families," she said, urging, for example, the

"expansion of access to programs such as Medicaid."

In a Sept. 30 letter, bishops representing three USCCB committees called on senators to insist that any final health reform bill exclude mandated coverage of abortion, protect conscience rights, safeguard the health of immigrants and protect "the life, dignity and health of all." They also said affordability should be a major consideration, so that health reform would be "truly universal and genuinely affordable."

The letter was signed by Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities; and Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the Committee on Migration.

Although the final committee vote was not expected until the week of Oct. 5, the Senate Finance Committee completed its markup of the health reform plan proposed by Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., the committee chairman, in the early morning hours Oct. 2.

In their letter, the bishops said none of the health reform proposals considered in committee, including the Baucus bill, has "met President (Barack) Obama's challenge of barring use of federal dollars for abortion and maintaining current conscience laws."

"These deficiencies must be corrected," they added.

In his Sept. 9 address to a joint session of Congress on healthcare reform, Obama said, "Under our plan, no federal dollars will be used to fund abortions, and federal conscience laws will remain in place."

On immigrants, the bishops' letter suggested several "effective ways to safeguard the health of immigrants, their children and all of society," including:

- "An adequate safety net for those who remain uncovered."
- Elimination of the five-year waiting period before legal immigrants can enroll in Medicaid.
- An end to barriers, such as waiting periods to obtain subsidies, when immigrants seek to obtain private health insurance.

- Health coverage of pregnant women giving birth to U.S. citizen children, no matter what the women's legal status.

On the issue of affordability, the USCCB letter said the debate over health care reforms "must begin with the principle that decent health care is not a privilege, but a right and a requirement to protect the life and dignity of every person."

Health coverage should not be dependent on an individual's "stage of life, where or whether they or their parents work, how much they earn, where they live or where they were born," the bishops said.

But for lower-income families, "significant premiums and cost-sharing charges can serve as barriers to obtaining coverage or seeing a doctor," they added.

The Baucus bill received specific criticism on affordability from the bishops, who said it could require families living just above the federal poverty line to pay up to 25 percent of their income on out-of-pocket health care costs.

"We urge Congress to limit premiums or to exempt families earning less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level from monthly premiums," the bishops said. "We also recommend limiting co-payments and other costs which could discourage needed care. ... We support the increase in eligibility levels in Medicaid to no less than 135 percent of the federal poverty level for all citizens and immigrants residing lawfully in the United States."

In 2009, the federal poverty level for a family of four in the continental United States was \$22,050.

In their letter, the bishops reminded senators that "health care choices are not just political, technical or economic, but also moral."

"This legislation is about life and death, who can take their children to the doctor and who cannot, who can afford decent health care coverage and who are left to fend for themselves," they added. "Healthcare reform especially needs to protect those at the beginning of life and at its end, the most vulnerable and the voiceless."

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Bishop D'Arcy announces pastoral assignments

Bishop John M. D'Arcy has announced the following assignments:

Rev. Thomas Kokassery, OSB, has been reassigned from associate pastor at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, to pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester. The effective date of this assignment is Oct. 7, 2009.

Rev. Paul Chukwu, has been reassigned from associate pastor at Holy Family Parish, South Bend, to associate pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. The effective date of this assignment is Oct. 4, 2009.

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Statement on healthcare reform

Oct. 5, 2009

As the debate over health care reform intensifies, it is important to make clear the position advocated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and various Catholic medical associations. With that in mind, I present the following principles.

1. Healthcare reform is both a moral imperative and a national priority. It is the teaching of the Catholic Church that basic health care is a right and not a privilege. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops supports universal health care coverage, which protects the life and dignity of all, especially of those who are most vulnerable — the poor, the elderly, those with mental or physical disabilities, the unborn or the immigrant. In fact, while there is a widespread effort to deny immigrants their right to basic health care, the church cannot and does not support this. Instead, the church supports effective, but not overly intrusive, measures to expand basic health care affordability and accessibility for every human being from conception to natural death.

2. Genuine healthcare reform preserves and protects human life and dignity. The church opposes any efforts to expand abortion funding, mandate abortion coverage or endanger the conscience rights of healthcare providers and religious institutions. Since 1976, the Hyde amendment has severely restricted the use of federal funds for abortion. While originally limiting federal funding to cases where the life of the mother was endangered, in 1993 it was expanded to include the cases of rape and incest. Such cases as these, however, constitute only about 1 percent of abortions. As Catholics, we should urge all members of the House and Senate to oppose further expanding the use of federal funds for abortion or the weakening of conscience rights. Health care is on behalf of life, not for the destruction of life.

Catholics pray for victims, help with disasters in Asia, South Pacific

JAKARTA, Indonesia (CNS) — In a week of natural disasters in Asia and the South Pacific, Catholics gathered to pray for the victims and Catholic aid agencies helped the survivors.

In Indonesia, where two earthquakes hit within two days, Catholics in Padang attended Mass outside the damaged cathedral. Staffers of the U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services visited villages about three hours from

Padang and discovered that at least 80 percent of homes were damaged and uninhabitable.

In the South Pacific, where more than 170 people died after an earthquake triggered tsunamis Sept. 29, Christians gathered to pray for victims and give thanks for their own survival. At Immaculate Conception of Mary Cathedral in Apia, Samoa, Msgr. Ioane Vito told the congregation: "Don't dwell on it, but (let us)

rebuild our lives together as a community," the BBC reported.

In the Philippines, where nearly 300 people died in and around Manila from Typhoon Ketsana, Typhoon Parma left at least 16 people dead. Weather officials predicted Parma would linger, as another typhoon, Melor, churned east of the Philippines, acting as a magnet.

And in southern India, church workers joined rescue and relief

efforts after torrential rains caused floods and mudslides, claiming more than 200 lives and displacing nearly 750,000 people, reported the Asian church news agency UCA News.

Much of the aid in all these countries was being coordinated by Caritas, the Catholic Church's network of charitable aid agencies, although religious orders, lay communities and organizations, and Catholics at the parish level were

doing what they could to help the victims.

On Oct. 5, the Indonesian government announced that more than 1,000 people had died in the earthquakes and, in Padang, they abandoned the search for the remaining 1,000 missing. The same day, UNICEF announced it was erecting classroom tents, and more than 70,000 children in Padang returned to class that day.

Catholic, Lutheran leaders mark 10th anniversary of historic document

BY JOYCE DURIGA

CHICAGO (CNS) — National leaders of the Catholic Church and Lutheran World Federation gathered in Chicago Oct. 1 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification.

It was an evening to honor a historic moment and took place in a historic church, Old St. Patrick Church, the oldest church and oldest public building in the city.

Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, co-pressed at the vespers service with Bishop Mark Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The USCCB and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America co-sponsored the event. Cardinal William H. Keeler, retired archbishop of Baltimore, also attended.

The declaration said the Catholic and Lutheran churches' consensus on basic truths means that the doctrine of justification — how people are made just in

the eyes of God and saved by Jesus Christ — is not a church-dividing issue for Catholics and Lutherans even though differences between them remain in language, theological elaboration and emphasis surrounding those basic truths. The World Methodist Council affirmed the declaration in 2006.

Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, delivered the evening's homily, saying that it was a night to celebrate the Catholic-Lutheran fellowship that "is real and grounded in a common profession of faith in Christ."



CNS PHOTO/KAREN CALLAWAY, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

Clergy attend a service marking the 10th anniversary of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification Oct. 1 at Old St. Patrick's Church in Chicago. The declaration between the Catholic Church and the Lutheran World Federation was a major development in ecumenical relations.

"Jesus Christ is the gift that unites us. He is the power that sustains us on the ecumenical journey," Archbishop Gregory told the congregation.

He went on to describe the baptismal garment worn by all baptized Christians and asked that the leaders of the ecumenical movement who have gone before — such as Martin Luther, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Pope John XXIII — be remembered for their witness to Christ.

"The garment belongs to all who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb," he said. It is not possible to separate the garment from Christ, he added.

While much progress has been made in the name of ecumenism, people of faith must look forward, the archbishop said.

"Honesty requires that we acknowledge how much more work needs to be done by both our communities" for the declara-

tion to take root in the Catholic and Lutheran communities, the archbishop said. He cited the churches' different views on human sexuality and ecclesial decision-making as two areas where dialogue must continue.

Archbishop Gregory also offered those gathered two recommendations for going forward: to foster what he called a "ressourcement" similar to the mid-20th century period "that made possible a whole range of ecumenical projects and dialogues," and pray, pray and pray. "Prayer is the soul of ecumenism," he said.

The Rev. Ishmael Noko, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, echoed Archbishop Gregory's sentiments that dialogue must continue and move forward. He thanked the theologians who "labored with diligence" to form the joint declaration and those who continue to work in ecumenism today.

Rev. Noko said he was grateful that the declaration, despite being rooted in the past, did not look behind, but forward.

"The joint declaration is a complete testimony to what and how much can be achieved when we faithfully bear witness to the Gospel together," Rev. Noko said.

"Jesus Christ is the gift that unites us. He is the power that sustains us on the ecumenical journey."

ARCHBISHOP WILTON D. GREGORY

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

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Synod opens with call on Africans to be forces for justice, peace

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Reconciled with one another and committed to justice, African Catholics must become active forces for justice and peace on the continent, said Cardinal Peter Turkson of Cape Coast, Ghana.

"On a continent, parts of which live under the shadow of conflict and death, the church must sow seeds of life," said the cardinal as he opened the work of the second special Synod of Bishops for Africa Oct. 5.

As recording secretary of the synod, Cardinal Turkson presented a theological reflection on the assembly's theme and its scriptural motto: "The Church in Africa at the Service of Reconciliation, Justice and Peace. 'You are the salt of the earth. ... You are the light of the world.'"

The cardinal also outlined the realities of Africa and of the church that the assembly should keep in mind during its discussions, looking particularly at religious, social, political and economic realities.

The church, he said, "must preserve the continent and its people from the putrefying effects of hatred, violence, injustice and ethnocentrism."

"The church must purify and heal minds and hearts of corrupt and evil ways and administer her life-giving Gospel message to keep the continent and its people alive, preserving them in the path of

virtue and Gospel values, such as reconciliation, justice and peace," Cardinal Turkson said.

The first synod for Africa, held 15 years ago, took place amid "a predominantly pessimistic world view of Africa," he said.

While some problems continue, the cardinal said, the church in Africa has grown numerically; the number of armed conflicts on the continent has decreased; more Africans are being elected or appointed to leadership positions in international religious orders; and the number of Catholic universities has grown along with the number of Catholics professionally prepared for work in the church, in politics and business.

Still, he said, the Catholic Church barely exists in much of North Africa; some priests and religious have difficulty remaining faithful to their vows; sects continue to attract large numbers of Catholics; and young people who travel to Europe or North America for study come home non-Catholic "because they felt less at home in the Catholic churches there."

Asked afterward about the challenge of celibacy for African priests and religious, Cardinal Turkson said, "It is not anything to hide or be ashamed of" because celibacy is a challenge for modern men and women all over the world, but church leaders must find new ways to respond to the challenge.

In his presentation to the synod, the cardinal said ethnic tensions and government corruption contin-

ue, and that the African people face new challenges because of the import of foreign cultural values and practices, including economic policies focused only on profit rather than the common good, and the acceptance of homosexuality and homosexual unions and of divorce and abortion.

Cardinal Turkson also spoke to the synod about drug trafficking and drug use increasing in Africa; arms trafficking escalating the violence of local conflicts; and pollution and climate change having a devastating impact on a continent where extreme weather already leads to drought, famine and desertification.

Before the cardinal spoke to the synod assembly, Pope Benedict XVI opened the meeting with a spiritual reflection, calling the synod members to listen to the Holy Spirit and to recognize that every blessing and every challenge is a result of human beings' relationship with God.

"If this is not correct, we cannot arrive at the truth, and this is the source of all the vices that destroy social relationships and peace in the world," he said. "Things are going wrong in the world because our relationship with God is not in order."

Pope Benedict asked the synod members to work to ensure that the love of God, which is offered to all men and women, is able to cross boundaries of ethnicity, tribe and social class in Africa.

YEAR *of* our PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Miller, who recently celebrated his 93rd birthday and 65 years of priesthood. Father Miller and Msgr. Fred Potthoff, Lafayette, are the only survivors of that group.

These days, Messrs. Mozart, Scarlatti and Verdi fill the hours for Father Miller as he continues to enjoy a lifelong passion for opera and classical music. In his suite at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community in Fort Wayne, he has hundreds of compact discs neatly arranged on racks and convenient to selection from his wheelchair. A stroke has left him unable to walk, but otherwise in tune and on time to the world around him.

Father now attends daily Mass at the Saint Anne Chapel. Paralysis prevents him from celebrating.

Looking back on his life, he says that friends a few years older than he at St. Mary School in Huntington influenced him to

want to be a priest. Ed Holland, Bob Zahn, Dave and Bob Fosselman and Stanislaus Manoski all were sons of St. Mary's who made the parish proud to have so many priestly vocations in a short span of years.

Regarding his seminary training, a solid foundation in Scripture provided inspiration for preaching, which was his favorite activity as a pastor. He adds that courses in business management and accounting would have been useful.

Does Father Paul Miller have a hero? Yes, and he is Father James Seculoff, who is to be admired for attention to liturgy and for the precise and exact way he offers the sacrifice of the Mass.

What about tomorrow's priests... where will they come from? They will be delivered by the prayers of people and priests... and he, Father Paul Miller, sets an example by offering such prayers as he watches the autumn turnover of colors one more time enriched by the sound of a favorite opera.

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RED MASS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mass, local attorney Thomas Blee introduced former NFL player Chris Godfrey as keynote speaker.

The affable former New York Giants lineman, now an attorney in South Bend, outlined his journey from pro athlete to the practice of law.

After retiring from football at the age of 30 Godfrey says he was discouraged and unsure which path to follow. "I gave up," he admitted. But knowing that "faith tells us where we're going," he asked God to point him in the right direction. Citing additional inspiration from Mother Teresa and encouragement from former Giants teammate Mark Bavaro, he decided to study law and subsequently earned a law degree from the University of Notre Dame.

But Godfrey drew on his football background when he challenged his audience. "As Christian lawyers, are you water boys or players?" he asked. It's easy to enjoy the fruits of your profession without really making

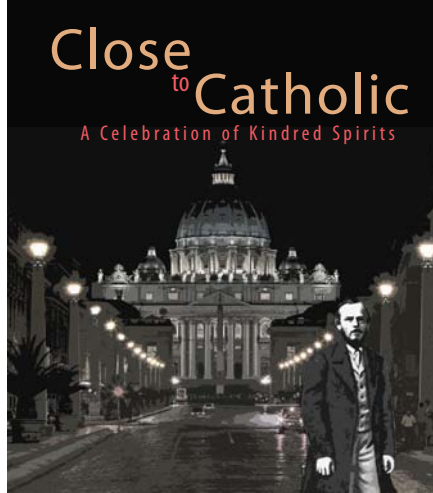
a personal commitment to let faith into the practice of law, he pointed out. He spoke eloquently of allowing faith to guide reason. "Relativism can be deadly," he said. Informed choices must be based not on relative truth but on absolute truth.

Godfrey also spoke of his work as founder and president of Life Athletes, a coalition of 200 professional and Olympic athletes who teach and inspire young people to live lives of virtue and abstinence. The commitment of Life Athletes — try to do what's right, be faithful to your life partner, respect the rights of others and persevere when meeting obstacles — bears testimony to his life's journey and his personal philosophy.

Bishop John D'Arcy had summed up the solemnity of the occasion earlier when he invoked a prayer of blessing for all the judges and attorneys present at the Red Mass. He asked God to assist them with his spirit of counsel and fortitude and let the light of his divine wisdom shine forth in all of their proceedings, decisions and deliberations.


Godfrey concluded with a simpler sentiment. "A good relationship with God and others is the key to happiness," he said.

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Ethicist says 'mistaken' reproductive choices bring 'surreal' results

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The case of an Ohio woman who recently gave birth to another couple's child because she was implanted with the wrong embryo at a fertility clinic shows how "potentially surreal" the situation can become when reproduction is separated from the intimacy of marriage, said a leading Catholic ethicist. Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, director of education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, said the situation faced by Carolyn and Sean Savage of Sylvania, Ohio, "reminds us how the exclusivity that is written right into marriage and the marital act is disrupted" through in vitro fertilization and other artificial reproductive technologies. "You have the possibility now of receiving the wrong child altogether," he told Catholic News Service in a Sept. 29 telephone interview. "That's physically impossible the normal way. Once you step outside the normal elements of exclusivity, it becomes potentially surreal." Carolyn Savage gave birth Sept. 24 at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio, to a boy whose biological parents were Paul and Shannon Morell of Troy, Mich. In a statement, the Savages offered "our heartfelt congratulations to the Morell family on the birth of their son." The Savages, who have three children, also asked for privacy, saying, "Our family is going through a very difficult time."

Colombian-born priest ordained as auxiliary bishop for Atlanta

ATLANTA (CNS) — A Colombian-born priest's Sept. 29 episcopal ordination as an auxiliary bishop for the Atlanta Archdiocese made history. Now-Bishop Luis R. Zarama is the first bishop ordained in the archdiocese, the first bishop ordained by Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the first U.S. bishop from Colombia and the first auxiliary bishop named for Atlanta because of growth in north Georgia, rather than the illness of the head of the archdiocese. In his homily at the Cathedral of Christ the King, Archbishop Gregory praised the historic moment, saying, "Today ... one of our own has been selected to serve us in the episcopacy and he will begin that service here in our midst." When he was named a bishop by Pope Benedict XVI in July, then-Msg. Zarama had been vicar general since 2006. He was ordained a priest in Atlanta in 1993. Archbishop Gregory also noted the significance of the day of the ordination — the feast of Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels. The feast of the archangels is "the liturgical commemoration of God's special agents of strength, good news and

RED MASS CELEBRATED IN WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL



CNS PHOTO/NANCY WIECHEC

Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl and Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston leave the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle with U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts and his wife, Jane, following the 56th annual Red Mass in Washington Oct. 4. Sponsored by the John Carroll Society the Mass includes blessings and prayers for those who work in law and public office.

healing," the archbishop said. "They personify God's unfathomable desire to use every means and every opportunity to save us."

Murdered Yale student recalled as young woman full of life, promise

EL DORADO HILLS, Calif. (CNS) — Murdered Yale University graduate student Annie Marie Le will always be "in our hearts and in our prayers," Dan Nguyen told the congregation gathered at a California Catholic church for her funeral Mass Sept. 26. "I think that I speak on behalf of all of us gathered here when I say I will never fully understand why this has happened ... but since those questions are beyond our understanding, I think it is best to consign ourselves to the will of God and put faith in providence," Nguyen, a cousin of Le's, said in a eulogy at Holy Trinity Church in El Dorado Hills. The body of Le, who was a graduate pharmacology student at the Connecticut university, was found behind a wall in a Yale building that houses the lab where she worked. Her body was discovered five days after she was reported missing Sept. 8. A lab technician named Raymond Clark has been charged with her murder. The Connecticut medical examiner determined that Le died of

asphyxiation. The day her body was discovered was the day she was to have married Jonathan Widawsky, a graduate student in physics at Columbia University. The two had known each other since college.

Supreme Court declines to stop order on release of diocesan documents

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Supreme Court declined Oct. 5 to intervene in orders by Connecticut courts requiring the Diocese of Bridgeport to release thousands of pages of material from 23 lawsuits settled against six priests who were sued in sexual abuse cases. With no comment, the court declined to take the appeal from the diocese, filed after the state Supreme Court upheld a Waterbury Superior Court's order in 2006 that the diocese release documents to four newspapers that sought access to them. The diocese had sought to keep sealed more than 12,000 pages of depositions, exhibits and legal arguments in the lawsuits, most of which were filed in the mid-1990s. The cases were settled by the diocese in 2001 for undisclosed amounts of money, with the agreement that the documents would remain sealed. The following year, *The New York Times*,

later joined by the *Hartford Courant*, the *Boston Globe* and *The Washington Post*, filed suit to see the documents. The newspapers described them as a key part of the church's record of how charges of clergy sexual abuse were handled. A statement from the Bridgeport Diocese did not address when it would release the documents.

Father O'Connell, Catholic University president, to step down in 2010

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Vincentian Father David M. O'Connell, president of The Catholic University of America, announced Oct. 2 that he notified the university's board of trustees he has decided to step down as president next August. The priest, who is in his 12th year at the helm of the university, indicated he is considering several opportunities for the future but has made no specific commitments. "That I have had the privilege of serving as the 14th president of The Catholic University of America is an experience that I shall treasure as long as I live," he wrote in his monthly newsletter to the university community. "As I reflect upon my tenure and service at the helm of the national university of the Catholic Church in our country,"

he said, "I feel a profound sense of gratitude for what we are and have become and what we do — thanks to the dedication, commitment and hard work of so many people here — and for the many lives we have touched in so many ways over the years."

Retired Nova Scotia bishop turns himself in to face child porn charges

OTTAWA (CNS) — Retired Bishop Raymond J. Lahey of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, turned himself in to Ottawa police Oct. 1 to face charges of possession of and importing child pornography. He appeared in court later that day and was released on CA\$9,000 (\$8,317) bail with strict conditions that include staying away from the Internet. His next court date for a plea of guilty or not guilty is Nov. 4. In the meantime, he must stay in Rogersville, New Brunswick. Bishop Lahey, 69, who abruptly resigned as bishop for "personal reasons" Sept. 26, was detained Sept. 15 at the Ottawa airport by the Canada Border Services Agency, after officers conducted a preliminary search of his computer and discovered "images of concern." Border agents seized the bishop's computer and other "media devices" for forensic investigation, then released the bishop. On Sept. 25, Ottawa police formalized the charges and issued an arrest warrant. Pope Benedict XVI accepted Bishop Lahey's resignation Sept. 26 and appointed Halifax Archbishop Anthony Mancini as Antigonish's apostolic administrator.

Pope welcomes new US ambassador, prods on right to life issues

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Welcoming the new U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI outlined wide areas of potential cooperation with the administration of President Barack Obama, but drew a sharp line on the issues of abortion and the rights of conscience. The pope called for "a clear discernment with regard to issues touching the protection of human dignity and respect for the inalienable right to life from the moment of conception to natural death, as well as the protection of the right to conscientious objection on the part of health care workers, and indeed all citizens." He made the remarks at a ceremony Oct. 2 to accept the credentials of Miguel Diaz, named in May by Obama as the ninth U.S. ambassador to the Holy See. After the encounter at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo south of Rome, Diaz held talks at the Vatican with the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone. The pope's comments on the right to life touched on a current debate in the United States over provisions of health care reform and how they would affect abortion policies.

Bishop D'Arcy to appear on Redeemer Radio

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio AM 1450, WLYV Fort Wayne, will air a special 60-minute interview with Bishop John M. D'Arcy on Oct. 8, from 5-6 p.m.

The interview covers a wide variety of topics, including the meaning of the Year for Priests, the importance of vocations, the Notre Dame controversy, and some of the bishop's fondest memories over the nearly quarter century that he has served as head of the Catholic community in Northern Indiana. Dr. Matthew Bunson, Redeemer Radio's host of the weekly program, "Faithworks," conducted the interview.

Reflecting on his time as shepherd of the diocese, Bishop D'Arcy observed, "Every day, every day, as bishop is a joy."

Dave Stevens, executive director of Redeemer Radio, said, "Redeemer Radio appreciates the willingness of Bishop D'Arcy to give so much time from a very busy schedule for such an extensive interview. The station is also immensely thankful for the Bishop D'Arcy's support."

In speaking about Redeemer Radio during his discussion with Bunson, Bishop D'Arcy declared: "I am just grateful for what this radio apostolate means in Fort Wayne and beyond. Redeemer Radio is reaching many people and it is a blessing. ... It's a great means of evangelization. People are coming back to the church because of the radio programs."

Mozart Requiem to be performed at Ancilla Domini Chapel

DONALDSON — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ will offer Requiem, KV626 in D Minor by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, to be performed in the Ancilla Domini Chapel, PHJC Ministry Center on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 7 p.m. The choir will be made up of members from the surrounding community and Poor Handmaid Sisters, and will be directed by Daniel Stowe of Notre Dame. Doors will open at 6 p.m. The public is invited and there is no admission charge.

A native of the Los Angeles area, Stowe has conducted the University Chorus, Chamber Singers and Early Music Ensemble of U.C. Davis, as well as the Cornell Chorale and Cayuga Vocal Ensemble. He is the conductor of the Notre Dame Glee Club, Symphony Orchestra and Collegium Musicum.

Soloists will include Faith Fleming, soprano; Suze Kim-Villano, contralto; Sean Martin, tenor; and Stephen Lancaster, bass.

This project is supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, with funding from the state of Indiana and the National Endowment for the Arts as well as the Marshall County Community Foundation

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DISPENSES FUNDS FOR NEEDY



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Through the Brief Services Program, Catholic Charities worked with parish referrals to assist clients with up to \$200 per family for rent, mortgage, utility bills, food and other concrete needs. Approximately 200 families were served in parishes located in areas of the diocese where unemployment has been especially high. Funds were distributed Sept. 11 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen. In the photo are Catholic Charities' Courtney Presson, left, who works with Immigration Services in South Bend, and Kathy Denice, board member. Catholic Charities passed a motion to take \$40,000 of interest from their Legacy of Faith endowment to make the funds available. Catholic Charities also received \$10,000 from the Saint Mary's Heritage fund to assist 50 families.

and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

Victory Noll Center offers social justice programs

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center will present a pair of programs dealing with social justice on Saturday, Oct. 17.

The morning program, running from 9 a.m. to noon, is titled "Conflict Transformation: Moving Toward Wholeness and Harmony," and will deal with the challenges of human conflict.

The second program from 1-3:30 p.m. is "Dying to Live," and includes a film and discussion on the complex issue of immigration.

The cost for "Conflict Transformation" is \$20, with the cost for "Dying to Live" set at \$15. There is a lunch option for each course for an additional \$7. Deadline for registration is Oct. 7.

Victory Noll Center is located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington.

In "Conflict Transformation," the workshop presents useful ways to analyze conflict, and explores ways people might transform the pain of conflict into a

more harmonious life with others. Participants will take part in a lecture, experiential activity and quiet reflection.

The leader for the program is Cheri Krueckeberg, who teaches social work, human conflict, gerontology and yoga at Manchester College. She has 25 years of experience in human-service settings. She has also facilitated previous programs at Victory Noll Center.

The film "Dying to Live" is a profound look at the human face of the immigrant. In the United States, immigration is often a controversial issue with many social, economic, political and religious implications. In the midst of the debate, what is often lost are the human issues at stake.

Leader for the program is Yolanda Martinez, director of Religious Education and Pastoral Associate for St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. She is a graduate of Instituto Cultural de Liderazgo en el Medio Oeste and is taking advance-level formation classes through ICLM at the University of Notre Dame.

For more information on the programs or about Victory Noll

Center, contact Victory Noll Center Director Sue Wilhelm at (260) 356-0628, ext. 128, or by e-mail at suewilhelm@olvm.org.

USF professor demystify the pope and the Vatican

FORT WAYNE — Dr. Adam DeVille, assistant professor of theology at the University of Saint Francis, will lead a discussion on Demystifying the Pope and the Vatican on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St.

Among other issues, Dr. DeVille will examine such questions as: Can the pope infallibly predict who will win the World Series this year? Does the Vatican hide evidence about the real history of Christianity? What do Catholics and other Christians think about the pope? What is Vatican City? What really goes on in the world's smallest city-state?

This free public lecture is sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Theology and the School of Arts and Sciences of the University of Saint Francis. Light refreshments will be served.

For additional information, contact Angie Springer at (260) 99-8066 or aspringer@sf.edu.

National Merit Student Recognition

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger senior Christina Hooper has been named a 2010 National Merit semifinalist. Hooper scored in the top 1 percent of the 1.5 million students nationwide who took the PSAT test in October of 2008. She will now apply for finalist status and National Merit Scholarship consideration, which will be announced in February 2010.

The five additional seniors were named Commended Students by the National Merit Program are Samantha Baus, Isaac Evans, Alec Green, Robert Skora and Jordan Venderley. These students scored in the top 5 percent of all students nationwide on the PSAT test.

The National Hispanic Recognition Program, who identifies outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students for their performance on the PSAT, has also recognized Isaac Evans and Christina Hooper for their efforts.

St. Pius X School enrollment increases, principal recognized with award

GRANGER — St. Pius X Catholic School, which opened in the fall of 2008, has grown to 540 students in preschool through eighth grade — 125 more students



ELAINE HOLMES

than the previous year. Father Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius, points to Principal Elaine Holmes' leadership as the reason for the school's success. The parish's Knights of Columbus recently honored Holmes with its Outstanding Catholic Layperson Award, also known as the Parishioner of the Year Award at the conclusion of the annual outdoor Mass celebrating the solemnity of St. Pius X on Aug. 23.

"I was surprised and humbled when I received this award," Holmes said. "Father Bill and the entire parish staff welcomed and supported me in my first year and the school staff is responsible for the growth in our second year."

Longtime St. Pius parishioner Holmes has taught and served as principal in public schools before becoming St. Pius principal in 2007.

St. Pius X Catholic Church serves 3,000 families. For more information on the church and school, visit www.stpius.net.

LaGrange parish celebrates 75th anniversary

Bishop opens eucharistic exhibition from the Vatican

BY TIM JOHNSON

LaGRANGE — The ministering of the sacraments — marriages, baptisms — provide some of the fondest memories of St. Joseph Church, LaGrange, parishioners. Parishioners and their families gathered with Bishop John M. D'Arcy and their pastor, Conventual Franciscan Friar Mark Weaver, on Oct. 3 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the parish. Bishop D'Arcy also cut the ribbon that opened The Vatican International Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World, a display of 126 eucharistic miracles through the ages, and blessed the exhibition. The exhibition runs through Oct. 10.

Betty Beiser, 82, who proudly boasts of being the parish's eldest parishioner said "you feel the love" at St. Joseph Parish, which draws her and her husband Ed to the community. Betty, whose first husband died, was married twice at St. Joseph's. Her nine children were baptized in the parish as well.

Betty's sister, Marilyn Miller, said that "it's such a part of my life, it's always been here" and the home feeling is what draws her and her husband Richard to the parish. After living in Michigan, the Millers returned to Marilyn's home parish. All three of the Millers' children were married at



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop John M. D'Arcy blesses The Vatican International Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World, a display of 126 eucharistic miracles through the ages, on Oct. 3. The exhibition, part of the 75th anniversary celebration of St. Joseph Parish, LaGrange, runs through Oct. 10 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information about the exhibition in LaGrange, contact St. Joseph Parish at (260) 463-3472. The church is located one mile east of LaGrange on U.S. 20. Information on the exhibit and the miracles included can be found at www.therealpresence.org.

St. Joseph. Richard, who converted to the faith but grew up with the sisters, says his fondest memory of the parish is his wife Marilyn and their marriage.

"Our mother and father had such a soul (at St. Joseph's) in building and establishing the church," Marilyn commented. Marilyn, Betty and parishioner Phil Bir are considered the parish pioneers. The church began with just eight families. Beginning in 1933, Masses were held in a hotel, filling station and empty buildings. Betty and Marilyn's father,

Michael Brady, along with Henry Bir, requested that a church building to be built in 1936. Dedication of the parish church took place with Bishop John F. Noll on March 19, 1937. Franciscans from Angola served the parish and lived in a house on the weekends. In 1957, Franciscan Father Raymond Oosdyke was assigned to the parish as the first full-time pastor.

By 1977, the parish had outgrown the old church and construction plans emerged for a new church to be located on the east side of LaGrange. Again, the

Brady family donated the land at the corner of U.S. 20 and County Road 100 East on which the present-day church stands. On Christmas Eve 1979, Mass was first celebrated in the new church, which was dedicated by Bishop William McManus on April 26, 1980.

Today the parish has a rich and diverse population of Anglo and Hispanic families. Masses are offered in both English and Spanish. Bishop D'Arcy noted in his homily that Father Weaver "welcomes everyone. He welcomes all people, whatever their background, and that's how Jesus Christ is."

Family life remains central to the parish and Bishop D'Arcy was quick to use the readings of the weekend to discuss the value of family and marriage. He discussed the permanence of marriage. In Mosaic law, divorce was allowed, "but in the kingdom of Jesus Christ, this will not be so," Bishop D'Arcy said.

The Genesis readings discussed how God made man in his own image. Male and female he created them. Bishop D'Arcy related how Adam expressed joy when the woman was placed in the garden to be his companion. "In other words, from the beginning, it was the will of God that two beings who are different become one," Bishop D'Arcy said.

"In their love for one another and in their unselfishness, and their self-giving — giving of themselves — that is an image of the way God loves us," Bishop D'Arcy said. "The very creation of man and woman and the world is God giving of himself. It is the nature of God to give and to love. ... That's part of the reason why God created marriage, the family."

He added, "When the child sees that self-giving between mother and father, he learns that God is love, not just from the catechism, (but) from witness, from example."

Bishop D'Arcy mentioned St. Paul's words that husbands are to love their wives as Christ loves the church. Christ was willing to give his life for the church. That is how a husband is called to love his wife.

Bishop D'Arcy said "That is why the love in marriage, their physical union, must always be open to life. Because when there is prevention there through birth control, through human means, the complete giving between God and man is prevented."

Bishop said marriage is the image of God and God's love for us and that is why men and women must remain faithful.

The parish has been described by Pope John Paul II as a family of families, Bishop D'Arcy said. "And that is why the church opposes, against the culture, the claim that you can have marriage between two people of the same sex," he said. "It is against nature. God created nature. It is against the Bible. It is not possible from that union to make a child. And children are from God."

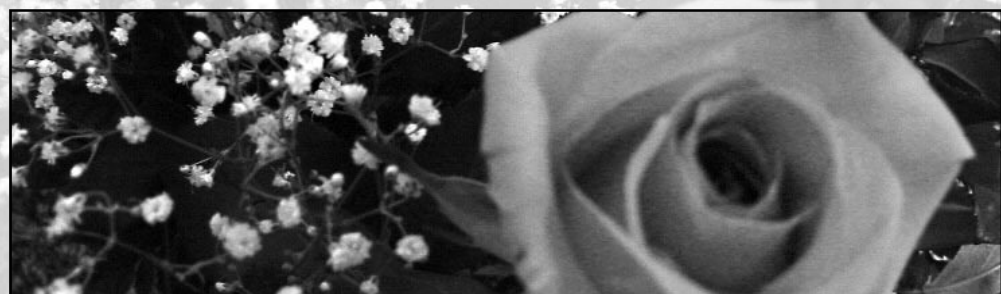
Bishop D'Arcy related the meaning that Jesus' words about the children at the end of the Gospel, "Bring them to me."

"We all must welcome and love the child," Bishop D'Arcy said. "The child is from God, the child is the future. In fact, Jesus says we are all to become like a child. We can't do that in every way. But what Jesus means is that in my heart I must be open to God as a child is open to God — humble, spontaneous, trusting God, relying on God."

"When I reach the end of my life," he said, "I want to have the same trust in God which I had at my first Communion."

During the preparation of gifts, parishioners processed with historical treasures.

After the Mass and ribbon cutting, a dinner was served and historical slideshows and memorabilia was available.



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All Souls Day Mass



In the Resurrection Mausoleum Chapel
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Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Celebrant



MARK WEBER

Pro-life advocates gather at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne on Oct. 4 to honor the victims of abortion. Msgr. John Suelzer, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Fort Wayne, was one of the speakers at the event.

Holy Innocents remembered

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — Chilling winds and threatening skies prevailed, but so did a crowd of 300 pro-life supporters who gathered at the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne to honor victims of abortion in Fort Wayne and to pray for their survivors as well as those who brought about their tragic destiny.

Musicians, singers and speakers representing various Christian denominations participated in a somber but positive ceremony reaffirming the sacredness of life.

"No one can, under any circumstance, claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being ... neither church nor state, neither medicine

nor law, is capable of passing judgment upon who is to live and who is to die. God gave us life, a higher life," said Msgr. John Suelzer, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne.

As names of infant victims were read, single white balloons were released and lofted by the stiff winds sweeping across the cemetery.

The program was planned by Allen County Right To Life. An honor of Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus of the Anthony Wayne Assembly was present.

Singers Annette and Aaron Mann and guitarist James Didier of Most Precious Blood Parish sang to introduce and close the ceremony with "Taps" by Tony Koehl.

Our Lady of Good Hope special needs youth ministry offers invitation

FORT WAYNE — The Amazing Apostles, the youth ministry program geared for students with special needs at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, is expanding. Currently the program serves nine students from various parishes in the Fort Wayne area, in its grade school-age and teen group, which meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6:30-8 p.m. — the same evening the regular religious education (RE) youth groups meet. Amazing Apostles students are grouped by age.

The program is led by Molly Daugherty, who coordinates student, parent and grandparent volunteers who assist with the group. Daugherty says the group has room for expansion and is ready to add a middle school group to its ranks.

The Amazing Apostles follows its own schedule, with special events and gender specific retreats, but joins the regular RE groups in guided integration meetings.

The Amazing Apostles' catechesis is focused on church teaching, personal growth in Christ and stewardship, all mixed with fun. This season their theme is "Where is God? Finding God in all parts of life."

All Fort Wayne and surrounding area special needs students from any parish are welcome to join. Parents are welcome to attend with their children. For more information on the Amazing Apostles contact Molly Daugherty at (260) 416-0094 or e-mail daugherty_molly@yahoo.com.

Pilgrim Virgin statue to tour diocese

FORT WAYNE — Bishop John M. D'Arcy has granted permission to the World Apostolate of Fatima for the United States National Pilgrim Virgin to tour with its custodian Bill Sockey throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Oct. 17-30.

The National Pilgrim Statue of the USA was blessed by Pope Paul VI in 1967 and was personally brought to the United States by Bishop Venancio of Fatima to serve as the official presence of Our Lady of Fatima for the U.S. The image of Our Lady is traveling throughout the United States. Thousands have turned out to honor the queen and to learn her critical message of hope for the nation and world and the offering of many graces.

Sockey is a longtime member of The World Apostolate of Fatima, formerly the Blue Army, and comes with church approval to speak in the name of this Public Association of the Catholic Church on the Message of Fatima.

The statue will be at St. Jude Parish, 2130 Pemberton Dr., Fort Wayne, on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 2-3 p.m.

The USA National Pilgrim Virgin Statue's visit includes helping to send 100 million prayers to heaven on the Worldwide Fatima Sanctity of Life and World Peace day. EWTN will broadcast live all other worldwide events Sunday, Oct. 18, from 11 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. A candle will be lit at the Blue Amy Shrine, Washington, N.J. for the intentions of all who join in this prayer effort for Life and Peace at St. Jude Church.

For information or questions call Emma at (260) 625-3281 or Betty at (260) 749-9396.

Ancilla College to begin online courses

DONALDSON — As Ancilla College prepares to begin offering online courses, Erin Alonzo, director of admissions, is reminding the public that there is still time to register.

"There is still time to go through the admissions and registration processes," said Alonzo. "It's not too late to get started on your college degree."

Through a partnership with LearningHouse, Ancilla will begin offering two online courses — General Psychology (PS 115) and Intro to Sociology (SC 140) — starting Oct. 19.

The intent, according to Dr. Joanna Blount, dean of Academic and Student Services, is to offer an associate of arts in general studies completely online.

"This is an excellent way to provide access and enhanced offerings to our students and the community," said Blount. "Not everyone can come to class regularly due to other commitments or conflicting schedules."

Students enrolled in these courses will have the flexibility to access the course through a link on Ancilla's Web page at any time and complete homework, take a quiz, or even read supplemental materials.

Interested parties are encouraged to apply for admission online at www.ancilla.edu.



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Honors and tributes to the new saint — St. Damien of Molokai

BY ANN THALLEMER

As Blessed Damien de Veuster of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary is elevated to sainthood on Oct. 11, it represents a significant event in Hawaii's modern religious history. Only eight who served on American soil have been so honored by the Catholic Church.

Bishop Larry Silva of the Honolulu Diocese said, "It is upon us, thanks be to God," a few minutes after hearing the news in Rome from Pope Benedict XVI himself. The event set into motion celebrations and ceremonies of thanksgiving across the Hawaiian Islands and a scramble to arrange pilgrimages to Rome and Belgium where Damien was born on Jan. 3, 1840.

When Bishop Silva returns from the canonization ceremony in Rome he will bring a relic — St. Damien's right heel. The relic, along with a lock of his hair, will eventually be enshrined at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace in downtown Honolulu.

Joseph de Veuster was the son of Frans and Anne-Catherine, who raised their eight children in an atmosphere of simplicity and spirituality. It was presumed that young Joseph would someday take over the family farm. But after four of

the de Veuster siblings chose to devote their lives to their church Joseph followed his brother Pamphile into the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Damien was the name he chose.

Though not yet ordained Damien was assigned, at his request, to fill his brother Pamphile's assignment as missionary on the Hawaiian Islands after he became ill. Two months after arriving in Hawaii in 1864, the young seminarian was ordained at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace, in Honolulu and was assigned to Puna, Hawaii. He served almost nine years there when on May 4, 1873, he accompanied Bishop Maigret to Wailuka, Maui to witness the consecration of a new church.

It was there that Father Damien learned of the plight of the inhabitants at the settlement of Kalaupapa, on the island of Molokai. He knew the people there suffered from leprosy, later named Hansen's disease. These people had been taken from their homes and families and sent to a peninsula on the island of Molokai that was separated by steep cliffs.

Father Damien volunteered to work at the settlement with the understanding that others would relieve him in a few months. The young priest faced lawlessness and hopelessness, and lack of decent



BLESSED DAMIAN DE VEUSTER

housing or care facilities. Though the living conditions were deplorable, he took the sacraments to the ill and anointed the dying.

Father Damien was a headstrong priest with a quick smile and a kind and tender heart. These qualities, as well as his practical nature and fluent command of the Hawaiian language enabled him to earn a position of respect within community on the island.

For his first rectory, Father Damien used the shelter of a pandanus tree, beside the little church. He organized the lepers into the Christian Burial Association to provide a decent burial in the cemetery beside the church for each of the deceased.

After only eight days at the settlement, Father Damien requested that his bishop allow him to stay

among the lepers. Living with the ravaged bodies of the people did not detour him from his primary concern of restoring dignity.

He taught the people to care for themselves, to farm, and play musical instruments and sing. He organized choirs, athletic games and constantly sought help from the Hawaiian government to assist with food, medical needs and building supplies. When he celebrated Mass, the blind, lame and disfigured gathered joyfully around him at the altar in St. Philomena's Church.

After Father Damien became infected with leprosy, he continued to work relentlessly knowing his time to serve was limited. Father Louis-Lambert Conrady arrived to assist the ailing Father Damien. By that time, the Franciscan Sisters had come to Molokai to help care for the people.

Father Damien spent 16 years on Molokai until his death on April 15, 1889. Two months after his death, the Prince of Wales proposed the erection of a monument at the cemetery by St. Philomena's Church where Father Damien was buried. In 1893, a large granite cross with a sculptured image of Father Damien was dedicated with the inscription, "Greater love hath no man than this. That a man lay down his life for his friends."

In 1936, at the request of the Belgium government, Father

Damien's body was exhumed and returned to Belgium where it lies in a crypt at St. Joseph Chapel in Louvain, a national shrine operated by the Sacred Hearts Fathers.

For many years, a group of islanders dreamed of establishing the Damien Museum and Archives to acknowledge the heroic generosity of Father Damien. In 1977, shortly after Father Damien was declared venerable, a committee was formed to bring this dream to reality. Memorabilia and artifacts were collected not only in Hawaii but also from Father Damien's native Belgium and the Archives at the Sacred Hearts Monastery in Kaimuki, Hawaii. The museum was located on St. Augustine by-the-sea Church grounds in Waikiki.

The peninsula of Kalaupapa is now a National Park, established by President Jimmy Carter in 1980, preserving the settlement for the education and inspiration for present and future generations. In 1987, "Friends of Father Damien" raised money for the restoration of St. Philomena's Church that is part of the historic park.

In February 1996, a new shrine was dedicated to Blessed Damien. The bronze statuette of Damien is in St. Augustine's Church, Waikiki. A reproduction of an icon by Robert Lentz of Father Damien was blessed in 1994 and is displayed at the church as well.

Father Damien's legacy influences diocesan pastor

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — As the Catholic Church celebrates the canonization of Father Damien de Veuster this Sunday, a priest from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Father Dale A. Bauman, will be especially interested.

A trip to Hawaii for a wedding

several years ago, his study of the Sandwich Islands and Hawaii, and then meeting and building a friendship with Sacred Hearts Missionary priest Father Joseph, who ministered at the Kalaupapa community before his death, gave Father Dale insights that few have been afforded. Father Joseph was also a native of Belgium, where Father Damien

was born Joseph De Veuster in 1840.

The Kalaupapa community still serves about handful of patients with leprosy, now called Hansen's disease. As a community for Hansen's disease patients, its designation for more than 140 years, Kalaupapa will close when the last patient dies.

On his visits to Hawaii and Molokai, where the Kalaupapa community is located, Father Dale, who is the pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Pierceton and associate pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, noticed the widespread devotion to Father Damien.

"As people have Blessed Mother statues here in the mainland in their front yards and so forth, several have statues honoring Damien," Father Dale noted. "Kamiano" is Hawaiian for Damien.

He said that the inhabitants of the Kalaupapa community are descendants of former lepers and some are leper themselves.

The whole island of Molokai is secluded, especially Kalaupapa. "They want to preserve the authenticity of the Hawaiian life," Father Dale told *Today's Catholic*.

Although Hansen's disease is treatable today, many patients of the community have deformities,

and that part of Molokai remains private, although as a priest, Father Dale gained easier access to the community.

As a priest, Father Dale is inspired by Father Damien as a jack-of-all-trades. "Father Damien was their carpenter, their doctor, their coffin builder, their teacher and their priest. He was somebody to talk to, a friend. He was there when everybody else abandon them," Father Dale said.

"He was very concerned about the children of the island," Father Dale added. He was concerned that hundreds of boys and girls, many of whom were lepers themselves, would have proper clothing.

Father Damien wanted the religious sisters to assist at the colony. The Franciscan Sisters of Syracuse, N.Y., sent sisters who arrived near the end of Father Damien's life, before he died of complications from leprosy on Good Friday of 1889. The sisters continued Father Damien's work under the direction of Mother Marianne Cope. Mother Marianne now has one miracle attributed to her intercession.

Inspired by the Book of James, Father Damien showed the colony residents how to build a fresh water irrigation system from the hills above the colony. "He never told them what to do. He always showed them what to

do," Father Dale noted. "I think that is very important as a priest. Don't tell them what to do, show them what to do."

Father Damien also planted trees for windbreaks and brought flowers to the island community.

"He was always out to convert the non-Catholic, and he never pushed it. He was always very kind about it," Father Dale added.

Father Dale met with the people who lived in the Kalaupapa community, in their homes, which he described as huts with two or three rooms built-up off the ground, with porches. "They are very well maintained and very inviting," he said.

The residents, Father Dale said, make trinkets that are sold on the other islands of Hawaii.

Father Dale also celebrated Mass at St. Philomena Church, the church restored in Kalaupapa community by Father Damien.

Of the soon-to-be saint, Father Dale said, "I think Father Damien could teach us (all) how to be more sensitive. The lepers are very sensitive people — and especially the Hawaiian lepers." They want to be appreciated. They are very easily hurt so far as their feelings, their heart, their soul. Damien always took care of that. He was always very sensitive as well towards them and they could tell that."



PROVIDED BY FATHER DALE BAUMAN

Father Dale Bauman is shown at St. Philomena Church in the Kalaupapa community on Molokai, Hawaii. St. Philomena was the church from which St. Damien of Molokai ministered.

Called to respect all life



THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

When most Catholics hear about Respect Life Month or Sunday, they usually think of abortion and the sanctity of a child's life in its mother's womb. Our call, however, is to respect all life. Our faith tells us that all human life, from the womb to the tomb, is precious and loved by God. Too often we concentrate on eradicating abortion, which is a noble and important cause, but we often neglect to speak out against the other ways human life is also disrespected.

One way that comes to mind is the death penalty. Jesus often spoke of the

need for forgiveness and reconciliation. He did not say that it is up to us to pick and choose whom we will forgive. He even tells us to love our enemies. To me it seems contrary to be against abortion but support the death penalty.

We also forget that when we are not concerned about the poor, especially the needs of poor children, we, in a sense, disrespect life. Some people spend more time and money on their animals and their care, than they do to fight against poverty in our country and throughout the world. Often we encourage poor women to have their babies, but too often we neglect to offer them the help and support they need to be good parents.

How we view those different from ourselves is also a measurement of how we really respect all of life. We need to examine our attitudes toward immigrants — legal or illegal — people of different faiths, races or sexual orientation.

Another indication of how well we truly respect life is how we treat or think about

the frail elderly and the mentally and physically handicapped. These groups in our society are often neglected or frowned upon. Little is done to increase their quality of life.

Something we don't usually think about when examining how well or not so well we respect life is our treatment of one another — those with whom we live and work or go to school. If we hurt others, no matter who they are, by our words or other poor behavior, we are certainly not respecting the fact that they are loved by God and must be treated with reverence. If each of us truly loves and respects all of life, especially human life, I believe there would probably be fewer wars and less violence in our world. More families would be reconciled and the divorce rate would drop. There would be fewer prisons and the poor and elderly would be taken care of lovingly.

So when we pray and work for an end to the evil of abortion, let us not forget all the other people whose lives are also pre-



YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

cious to our God and who also need to be treated with respect.

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

Reminding each other what God can do

Oprah imagined the comeback long before Whitney Houston stepped on her stage and delivered it.

She sang, "Oprah said, 'Girl, do you know you're loved?' Now I know my own strength." Oprah blinked away a tear and the audience screamed, and in that moment, Whitney's triumph over addictive drugs became Oprah's triumph over sagging ratings.

It was a classic Harpo exchange, one that managed to feel both commercial and spiritual. As the two women hugged, I thought about the transformations we cheer into being, clapping and whistling, waving brightly-colored poster boards that broadcast our confidence.

In my twenty-some years, I've

been blessed with many cheerleaders, and lately, I've been more attuned to their impact, the way they spur along my pursuit of big dreams and small to-dos.

The other day, for instance, I told my dad that a National Public Radio editor is considering an essay of mine and has requested audio samples — something I'm a tad short on. Dad didn't miss a beat, recalling a few 10-minute segments I did five years ago. "You've got radio experience! Did you tell him about those Relevant Radio interviews?"

His confidence gave me the strength to press send on the e-mail I'd pieced together, to take the risk and make the leap.

Dad is also there to classify

failures as flukes. "You just had an off day," he said last month, after a softball game filled with strikeouts.

He pulled me out of my rut with batting practice. "You were watching the ball," he said between pitches, "but you weren't focusing on it." After a few more whiffs, I put bat on ball. Then I made smoother strokes. The next game, I was back.

My mom also has cheered me along. She was there to listen to every story I wrote as a girl. Where there were heavy adverbs and too many participial phrases, Mom heard a burgeoning vocabulary and a creative mind. She listened to my clarinet, sipping her tea and trusting that "Three Blind Mice" would one day turn into Mozart. She believed scales would be followed by symphonies and flat notes would slide into tune, that Dr. Seuss would lead to Shakespeare, Little League to varsity, and tantrums

to temperance.

She knew what practice could do, what braces could do, what a good night's sleep could do, what time could do, and ultimately, what God could do.

This month's readings illustrate the transformative power of God's love, a God who counted each hair on our heads, the God who restored vision to the blind man, the God for whom "all things are possible."

We never really outgrow the desire for gold stars and blue ribbons. The rallying cries of our cheerleaders mean even more in young adulthood, when doubts can be darker and more persistent. It is a novel juncture: We are old enough to recognize and appreciate their support, and we're old enough to become cheerleaders to others, including our parents, blossoming into vibrant grandparents and active retirees.

When we demonstrate our belief in friends and relatives,



TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

classmates and colleagues, we invite them into a clearer sense of self, a picture that is closer to the way God sees them: cherished, resilient, whole.

How blessed we are by the ones who love us as sinners and believe in us as saints.

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

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Notre Law professors discuss blessings of the Red Mass

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

GRANGER — When prayers and blessings for the legal profession are offered by the Catholic Church at the Red Mass each year, many of those present take pause to reflect how these gifts can be incorporated in their lives.

St. Pius X parishioners Tricia and A.J. Bellia, both professors of law at the University of Notre Dame, reflect on the blessings of the Red Mass and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their profession, church stewardship and parenting.

To understand the impact of the Red Mass, a brief history of its origins and current role in the United States is examined. According to the George Mason University's History News Network, it is believed that the first Red Mass was held around 1200, although it was not until 1245, in Paris, that the Mass was actually documented. The Mass became an annual tradition in England in 1310 to commemorate the beginning of each new court term. The tradition of a yearly Red Mass spread throughout Europe and was adopted in the United States in the early 20th century.

The term "Red Mass" is in recognition of the red vestments worn by Royal Judges participating in the pope's tribunal. Additionally, during the Mass the clergy wear of red garments as a representation of the Holy Spirit.

Among the special focuses of the Mass are prayers and blessings for those in leadership roles in the legal profession:

"Guidance from the Holy Spirit is asked to be bestowed on the congregants. Other blessings that are commonly requested to prevail in the minds, offices and court rooms are Divine strength, wisdom, truth and justice. Peace and friendship are exchanged among the congregation, the sacraments are given and the Mass is commenced," notes the History News Network.

At the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington D.C., the Red Mass marks the beginning of the United States Supreme Court's term. Supreme Court Justices from all faith backgrounds often are in attendance for this ceremony.

Tricia and A.J. both worked as law clerks for U.S. Supreme Court justices in the mid to late 1990s. Tricia was a law clerk for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, while A.J. served as a law clerk for Justice Antonin Scalia.

A.J. recalls a Red Mass in Washington D.C. in 1997. "It was deeply moving to witness four justices of the Supreme Court — Catholic and non-Catholic alike



PHOTOS BY KAREN CLIFFORD

A.J. Bellia, right, St. Pius X School board president, chats with board members about upcoming events.



Tricia Bellia serves as a eucharistic minister during Mass at St. Pius X Church.

— join hundreds of other members of the bench and bar to invoke the Lord's guidance and wisdom upon the profession."

A more current Red Mass stands out in Tricia's memory. "I remember attending the Red Mass at the basilica shortly after we began teaching at the University of Notre Dame, as we joined with our new colleagues in the legal academy in praying for students aspiring to join the profession."

Divine strength, wisdom, truth and justice are among the blessings often requested at the Red Mass. A.J. notes the impact of these blessing on the legal field. "Wisdom is not merely the gift of competence and integrity; it is awareness of one's shortcomings in competence and integrity. For the wise lawyer, legal education and character formation are lifelong endeavors. Truth is the gift that defines integrity and guides the exercise of competence. The law aspires to resolve disputes on the basis of true understandings of what happened according to rules that serve true human goods."

He continues, "When lawyers and judges act according to such truth, the result is justice for those whom the law exists to serve. Lawyers face many temptations to resist these gifts: to

neglect wisdom in favor of busyness or esteem, or to circumvent truth through shortcuts or deception — and thereby to deserve justice, the fruit of wisdom and truth. Strength is the gift that fortifies lawyers ever to pursue the gifts of wisdom, truth and justice."

The Bellias emphasize the guidance from the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon those in attendance at the Red Mass, influences all aspects of their lives.

"I mostly see the guidance of the Holy Spirit at work in others. As a law professor, I see the Holy Spirit at work in those students who do not earn the highest grades but achieve the greatest education," A.J. stresses. "As a St. Pius X parishioner, I am humbled at nearly every parish activity by the selfless giving of my fellow parishioners. They make the Holy Spirit present to me."

The guidance of the Holy Spirit also helps define their role as parents. Tricia explains, "Perhaps none, however, makes the Holy Spirit as present to a parent as a child does. When a child sees the simple truth in a complex situation, displays faith no matter what the social context, or rightly identifies a parent's moral error, the Holy Spirit is at work. Who else could it be?"

New dean, new chapel at Notre Dame Law School

BY KATIE ROSE QUANDT

NOTRE DAME — When The University of Notre Dame contacted Nell Jessup Newton last year about an opening for dean of the Law School, she initially turned down the offer. Content with her position as dean at Hastings College of the Law at the University of California, she had no intention of leaving the school, her alma mater, which she describes as “a public school with a great mission.”

However, Notre Dame’s Catholic tradition enticed Newton, a Catholic who had served all three of her prior deanships at secular universities.

“I finally realized that it was almost like a calling,” she said. She asked herself, “Wouldn’t it be great to live a more integrated life?”

In March, Newton accepted the offer, becoming the law school’s 10th dean on July 1.

A new dean is one of several major changes the University of Notre Dame Law School has undergone in the past year. The Eck Hall of Law, an extensive addition housing faculty offices, administrative space, and 13 new classrooms, was dedicated May 1. The addition also includes the 76-seat St. Thomas More Chapel.

The chapel, which is named for

the patron saint of politicians and lawyers, replaced the building’s original chapel, which seated only 18. The bright chapel, which is easily accessible from the school’s new archway, features three large stained glass windows depicting Mary, the Eucharist and St. Thomas More.

“It’s just absolutely gorgeous,” said Dean Newton.

Mass is offered daily in the new chapel. Weekday Mass attendance ranges from 15 to 40, and the chapel often fills to the point of overflow on Sundays.

“Our new chapel affords a sacred space where ND law students can pray either at Mass and other communal liturgical prayers as well as in private prayer or meditation,” said Franciscan Father John J. Coughlin, in an e-mail. Father Coughlin serves the weekday Mass in the chapel and is a professor of law at Notre Dame.

The beautiful new worship space is only a physical manifestation of the deep underlying Catholic tradition that makes a Notre Dame Law School education unique.

“We say we educate a different kind of lawyer, and I really think we do,” said Newton. The law school requires students to take courses in ethics, and encourages moral and religious discussion in the classroom.

“For students who live a faith-



Notre Dame Law School Dean
NELL JESSUP NEWTON

filled life, this is a very good place to be, since we can ask the really difficult questions,” explained Newton. At many law schools, “students who want to ask moral questions in class are often told ‘that is not your profession.’”

“We welcome talking about the moral questions in class,” she said.

Dean Newton added that Notre Dame Law School is also “really great for the kids who have not lived a faith-filled life. It provides great potential for them to open up to thinking about religion.”

A dedication Mass for the St. Thomas More Chapel was cele-

brated by Bishop John M. D’Arcy on Sept. 9. Over 150 attended, and despite the incense setting off a smoke alarm mid-Mass, Dean Newton said, “It was a very beautiful event.”

“Bishop D’Arcy was completely unflappable by (the smoke alarm),” she added. “He was just great. He is a lovely guy.”

The bishop will return to the Notre Dame campus on Sunday, Oct. 11, to celebrate a Red Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Red Masses are celebrated for public officials and those in the legal profession.

Dean Newton said she is looking forward to her first Red Mass at Notre Dame. She loves the Red Mass tradition recognizing and praying for all lawyers, not only those who are Catholic. “One great thing about our faith is we love everyone, we pray for everyone,” she said.

The Notre Dame Law School strives to live up to its Catholic mission. It boasts the unique Center for Civil and Human Rights, which was founded in 1973 by Holy Cross Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, former university president and longtime member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

The yearlong program brings together young lawyers from around the world to study international human rights. Students

return home equipped with the knowledge and ability to teach and promote human rights in their own countries. The majority of students enrolled in the program are international, often coming from Africa and Central and South America.

“It trains people from all over the world who want to do good work in the world in the human rights area,” said Newton.

Although Dean Newton is new to Notre Dame, her connection to the school began long before the July commencement of her deanship. Her older brother attended the school as an undergrad, and she said Notre Dame “meant the world to him.” She flew to South Bend once, for his 1965 graduation ceremony, and happened to meet Father Hesburgh on the plane.

“He was so kind and really wonderful,” she remembered.

“To a Catholic kid from the Midwest, Notre Dame is a special place,” she explained. “I always had very fond feelings for it.”

Newton’s feelings about the university have not changed.

“There is something very wonderful about being at a school where you can be openly Catholic,” she said. “We pray before faculty meetings. We care about everyone, we love our students... It is a wonderful community, a faith-based community.”

“I can’t imagine any situation that would pull me away from here.”



ROTHBERG LOGAN & WARSCO

ATTORNEYS AT LAW LLP

Fort Wayne Office:
2100 National City Center, 110 West Berry Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
Phone: (260) 422-9454 Fax: (260) 422-1622

e-mail: law@rlwlawfirm.com

Warsaw Office:
212 North Buffalo Street
Warsaw, Indiana 46580
Phone: (574) 267-8802 Fax: (574) 267-0605

ATTORNEYS

Jonathon R. Albright
Michael E. Armey
Mark A. Baeverstad
Michael T. Deam
J. Rickard Donovan
Dennis F. Dykhuizen
Jared C. Helge
F. L. Dennis Logan
Thomas D. Logan

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EDITORIAL

Planned Parenthood pushes 'Abstinence Plus' sex education

Planned Parenthood of Indiana has launched a campaign called Get Real, Indiana! to promote sexuality education in our public schools, which includes information about various forms of contraception. Advocates of so-called "Abstinence Plus" education claim that providing information about contraception to teens will reduce the rate of unintended pregnancy.

But Planned Parenthood has known for decades that teens who learn about contraception in school are significantly more likely to become sexually active.

According to Michael Schwartz, then director of the Child and Family Policy Division of the Free Congress Research and Education Foundation, a 1986 survey conducted for Planned Parenthood by Louis Harris found that the rate of sexual activity among teens who took a "comprehensive" sexuality education course was more than one-third higher than among teens who either had no sex education in school, or who had taken a course that taught about reproduction but left out the promotion of contraception.

What this shows is that, even if abstinence is encouraged, teaching teens how to use contraception is like speaking out of both sides of one's mouth. Simply put, teens who are taught in school how to use contraception believe that they are being given permission to have sex as long as they use "protection."

More teens having sex inevitably leads to higher rates of teen pregnancy, abortion and STDs because, to be highly effective, contraceptives have to be used correctly and consistently.

According to the journal *Family Planning Perspectives*, the "typical use" failure rate for teens using condoms to prevent pregnancy is more than 18 percent. A 2006 review by Kirby and Roller of 50 well-designed evaluation studies of "comprehensive" sex education programs in the United States going back to 1990 found that none of the programs increased the prevalence of consistent condom use among adolescents for a period greater than one year. Recent studies in England also have reaffirmed that increased access to contraception for teens leads to higher pregnancy and abortion rates, as well as a dramatic increase in STD rates among 16 to 19-year-old girls.

But the most significant problem with promoting contraception among teens is that it ignores the emotional and spiritual dimensions of sex. Recent research in the field of biochemistry has shown clearly that chemicals released during sexual activity, such as oxytocin and vasopressin, permanently alter body chemistry and promote strong emotional bonding between the partners. Once these bonds are established, disrupting them can cause terrible distress. Surely we want to protect our teens from the kind of heartbreak that even many adults find devastating.

What is even more important, according to Dr. Bradford Wilcox, a professor of sociology at the University of Virginia, his February 2008 analysis, "A Scientific Review of Abstinence and Abstinence Programs," "provides clear and compelling research that abstinence is not merely about avoiding pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, but more significantly it is about helping teens prepare for a future marriage and family. ... Abstinence before marriage is linked to stronger and more satisfying families, according to a growing body of research. Specifically, adolescents and adults who abstain from sex before marriage are more likely to enjoy better family relationships, and are also more likely to provide a good family life to any children that they bring into the world."

Abstinence-only advocates are often criticized as not living in the "real world." But in the real world, teens tend to live up to our expectations if we raise the bar high, and they tend to live down to our expectations if we lower that bar.

Pope John Paul II challenged us to hold the bar high: "It is an illusion to think that we can build a true culture of human life if we do not help the young to accept and experience sexuality and love and the whole of life according to their true meaning and in their close interconnection. ... The trivialization of sexuality is among the principal factors which have led to contempt for new life. Only a true love is able to protect life. There can be no avoiding the duty to offer, especially to adolescents and young adults, an authentic education in sexuality and in love, an education which involves training in chastity as a virtue which fosters personal maturity and makes one capable of respecting the 'spousal' meaning of the body."

— "Evangelium Vitae," 97

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

Appreciates Mass on Catholic radio

It's Tuesday morning and we got up late. Usually my wife and I attend daily Mass at our parish chapel, but it wasn't going to happen today. Even if we skipped breakfast we wouldn't be there on time. We then went to plan B.

We turned on our radio to our South Bend Catholic station at 1580 AM and were just in time to catch the beginning of the 8 a.m. daily Mass. Of course, listening to the Mass on radio isn't the same as attending in person and receiving the Eucharist, but it does have one advantage. Daily Mass is usually limited to approximately 30 minutes to give people with jobs time to get to work. This time restraint allows for only brief homily.

At the Mass on the radio the celebrant is free to take as much time as he feels necessary to develop the theme of the daily readings. We really appreciate these expanded

homilies and even when we attend daily Mass we tape the Mass on radio and listen to it later.

As my wife and I approach our mid-80s, we realize that the day may come when we will not be able to attend Mass at our church. We are hopeful that if and when that time arrives the daily Mass on radio will still be available.

Don Grooms
South Bend

'Take up your cross daily and follow me'

Concerning the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy commentary in the Sept. 20, 2009 issue of *Today's Catholic*, this article stirs up thought and discussion about a little known aspect of the priesthood of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and that is the identity of his priesthood with his being victim.

The priestly vocation of the baptized and the ordained must reflect

that same reality. In his letter to the Romans (12:1) St. Paul pleads with us "to present our bodies as a sacrifice living, holy and pleasing to God."

Commenting on these words, St. Augustine in "The City of God" writes: "This is the sacrifice of Christians, the many who are one body in Christ. This is the sacrifice which the church celebrates in the sacrament of the altar, that sacrament known to the faithful; in that sacrament it is made clear to the church that in the sacrifice she offers, she herself is offered."

Sanctuaries today are crowded. Many consider their baptismal vocation as a priestly people as a call to ceremonial activity only. Whereas, the priestly aspect of our lives is better fulfilled in obeying the words of Our Divine Lord, "take up your cross daily and follow me."

St. Bede describes our obligation: "We must offer to God the sacrifice of a blameless life."

Msgr. Arthur MacDonald
Glenwood, NM

Violence begets violence

Last month, James Pouillon was shot multiple times and killed while protesting abortion outside a high school in Owosso, Mich. According to reports, the suspect in custody, Harlan James Drake, admitted to police that he had also killed Mike Fuoss earlier that morning and that he had intended to murder a third man against whom he held a grudge, but was arrested before he reached his last victim.

The violence didn't end with his arrest. The Associated Press reports that Drake was hospitalized after an attempt on his own life in the county jail. Nor is that the end of it. Some angry people are already calling for the death penalty, yet another act of violence.

Pro-life demonstrators are no strangers to verbal and physical harassment and even death threats, but this is the first publicized case of one's murder. Police who took the suspect into custody reported that Drake targeted Pouillon because he didn't like his sign showing the disturbing reality of abortion. On one side, the placard read: "LIFE" accompanied by the lovely image of a smiling baby, while the other had "ABORTION" written above a gruesome photo of the bloody remains of an aborted child.

James Pouillon's murder is reprehensible. Whatever one thinks of the appropriate public use of such images — and there is a range of opinions even within the pro-life

movement — certainly no one deserves to be killed for speaking out against the horror of abortion. The photo on his placard is gruesome because abortion is gruesome, but his brutally honest witness is no cause for such fatal hostility.

The image on his sign is one of violence — a most extreme form of violence against vulnerable, defenseless, innocent children in the womb. That the violent act of abortion — and the seemingly intractable controversy surrounding it — is, at times, associated with more violence is unfortunately not accidental. Indeed, in their Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities (2001), the bishops of the United States note that legalized abortion has made ours "a society increasingly coarsened by toleration and acceptance of acts that purposely destroy human life." They note the interdependence of all life issues, saying: "a society which destroys human life by abortion under the mantle of law unavoidably undermines respect for life in all other contexts." With less respect for human life, and a greater coarseness toward killing, the road is paved for more violence.

But the violence of abortion is not necessary. It can be stopped. Hundreds of pregnancy care centers and parish networks are ready to assist families who are tempted to resort to abortion. Those who perform or promote abortions can

LIFE ISSUES FORUM



BY DEIRDRE A. MCQUADE

repent and come to use their gifts in the service of life rather than its destruction. And thanks to God's grace at work in and through Project Rachel, the ministry of the church and her compassionate counselors, men and women can receive healing from past abortions. The Catholic bishops' Conference and scores of other groups that make up the vast pro-life movement in America are working hard toward the day when no abortion will have the sanction of law.

This fall, consider gathering your family and friends together to pray for an end to abortion and all forms of violence.

Deirdre A. McQuade is assistant director of policy and communications, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

After spousal loss: Getting back in the game

Dating may sound like a formidable challenge and a bit surreal for those of you who have recently lost a spouse, as you guard most of your energy for simple survival. But for those who are out a few years from the death of their spouse, getting back in the game can be a real turning point in their rediscovery of life.

As with most challenges in grief, considering the possibility of a new relationship fosters fears both real and imagined and is driven by current circumstances and past beliefs. Many newly bereaved have spoken candidly about having no desire for another relationship. Their commitment to their deceased spouse is firm.

However, as the passage of time provides the opportunity to do the difficult work of grief, it is

natural to discover a new self immersing. That inspires hopes and dreams for the future, which may include companionship or even marriage. The innate human desire for the companionship of another doesn't mean that you don't love your spouse any longer or that you've forgotten him or her. It means you are alive. As lost love heals a natural yearning rises in our hearts and many bereaved find they do want to get back in the game.

Meeting someone new depends on personal life circumstances and can take many forms. Currently the Internet offers a superhighway to test the roads of companionship. Sometimes loyal friends will know another single who "would be perfect for you." And still others leave it to divine providence.

Personality type, belief system



KAY COZAD

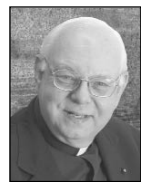
HOPE IN THE MOURNING

and current circumstances, such as interests, location and children, also play important roles in how one faces the dating game. It is important to take the time needed to mourn well and really get to know who you are without your spouse. In that way you will more likely attract a relationship that will be suited to your needs.

Many women who have lost their spouse, myself included,

HOPE, PAGE 16

Discipleship an invitation to all



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 10:17-30

The Book of Wisdom is the source of the first reading. This book came to be centuries ago as devout Jews, distant from their homeland and from their religious and cultural roots, attempted to confront the great pressure put upon them by the overwhelmingly pagan societies in which they lived.

Jewish parents worried about their children. It is easy to imagine Jewish youth of this time, rebellious and questioning as are adolescents in any time or place, finding the strict rules of their parents' religion very binding. Whereas, the pagans, who lived all around them, followed quite different codes of behavior, and the pagans flourished.

This book is part of a series of books that together compose the Wisdom Literature of the Bible. These writings concentrate upon human reasoning wisdom. But, they insist, living according to God's revelation through Moses and the prophets is showing true wisdom.

Often in these writings, as is the case in this selection, wisdom is mentioned as if wisdom were a person. It is a literary technique.

The reading this week maintains that true wisdom is a greater possession than the finest silver

or gold.

As the second reading, the church this weekend offers us the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Profound Jewish theological themes run throughout this epistle. God is wise. He is the Creator. In God alone is order. To God therefore, all persons must render an account.

St. Mark's Gospel provides the last reading. It is a familiar story. A man asks Jesus what is needed for salvation. Jesus tells him to obey the Commandments.

The man says that he observes the Commandments. Then, Jesus tells the man to sell his many possessions, give the proceeds to the poor, and follow the Lord. Sad, the man walks away from Jesus.

Jesus sees in the man a determined effort to find, and to be with, God. So, Jesus offered the man the key to salvation, calling this man to the most radical of obedience to God. The man should not just make contributions, as Jewish custom would have required of him since he was wealthy, but he should give everything in his possession to the poor.

As the story closes, Peter speaks. This is one of the 111 references to Peter in the Gospels. He speaks for the Twelve. He insists that he and the other apostles have put aside everything to follow the Lord. Jesus accepts this statement and blesses them.

Reflection

The readings this weekend are fundamental, intense, wide-ranging and radical. The story of the rich man is crucial to the lesson of this weekend's Liturgy of the Word. This rich man already obeys God's Commandments. He wants to be with God.

Jesus calls him to absolute commitment. It is more than lip service. Indeed it is more than obeying the Commandments. It is the total imitation of Christ's own sacrifice, an expression of total commitment to, and trust in, God.

The man cannot accept this blunt suggestion. He cannot forsake what he has of this world's things. Sadly, he walks away.

In the first reading, true wisdom was seen as being in divine revelation, not in limited human judgment. All things of earth, including human judgment, are subject to flaw.

The story has wider application if the "rich young man" becomes the "rich man," or "the man." Discipleship is limited to no particular age. It is not limited to any class of people. It is an invitation to all and a decision for all.

The Gospel again reaffirms the place of Peter himself as spokesman for the community of apostles and also reaffirms the Twelve. As the rich man was asked, they had been asked to leave everything and follow Christ. They chose to follow the Lord.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 7:7-11 Ps 90:12-17 Heb 4:12-13 Mk 10:17-30

Monday: Rom 1:1-7 Ps 98:1-4 Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25 Ps 19:2-5 Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11 Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9 Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30 Ps 130:1-6 Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18 Ps 105:6-9, 42-43 Lk 12:8-12

THE CATEQUIZ'EM

by Dominic Camplisson

In October the church remembers St. Theresa. Many of the facts of her life are unusual for a saint and doctor of the church. This quiz focus on the unlikely facts of her life.

- This saint goes by other names. Such as**
 - St. T of the Child
 - St. Therese of Lisieux
 - La duexieme Therese (after Avila)
- To many she is known by this humble moniker:**
 - The Grand Empress of Sanctity
 - Her Holiness
 - The Little Flower
- Many saints live long lives of service and prayer. Theresa however died when she was**
 - 24
 - 34
 - 44
- Also, unlike many saints who are at the center of things in the church and world, Theresa lived for most of all her adult life as**
 - a fish seller in Marseilles
 - a parish administrator
 - a cloistered nun
- Her missionary journeys consisted of**
 - just two stints in the Congo
 - one trip to French North Africa
 - nothing
- Yet within 30 years of her death she was**
 - forgotten
 - canonized
 - declared a hidden imam
- According to tradition, her father never wanted to marry, hoping instead to be**
 - a bishop
 - a soldier
 - a monk
- And just as unusual, her mother was said to have had the ardent desire to be**
 - a saint
 - a wife and mother
 - 100 years old
- The couple had nine children. They were all**
 - girls
 - boys
 - monks
- Theresa was always sickly, but was cured of fever by a**
 - special onion soup
 - vision of Pope John Paul I
 - vision of Mary
- When she asked to join the Carmelite order, the convent strongly**
 - refused to accept her
 - made her wash the hearth and take the name Theresa of the Cinders
 - welcomed her and offered her the abbess's role
- Her response was to**
 - appeal to the bishop
 - join the rival Dominican Order
 - threaten to expose the convent's possession of luxuries like soap and talc
- Not one to be deterred, Theresa next went to see the**
 - pope
 - abbesses of the Carmelite Orders in France
 - cardinal of Provence
- Things went badly after she left home; her father went into**
 - the poor house
 - an asylum as he was presumed insane because he was playing with firearms
 - a decline and died of potato blight the next year
- Theresa died as a doistered nun; she is famous for her**
 - writings
 - miracles performed in the convent
 - political savvy in the French Sixth Republic

ANSWERS

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

Not the practice in this diocese to grant outdoor exceptions

I am going to get married next summer, but I had wanted to do the ceremony outdoors. Is it possible, as a Catholic, to get married outdoors? At first I was told it depended on whether the bishop in your diocese allowed it, but now I'm told it's not allowed by the church. Do you think you could help me find out what is allowed? If it is allowed, I would like to be married like that. Anonymous

That's a fairly common question, especially considering the picturesque outdoor weddings often depicted in movies and on television. The answer is that Catholic weddings should take place indoors, in a church.

Canon Law states the norm: "A marriage between Catholics or

between a Catholic party and a non-Catholic baptized party is to be celebrated in a parish church."

It is not the practice in this diocese to grant outdoor exceptions. This rule exists for both practical and theological reasons. Practically speaking, the participants in the wedding ceremony do not have to make last minute provisions for unpredictable weather, which can easily spoil any outdoor event.

And theologically, wedding vows are ideally exchanged within the holy Mass as celebrated before the community in a church, the house of God. Marriage, like all the sacraments, flows from the Eucharist. Holy Communion is the ultimate sign and reality that lends context to the nuptial union of a man and a

woman, emphasizing that matrimony is a profound sharing in Christ's marriage with the church.

"Communion," after all, speaks of unity, and of the free gift of Christ's humanity and divinity for us — a total gift reflected in the sacrament of matrimony.

This is also why "unity candles" are strongly discouraged as inappropriate for wedding Masses — they draw the connection and focus away from the true source and symbol of unity, the Eucharist.

Brian MacMichael, the diocesan director of the Office of Worship, answered this week's question.

Formula for a vocation

I attended a freshman prayer breakfast yesterday with my daughter at the local diocesan Catholic high school. It allowed me a chance to catch up with Rita, an old friend whose daughter is also a freshman. In conversing with her over poppy seed muffins and scrambled eggs, I came to find that her son just entered the seminary. She is thrilled, as well she should be. I think she is already sewing vestments.

So now, two of my friends have sons in the seminary. It's a beautiful thing to see vocations blossom, and while God certainly is the one calling, the family is the fertile ground that prepares and allows a young man to say "yes."

It is said that a particular priest once visited a convict in prison. In talking with him he discovered a scrawling on the wall: "Mothers are the Fate of Men." When asked about it, the prisoner replied that in prison one has a lot of time to think about many things, and the result of this particular prisoner's reflection was this saying. "You see," he continued, undoubtedly speaking from experience, "a good mother is a blessing for the children; a bad mother, however, is a terrible curse."

I am writing this column on the feast of St. Therese, who lost her mother when she was very young. Yet, in her autobiography, "Story of a Soul," she writes of the strong influence of her mother on her life. At one point she writes, "God was pleased all through my life to surround me with love, and the first memories I have are stamped with smiles and the most tender caresses. I loved Mamma... very much."

And later in the book she writes, "Ah! How delicate a mother's heart really is, and how it shows its tenderness in a thou-

sand little cares that no one thinks about!" It's amazing to realize that St. Therese was merely 4 years old when her mother passed, yet she recalls with great clarity many instances that formed her involving her mother. She sums up with a profound and sobering thought: "Having nothing but good example around me, I naturally wanted to follow it." Undoubtedly, a mother's influence is important in the awakening and nurturing of religious vocations.

While a mother's impact is important in the blossoming of a religious vocation, I think a father has a particularly significant role in vocation-discovery for young men. He is the leader and head of the Catholic family, and if a mother is good, holy, pious and adhering to various religious devotions, a father can unduly unravel this goodness with a simple scoff or sarcastic look, or a pattern of bad example.

For a young man to truly consider the vocation of priesthood, I believe that the father has to present it as a viable option. For despite the devoted love and concern of a dotting mother, it is a father who teaches his son to become a man, and demonstrates through word and action how this manhood can and should be played out. Specifically, a father's example of principled living and devotion to God influences a young man in ways no mother, sibling, friend or book can. Additionally, a father suggesting the vocation of priesthood as a possibility to his son legitimizes the option as an accepted and viable one, and allows the son to consider freely whether God might be calling him to this beautiful and sacrificial way of life.

My father, grandfather to almost 50 children, has a beautiful, ornate golden chalice that he



Theresa A. Thomas

EVERYDAY
CATHOLIC

purchased while on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Poland. He gathered the grandsons upon his return and told them that this chalice was going to be a gift to the first priest in the family. He spoke of the specialness of the vocation and explained that without priests we would have no Mass and no holy Eucharist. A way to ensure priests in the future is to value and revere the vocation, and respect those who have been called to service in this way.

Pope Benedict XVI has declared 2009 a Year for Priests beginning with the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 19 and ending with an international gathering in Rome June 9-11, 2010. This is a perfect time to reflect on how we can support and encourage the priests we know, as well as ask ourselves what God may want for us in our families. We should be asking our sons if God might be calling them to a religious vocation. If one is not asked, it might be difficult for one to say "yes."

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for October 11, 2009

Mark 10:17-30

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B: about the commitment of discipleship. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JOURNEY	RAN UP	KNELT
TEACHER	JESUS	GOOD
GOD ALONE	COMMANDMENTS	ADULTERY
MY YOUTH	ONE THING	TREASURE
HEAVEN	FOLLOW ME	HARD IT IS
CAMEL	NEEDLE	BE SAVED
ALL THINGS	POSSIBLE	PERSECUTION

ALL IS POSSIBLE

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

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HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

take a considerable amount of time to grieve. I have found that a small percentage choose never to seek companionship again. But the majority of women I've worked with, who have done the work of grief, have reconciled their loss and found new life again. And companionship is part of that new life.

I have also found that men, who are generally more pragmatic thinkers, are sometimes more prone to seek companionship earlier than women. John said, "I have said from the beginning that I knew sometime down the road I would like to meet someone. I liked being married and want someone to share my life with."

In contrast, at the beginning of Mary's grief journey she was firm in her conviction that she would never love again. Now several years later she has reconciled to the notion that life goes on. She said, "I never thought I would ever say this, but I'm lonely. I would like male companionship." Her heart is ready to love again.

In the two decades that I have lived since my own husband's

death, I have dated a few good men. It wasn't easy to want to "get out there." But I too missed male interaction and learned to face my fears.

I recently deeply loved and lost a man because of life circumstances. His loss left a hole in my life that until he loved me I did not know existed. It is another loss that I face with all the usual grief and sadness. But I will be forever grateful for his gift of love. He opened my heart to it again.

So when you are ready, whether you are anticipating marriage or simply seeking companionship, give yourself permission to step out even with the fear and receive the beauty and abundance that love has to offer. Mourning well allows you to open your heart to love again. And that's what life is all about.

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

Sports

CYO regular football season wraps up

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth League (CYO) gridiron action wrapped up regular season play at St. Francis on Sunday, Oct. 4.

In the first matchup of the day, the mighty St. Vincent Panthers finished a perfect 7-0 blanking rival St. Charles, 32-0. The unbeaten Panthers were led by quarterback Michael Fiacable who factored in all four scores throwing three touchdown passes and scoring on a kickoff return. The Panthers' talented Ryan Watercutter caught all three scoring passes. Stephen Colligan was once again a weapon for St. Vincent as he converted on all four of his PAT attempts.

A proud Coach Corey Kitchen summarized, "To finish the regular season undefeated in this league is an outstanding accomplishment. Now the important season starts. Our kids fully realize that our overall goals are far from accomplished and they must be ready to prove themselves all over again in the tournament."

According to Coach Pat Henline, St. Jude defeated Queen of Angels/Most Precious Blood (QA/PB) in a hard-fought battle improving their record to 4-3 thanks to touchdowns from Luke Palmer, Jon Poore (2) and Gus Schrader (2).

St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese (JAT) will roll into playoff action fueled by three wins in a row. Their 36-20 victory over St. John, Fort Wayne in Week 7 improved the Knights' record to 4-3. JAT got out to an early lead and never looked back.

The JAT defense forced the St.

John's Eagles to punt during their first possession and the Luers-bound Nic Morken returned it 60 yards for the first score of the game. Later Morken broke several would-be feisty Eagle defender tackles and plowed his way to a 35-yard TD run. The Knights' workhorse scored yet another six in the first half, this time from the two-yard line. With just over two minutes to go in the half the Eagles returned a kickoff and threw a long 65-yard bomb pass to get on the board. Braeden Theile was on the receiving end of a 15-yard pass from quarterback Trey Casaburo to put JAT up 28-6 over the Eagles at the half.

In the second half, it was more Morken and a valiant Eagle effort. Morken finished off with an amazing four touchdowns for the day on a 9-yard scamper around end and St. John's scored twice in the last few minutes of the final quarter with a nice pass to Damian Brough (two scores). Brandon Volmerding had the other touchdown for the Eagles and Coach Jim Carroll reports that Tyrell Johnson stepped up and did a nice job as well.

Holy Cross (6-1) ended with a victory over St. John, New Haven. This sealed an outright second-place finish for the defending champs. The Crusaders will face QA/PB at Bishop Luers Field when post-season play begins on Sunday, Oct. 11. Also at Luers will be the fourth-place seed against the fifth. Bishop Dwenger will host the third-place team squaring off against the sixth-seed followed by the top-seeded St. Vincent Panthers against St. John, New Haven.

USF SOFTBALL TEAM EARNS NFCA ALL-ACADEMIC HONOR The University of Saint Francis softball team is one of 30 named to the 2008-09 National Fastpitch Coaches Association "Girls Got Game" All-Academic Teams list based on GPAs. Through this program, the NFCA honors high school and collegiate softball teams for their success in the classroom. This is the first such award for the Lady Cougars program according to head coach Ryan Bolyn. USF ranked No. 20 with a 3.238 GPA. "What an outstanding accomplishment for our team," Bolyn said about the award.

ICCL Saints, Panthers win Sunday games

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — It was a perfect fall Sunday; light wind, brisk chill in the air, the gentle rustling of the changing leaves and of course, Inter-City Catholic League football.

Four teams would take Otolski Field; some were searching for their first win, some were playing for second place in the standings, but all were laying it on the line trying to find the absolute right combinations for the upcoming playoffs.

The first game of the day slated the upstart West Side Catholic (Holy Family, St. Adalbert, Corpus Christi and St. John the Baptist) Cougars against defending ICCL Champion Mishawaka Catholic (St. Monica, St. Joseph, St. Bavo, Queen of Peace and St. Thomas) Saints.

The Cougars started the game with a very impressive drive, starting at their own 39, they drove the ball with the help of two fourth down and long conversions by quarterback Adam Gonzalez, but the luck would run out as the Saints' defense stymied a quarterback sneak at the line of scrimmage taking over on downs. The West Side Catholic drive took off the clock all but one play of the quarter.

The second quarter would be another story, the Saints were initially stopped by the formidable Cougars on downs, but the first turnover would be costly. The Saints' Jackson Powell would step in between a Gonzalez pitch and cradle the ball down to the Cougar 34-yard line. On the second play from scrimmage Joe Kavanaugh would find the end zone on a 30-yard jaunt. The points after kick was no good giving the Saints the lead 6-0 with 2:19 to go in the half.

Mishawaka Catholic would resort to some trickery as Charles Fletcher pounced on an onside's kick giving the Saints the ball back at the Cougar 49. Fletcher again would come up big as he took a handoff on a reverse for a 40-yard touchdown. The points after kick by Alex Schlemmer found its mark making the score, 14-0, with 44 seconds left in the half.

The West Side Catholic team tried to put the ball in the air and a number on the scoreboard but handed the Saints the ball back with time on the clock. This would prove costly as Joe Molner took a pitch and then threw a halfback pass into the waiting arms of Dominic Ravotto for a 27-yard quick strike touchdown. The kick missed but the damage was done as the Saints went to the locker room up, 20-0.

The Saints would take little time to get started in the third quarter as Joe Kavanaugh took the kick off and raced 70 yards down the sideline for another Mishawaka Catholic Score making it a 26-0 game.

The Saints would again add points on the board in the fourth quarter when Michael Voor would punch it in from the four and Dylan Konwinski would take the hand off on the point after try and make the score, 33-0.

The Cougars would not pack up the tents and put down their heads, Ryan Jankowski took a handoff and scampered 55 yards for a late score with Gonzalez finding his mark on the points after kick leaving the Saints triumphant, 33-8.

"We like to think that when we were down 16-0 last week against the St. Matthew Blazers and came back to tie, that it was our start to the next season," explained Tony Violi, Saints' head coach. "We had lost our first two games by a total of 10 points and needed to get

ready for the playoffs."

"Our offensive line played very well today — Kirk Barron, Anthony Piraccini, Jacob Appleman, Will Glasco and C.J. Holman," added Violi. "Our thoughts and concerns this week were with Kevin Sandor, head coach for the (St. Anthony, St. Joe, St. Pius) Panthers as he underwent open heart surgery. He is not only a great coach but a good man."

"Our goal has been to improve every week and we are accomplishing that," stressed West Side Catholic Coach Todd Lukens. "We really are emphasizing confidence in execution and the kids are starting to get it."

Blazers vs. Panthers

The second game of the day between the St. Matthew (St. Jude/Our Lady of Hungary) Blazers and the Panthers would be simply put as a shoot out. The Panthers would go on to win, 46-34.

"We had a great offensive effort, big kudos goes to our offensive line play," quipped interim Panther Coach Mike Carmola. "Now we need to put it all together for the upcoming playoffs."

"This is really Coach Sandor's team, the kids are playing for him and the staff is coaching for him," commented Carmola. "Some of our younger kids, like Billy Miller, Mitchel Nyers and Brock Marazita, came off the bench prepared and did a fine job."

"All and all, I was very pleased with our effort," explained Blazer Head Coach Mike Ernst. "We have to get back and work on the basics in preparation for the playoffs."

"Ottbridge, Sanders and Crockett all had a big day for us and did a good job of keeping us in the game," exclaimed Ernst. "The tackling has got to get better for us to be successful."

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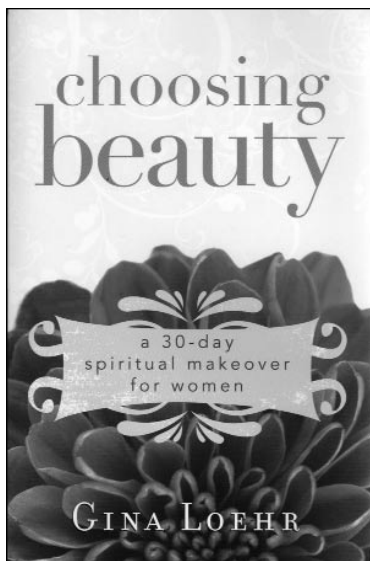
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New books for reading

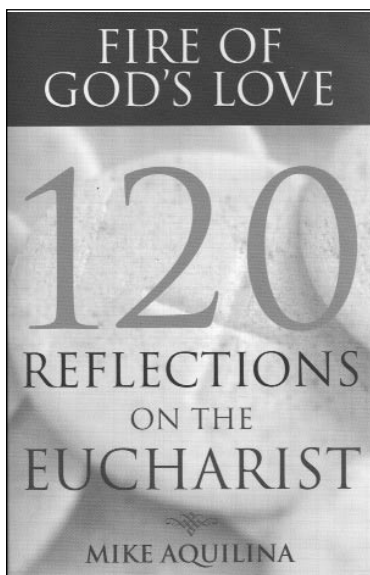
BY KAY COZAD

The following are recent releases that have been sent to *Today's Catholic*. Summaries were taken from press releases and include publisher and ISBN number.

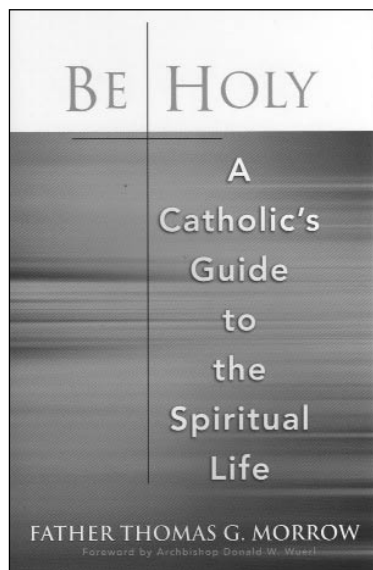
OCTOBER BOOKS



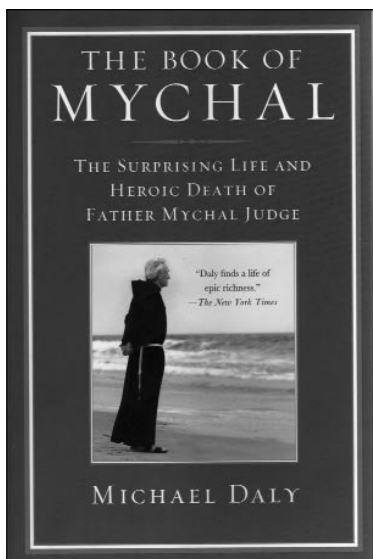
"Choosing Beauty: A 30-day Spiritual Makeover for Women," by Gina Loehr offers the idea that the best beauty routine starts from within as it guides the reader through an inner makeover aimed at living a life infused with the virtues. Each chapter contains prayer, reflection questions and suggested spiritual activity. This book would be ideal for a women's book study. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-921-8



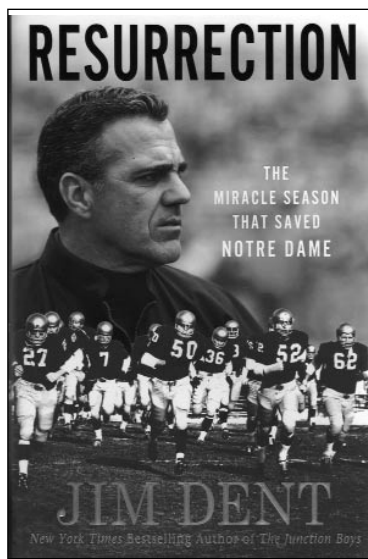
Mike Aquilina's **"Fire of God's Love: 120 Reflections on the Eucharist,"** is packed with inspirational quotes from saints, authors, popes and more that will enlighten and deepen the reader's understanding of the mystery of the Catholic Eucharist. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-923-2



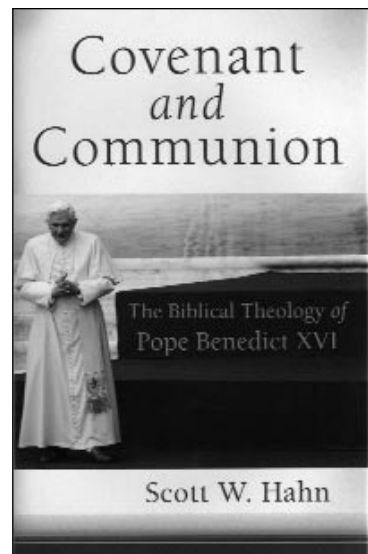
"Be Holy: A Catholic's Guide to the Spiritual Life," by Father Thomas G. Morrow is a manual for living a successful spiritual life. Elements from the Catholic faith including heaven, hell, prayer, penance, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, the fruits of the spirit and much more are investigated and enhanced with Scripture verses and quotes from holy men and women. This book can be a guide to achieve holiness in everyday life. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-878-5



"The Book of Mychal: The Surprising Life and Heroic death of Father Mychal Judge," by *Daily News* columnist Michael Daly recounts the story of this devout and sometimes controversial man, who stood beside his beloved firefighters at the Twin Towers on 9/11. The book explores the early years in Brooklyn through Judge's call to the priesthood. His tireless ministry to the homeless and needy are documented as well as his life as fire chaplain to the FDNY. St. Martin's Press, ISBN: 978-0-312-58744-4



"Resurrection: The Miracle that Saved Notre Dame," by Jim Dent offers the reader an intriguing look at one turnaround season that changed the history of Notre Dame football. After several years of losses a young Armenian-American man, Ara Parseghian, took over the head coach position and molded the team into champions. Read "Resurrection" to discover his secret to success. Thomas Dunne Books, ISBN: 978-0-312-56721-7



"Covenant and Communion: The Biblical Theology of Pope Benedict XVI" by eminent theologian and prolific author Scott Hahn offers a concise introduction to the biblical quality of work by the current pope. It shows how the pope reads and uses Scripture in theology, liturgy and Christian discipleship, and includes a Scripture reference. Brazos Press, ISBN: 978-1-58743-269-9

Diocesan history book review places the church in context of northern Indiana history

The following book review is a reprint from the *Catholic Historical Review*, 95, no. 3 published in July 2009.

"Worthy of the Gospel of Christ A History of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese and Catholic Life in Northern Indiana," By Joseph M. White. (Fort Wayne, IN: Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. 2007. Pp. xiv, 609. \$29.95 paperback. ISBN 978-1-5927&229-3.)

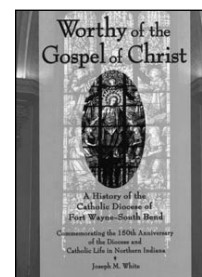
Many times, a diocesan history recounts the history of the bishops, the ecclesiastical superiors, the diocesan building development, and the major issues of the clergy and the important historical figures. Fortunately, this is not the type of history given to us here. Joseph White, noted historian and author of many works regarding

American Catholic history, has written the story of the Catholic Church in northern Indiana from the 17th century to the beginning of the 21st century. Between 1830 to 2007, we have the foundation of the Diocese of Fort Wayne in 1857 and the redesignation of the see to Fort Wayne-South Bend in 1960. White has placed the church in the broad context of north Indiana history: its people, its culture, its social relations, and its economic and political structures.

The historical account begins with the evangelization of the Native Americans, particularly the Pottawatami Indians through the efforts of Louis Deseille, Benjamin Petit, and the lay woman catechist Angelique Campeau. The beginning of the church began with the tragedy of the Native American people and their forcible removal from their homes. People are the center in White's panoramic view of the church, men and women, laypersons and missionaries, saints and the less saintly, among them St. Mother Theodore Guérin and the Sisters of Providence and Célestin de la Hailandière, the irascible bishop of Vincennes. The church of northern Indiana began with the migration of various Europeans into that area, especially after Indiana became a state in 1816. At first came the Germans and then the Irish, followed by the Poles, the Slovaks, the Italians, and the Hungarians at the beginning of the last century. The author weaves together the diversity of the church, the culture of the peoples, and the economic situation of the dioceses and of the ordinary people in the sections "Building a

Catholic Culture, 1872-1900" and "Dimensions of Catholic Culture, 1900-1924."

White avoids restricting the history to the bishops, but his portrait of John Luers, the first bishop of Fort Wayne — 1857-71 — is one of the best sections of the book. His portrait of Archbishop John Noll reveals the man with his achievements and his mistakes. Noll's support of Father Charles E. Coughlin, his support of the America First Committee, his naive sympathy for Hitler in the early '30s, and his opposition to labor movements are treated objectively in the section that also



recounts the bishop's remarkable life and work. In his preface, White points out that "recent Catholic historical scholarship" now seeks "an honesty that makes inevitable the disclosure of the negative along with the positive aspects of the past."

White has done so without bias or judgment.

At the very beginning of this work, the author reveals the paucity of archival resources. It seems that the archival records from the time of Brute to the administration of Noll have disappeared or have not been processed. Despite this, however, White "launched (into) the ... task of reading Catholic newspapers for articles that reveal the range of issues in diocesan life."

The sheer size of this study is daunting, but the details are handled very well. The number of ethnic groups in an area where so many Catholics from diverse countries are represented could not be exhaustive. For instance, details regarding the establishment of black parishes in South Bend and Gary during the Noll administration are not passed over. Nevertheless, it would have been interesting to point out more clearly the determination and faith of black Catholic laypersons who fought for a parish of their own. St. Augustine in South Bend was founded by African-Americans who were barely welcomed in the white parish church. Finally, this panoramic view of Catholicity in the northern part of Indiana should have been aided with a few maps and a bibliography besides the notes. No matter the suggestions, the historical work that White has given us is truly a work "worthy of the Gospel of Christ."

Reviewed by Father Cyprian Davis, OSB, from the St. Meinrad School of Theology. Reprinted with permission from the Catholic Historical Review.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Long term care seminar announced
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a free Long Term Care Seminar for St. Joseph and Elkhart counties Thursday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 553 E. Washington. Learn ways of preparing for and taking care of long term care expenses. Guest speaker will be Paul Ochs, FIC, CSA, CLTC, long term care specialist. Refreshments and snacks will be served. For information call Knights of Columbus at (574) 282-1082.

Living Healthier series sponsored by University of Saint Francis
Fort Wayne — The Living Healthier series continues Wednesday, Oct. 21, with "Impact on Wellness" by Jane Avery at 6:30 p.m. at the North Campus, 2702 Spring St. Doors open at 6 p.m. Refreshments and healthy snacks provided. Non-perishable food item donations accepted.

Archangel Institute invites Charles Rice
Fort Wayne — Dr. Charles Rice will speak Friday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. at the Rinehart Music Center on the campus of IPFW. His topic will be "The Constitution in the Age of Obama."

All Shook Up, a jukebox musical performed at University of Saint Francis
Fort Wayne — University of Saint Francis North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St., will host "All Shook Up," a jukebox musical Nov. 6, 7, 13 and 14 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 8 and 15 at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10. Tickets are half price for those who bring a bag of non-perishable food in support of USF Feeds the Fort.

University of Saint Francis professor to Demystify the Pope and the Vatican
Fort Wayne — Dr. Adam DeVille, assistant professor of theology at the University of Saint Francis, will lead a discussion on Demystifying the Pope and the Vatican on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St. This free public lecture is sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Theology and the School of Arts and Sciences of the University of Saint Francis. Light refreshments

will be served. For information, contact Angie Springer at (260) 399-8066 or aspringer@sf.edu.

FUNDRAISERS

Bewitching Halloween "Spookghetti" dinner and party
South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary Parish, 735 W. Calvert, will have a spookghetti dinner, catered by Fazoli's, Friday, Oct. 23, from 5-7:30 p.m. Party then continues until the bewitching hour. The gym will be transformed into a haunted dungeon for all you can devour spaghetti, fettuccine alfredo, salad, breadsticks and beverages. Tickets are presale \$8 or at the door \$10. Children are presale \$5 or at the door \$7. Children 4 and under are free. Tickets are encouraged to be purchased by Oct. 15. Call (574) 289-3272 or go to www.ourladyofhungary.org for a printable order form. Costume contest for all, treats for the little goblins and music and dancing.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Oct. 16, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic toast and coffee. Carry-out available.

Rummage and bake sale
New Haven — St. Louis Besancon Parish will have a rummage and bake sale Friday, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Spaghetti dinner benefits Women's Care Center
South Bend — The Our Lady of Good Hope K of C will have a spaghetti and meatballs dinner Saturday, Oct. 24, from 5-8 p.m. in the church hall. Choice of spaghetti and meatballs for \$7 or marinara for \$5. Children 5-12 \$3. Seconds of marinara included in prices above. Carry-out available.

Banquet for life planned
Fort Wayne — A banquet for life will be held Monday, Oct. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the Grand Wayne Center, 120 W. Jefferson Blvd. Keynote speakers will be Jill Stanek and U.S. Rep. Mark Souder. Tickets are \$40 by call-

ing (260) 471-1849 or visit ichooselife.org.

Octoberfest party
Granger — St. Pius X, 52553 Fir Rd., will have an Octoberfest Saturday, Oct. 10, from 7:30 p.m. 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.

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.

Pumpkin festival welcomes fall
Garrett — St. Joseph School will have a pumpkin festival Sunday, Oct. 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Carnival games, bake sale and raffles will be offered. A beef-and-noodle dinner will be \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children with carry-out available. For information call the school at (260) 357-5137.

St. Mary's Soup Kitchen fundraiser
Fort Wayne — St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, 1101 S. Lafayette St., will host music, dancing, 50/50, silent auction, karaoke, door prizes, food and beer, wine or pop for \$10 per person Saturday, Oct. 10, from 7:30-11 p.m. All proceeds benefit the soup kitchen.

Parish revival at St. Augustine
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish, 1501 W. Washington St., will hold a parish revival Friday-Sunday, Oct. 9-11 from 6:30-

REST IN PEACE

Auburn Charles W. Clifford, 75, Immaculate Conception	Betty L. Lavoncher, 74, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	South Bend Clifford Huff, 89, Corpus Christi
Bluffton George T. Winans, 95, St. Joseph	Virginia Bowers Needler, 99, St. John the Baptist	Mary Elizabeth Middleton, 66, Christ the King
Culver Eugene W. Riester, 88, St. Mary of the Lake	Jean M. Fremion, 86, Queen of Angels	Pauline B. Szymczak, 95, St. Adalbert
Elkhart Richard L. Hess, Sr., 84, St. Vincent de Paul	Barbara L. Buckley, 71, St. Charles Borromeo	Marie Brucker, 101, Sanctuary of St. Paul
Logan Ian West, 28, St. Vincent de Paul	Nancy Cittar, 90, St. Anne Home Chapel	John William Dietrich, 54, St. Catherine Siena at St. Jude
Fort Wayne Jim Coonan, 52, St. Vincent de Paul	Leila H. Heck, 82, Queen of Angels	Helen Theresa Papandria, 88, Our Lady of Hungary
Donald D. Beeler, 66, St. Vincent de Paul	Dominic J. Simone, 80, St. Patrick	James A. Dickey, 89, St. Patrick
Richard M. Kolash, 61, St. John the Baptist	Mishawaka Janet Barbara Bulgar, 85, St. Joseph	Eugene A. Keen, 83, Christ the King

8:30 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, and 10-noon Sunday. The revival theme is "Call to Forgiveness." The revival, free and open to the public, will feature the St. Augustine African Drum and Dance group, the St. Augustine Gospel Choir and a guest appearance from the University of Notre Dame Voices of Faith Gospel Choir. There will be opportunities for confession

on Saturday. For information, call (574) 234-7082 or (574) 707-1231, or visit www.saint-augustines.org.

Fish Fry
Fort Wayne — St. Therese Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Oct. 16, from 4:30-7 p.m. Tickets are adults \$8, children (5-12) \$4.50 and children under 5 eat free.



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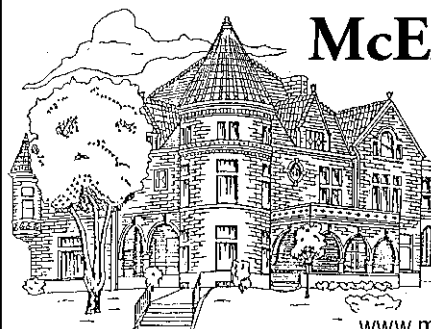
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Respect Life Sunday marked by Life Chain, Mid-way rally

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND, MISHAWAKA — Combining prayer and a visual witness, over 100 people lined South Bend's Ironwood Road Sunday, participating in the annual Life Chain sponsored by St. Joseph County Right to Life.

Men, women and children held signs promoting the culture of life. Many of those people clutched their rosaries as well, recognizing the power of prayer when it comes to converting people's hearts.

"The one thing we can offer these babies is prayer," explained Pat Sweeney, a parishioner from Mishawaka's St. Bavo Parish, taking part in her first Life Chain. "When we're faced with life challenges, follow the example of Mary. She said 'yes' and it wasn't easy, but it was worth it all."

Tom Gill, president of St. Joe County Right to Life and parishioner at Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend, said the Life Chain is not only a chance for people to talk with other pro-lifers, but to pray together about the issue. He says the Life Chain ties in well with another prayerful event, the 40 Days for Life vigil, currently underway.

"At St. Joseph County Right to Life, prayer has always been the most important thing we do," said Gill. "We do advocacy work and we also do education, and while

that may take up most of our time, if we didn't have prayer, those things wouldn't be effective. It's really prayer that makes it all work. It's a combination of everything, but without prayer, nothing happens."

Many Life Chain participants headed to Marian High School for the 40 Days for Life Mid-Way Rally. Organized by Serra Club President Dick Dornbos and moderated by WHME-TV's Chuck Freeby, the rally featured a video and music from Marian High School students. Those were followed by a variety of talks that covered everything from the early feminist movement being inherently pro-life to the very real show-down we have with Satan.

"Scripture says there is nothing new under the sun," reminded Father Bob Lengerich, associate pastor at St. Pius X Parish in Granger. "The battle we are fighting in these 40 Days for Life is the same battle that has been raging ever since Satan was expelled."

Father Lengerich reminded the crowd our Catholic faith gives us hope. He said despite the devil trying to take as many souls with him to hell, Jesus has a plan.

"Most of all, Satan envies Mary and all women," continued Father Lengerich, "because God gave these blessed creatures something Satan will never have. ... First, a spirit of humility. Second, the power of love. And if you combine



DIANE FREEBY

Rob Fox and his wife Debbie, not pictured, are the parents of six children, including two with special needs. They were horrified when a doctor advised them to abort their youngest child because she was expected to be born with severe health problems, if she was born at all. After much prayer and intercession, the Fox's were blessed with a healthy daughter. The doctor had no explanation as to how the baby survived her dire prognosis. Rob, pictured here with daughters Lauren, Samantha and Kaelyn, says his family prays together and regularly participates in the Life Chain and other pro-life events. "We come to get the message out that we need to fight for life," he explained. "We need to get the message out to as many people as we can, and to pray for them."

those, the ability to bring new life into the world. The devil can never do that. And so in his envy, he vowed, 'If I can't have these gifts, no one can have these gifts!' And he's been attacking life ever since

Adam and Eve ... but he will not prevail!"

Unveiling a large portrait of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Father Lengerich said we need look no farther than to Mary, the mother of

Our Lord.

He said, "She unites all things in herself. She brings us life through her Son. (After she appeared to Mexican peasant, St. Juan Diego in 1531) The Aztecs stopped sacrificing their children immediately, and pretty much overnight, 15 million of them converted to the true faith of Christianity."

Other speakers featured at the rally included co-directors of the Office of Family Life, Fred and Lisa Everett. They addressed the judicial system and the history of the feminist movement with its inherently pro-life roots. Dr. Laura McGuire, M.D., a member of the Catholic Medical Association, discussed the scientific evidence of life beginning at conception and the role media plays in distorting the truth. Dr. David Solomon, PhD, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, took on the idea of a middle ground on the abortion issue. A few months removed from the controversy surrounding Notre Dame's invitation and honoring of President Barack Obama, Dr. Solomon explained why there is no such thing as a "middle ground."

Local organizers for 40 Days for Life hope to post text from all the talks given on their Web site at www.40daysforlife.com/south-bend.



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JUDY BRADFORD

Father Jim Kendzierski blesses the entire crowd gathered for the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

BLESSING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

or tornadoes, as a source of comfort to victims, and to aid in communication with victims. The statewide organization has a certification procedure and works with police and other first responders.

But most of the pets and their owners were there to socialize and be blessed. It was the first time for Solow, a 10-year-old Dachshund and his owner, Mary Mac Donald.

"Maybe this will help his behavior," she joked.

Barbara Bronson, a member of St. Monica Church in Mishawaka, brought Cookie, her 4-year-old Shih Tzu, after reading about the upcoming event in *Today's Catholic*. She showed everyone how the dog "prays" by standing on his hindlegs and putting his forelegs together. "He's God's little creature," said Bronson.

In a mass blessing to all the creatures, great and small, Father Kendzierski prayed that they would always be kept happy and healthy.