



Family life

Adopted members
of God's family

Pages 11-13

Saint Joseph's High School

Bishop D'Arcy
writes statement

Page 3

Healthcare reform

Bishops voice concerns
to Congress

Pages 4, 5 and 14

Service and St. Francis

The Franciscan Center
celebrates 20 years

Page 9

Spiritual dryness

Sharing Faith

Page 10



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

We are all called to be saints

Fort Wayne area schools gather for Mass at coliseum

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — "We are all called to be saints." This was the opening remark of Bishop John M. D'Arcy in his welcome at the 2009 all-schools Mass for Fort Wayne and the surrounding area at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Nov. 4.

For many years now, students from the Catholic grade schools join together at the coliseum for this special tradition. Fourth graders from each of the schools dress as their favorite saint and are honored guests on the main floor while the rest of the grades are assigned by school in the upper sections.

Students from Bishop Luers High School served as the choir and traffic patrol, while the grade schools were represented in the Mass as servers, lector or gift bearers.

As he began his homily, Bishop D'Arcy addressed the students on the floor, asking what grade they were in. All responded, "Fourth-grade."

He continued, "What are you dressed as?" And then he asked, "What is a saint?"

Various answers sparked more discussion before he called an assortment of young people to his side on the stage dressed to honor St. Vincent de Paul, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Helena, St. Henry and St. Isidore.

Bishop D'Arcy explained, "Ordinary people are called to be saints if we do everything for God." He added, "Jesus calls each one of us to be holy, joyful."

Bishop D'Arcy good-naturedly joked with St. Isidore the Farmer, but he was corrected by the young student from St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, who informed the bishop that he was St. Isidore of Seville, who was not a farmer but a bishop and wrote encyclopedias.

SAINTS, PAGE 20



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Bishop John M. D'Arcy calls fourth-grade student "saints" from the congregation during his homily at the all-school Mass held Nov. 4 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum to answer questions like, "When do we first receive the grace to become a saint?" In the photo, from left, are students honoring St. Vincent de Paul from St. Vincent School, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Helena and St. Henry, all from St. Mary School, Avilla; and St. Isidore of Seville from St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne.

Seven diocesan priests awarded title of 'Monsignor'

FORT WAYNE — Bishop John M. D'Arcy has announced that Pope Benedict XVI, has conferred the title of "Chaplain to His Holiness" ("Monsignor") on the following priests in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend:

Cathedral rectors

- Rev. Robert C. Schulte, rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and vicar general/cancellor of the diocese and moderator of the curia.
- Rev. Michael W. Heintz, Ph.D., rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend.



FATHER
RAYMOND BALZER

Major offices

- Rev. Bruce J. Piechocki, JCL, judicial vicar, director of the marriage tribunal.
- Rev. Bernard J. Galic, director of vocations office.

Pastors

The same honor has been granted by the Holy Father to the pastors of the two largest parishes in the diocese:

- Rev. John M. Kuzmich, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Rev. William C. Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger.

Senior priest

The same honor has been given by the

MSGRS., PAGE 20

YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



FATHER CYRIL FERNANDES

"When I was a youngster, there were two outstanding individuals whose influence led me to the

priesthood. They were my pastor at St. Michael Church in Bellare, Father Arthur D'Souza, and my uncle, Father Camilus R. Prabhu, who is now the vicar general in the

YEAR OF, PAGE 5

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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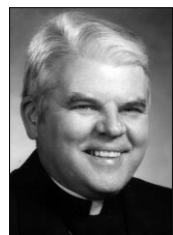
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Bishop talks about priesthood at Catechetical Institute Day



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Concerning catechists and the priesthood

One of the great events each year, which I cherish, is the meeting of catechists held at Wawasee Middle School at a halfway point between our two major cities. I was asked this year to give the keynote on a subject dear to my heart; namely, the priesthood in honor of the Year for Priests. So there I was, on a lovely November morning heading north on Route 13, hoping to be there by the opening at 8 a.m.

Inside, a new and welcome sight. A large group of people lining up to seek the help of Enid Roman-De Jesus, director of our Ministry to Hispanic Catholics. Enid was giving out earphones for those who needed translation from English into Spanish, since the bishop of the diocese does not yet speak Spanish (one of my three goals after retirement is to learn Spanish). At any rate, what a joy it was that almost half of the 380 people in attendance were from our Spanish speaking parishes. They came from St. John's, Goshen; St. Vincent's, Elkhart; St. Patrick, Fort Wayne; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw, and other parishes.

I began my talk with some words taken from a two-part article that I used years ago in a class I gave at St. John Seminary. It was the time of the hyphenated priest and priestly identity. I found these two articles by Joseph Ratzinger, who is now Pope Benedict XVI. He ran an end run around the superficial discussions of the day, and placed the priesthood in the personal call of Jesus Christ to the apostles, which he gave after spending a night in prayer. Here is how Joseph Ratzinger, at that time archbishop of Munich, placed the core of the vocation of the priests.

"Spiritual office in the church rests on the existential posture of the servant who has learned how to allot second place to his own will in favor of the will of the person to whom he belongs."

This great theologian roots priesthood in a personal call

I then spoke about the priesthood of Christ, the priesthood as shared in by all the baptized and the role of the ministerial priests. Pope John Paul II says in another place that the whole church needs to have clearly in mind the understanding of the ministerial priesthood. Indeed, the vocation of the laity can only flourish with priests who are fully committed to their own call, and who have heard the call of Christ clearly, and are trying to live it every day.

Our people know this, and I was delighted with their interest in this topic. Later,

after a brief question and answer session, I celebrated Mass for almost 400 catechists from all over our diocese.

New pastor for St. Francis

Up again early the next morning, heading west, and stopping first at St. Francis Xavier, Pierceton. It was too long since I had been to this parish, but this was a very joyful day. It was the installation of Father Dale Bauman as pastor of St. Francis Parish. This is a tiny parish, about 120 families, but a place with great joy. I was pleased to hear their gratitude for the 15 years service of Father Bruce Piechocki (I should say Msgr. Piechocki). How delighted they were when I announced at the brunch following the Mass that Bruce Piechocki was now Msgr. Piechocki. I was especially delighted to be reminded that this tiny parish now has a seminarian. Chris Sindelar, whose parents I met, is, I think, the first vocation from St. Francis, Pierceton, in many years, and perhaps the first ever.

What a joyful spirit here. You can see why they love this small parish. Everyone knows each other. Especially heartwarming was to see how delighted they were with their new pastor, Father Dale Bauman. He has been very well received. Father Bauman is pastor of St. Francis, Pierceton, but also an associate pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

A long day ahead

With my friend, Chris Lapp, in the driver's seat, we went on to my delightful little apartment among the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, in Mishawaka. But there was work still to do.

I celebrated Sunday evening Mass at 9:15 p.m. at Saint Mary's College. I used to do a lot of these when I first came to the diocese, at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's. Not so many of these late night Sunday Masses now, but this one I never miss. It was a full church, and I was delighted to preach and meet so many of the young women.

Afterwards I had a discussion, a question and answer session with about 30 young women. Excellent questions about women's role in the church, the teaching of theology, and so much else. The discussion did not end until 11:30 p.m. Two long days, but delightful and joyful. Days like this, and there have been so many, I will always cherish.

Concerning our high schools

A good number of our seminarians and young priests have come out of our four Catholic high schools. It is for this reason that I recently went to each of these schools and spoke with the principal and staff about assigning priests. After consulting with priests who served in our high schools, I was especially anxious that the priests assigned to the high schools not only be available for confessions and Mass, but also teach in the classrooms on a regular basis.

So I am happy to share with you the priests who have received this special mission.

Saint Joseph's High School — Father Bob Lengerich

Marian High School — Father Jacob

Runyon

Bishop Dwenger High School — Father Anthony Steinacker and Father Jason Freiburger

Bishop Luers High School — Father David Ruppert, Father Drew Curry and Father Larry Kramer

With the presence of these priests on a regular basis in each high school, it is my hope that many young men seeing their example, and especially meeting them in the classroom, will consider the priesthood.

The closeness of a priest

Placing these priests in our high schools is not only for the fostering of vocation to the priesthood, but for establishing clearly on this Year for the Priest the beautiful gift of the parish priest and what it means to all our people.

About monsignors and papal knights

Our diocese is very honored by Pope Benedict XVI naming seven priests to be Chaplains to His Holiness, under the title of monsignors.

Of special note is the appointment of the Holy Father of Professor John Cavadini, chair of the theology department at the University of Notre Dame as a Knight of St. Gregory.

As far as I know, this is the first papal knighthood declared in this diocese in many, many years, in fact, it may be the first in the history of the diocese.

It honors Professor Cavadini for his study of Catholic theology, his recruiting of outstanding theologians for the theology faculty at Notre Dame, and his assistance at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a consultant to the Doctrine Committee. John and his wife, Nancy, are members of St. Matthew's Cathedral Parish in South Bend. They have seven children and two grandchildren. It is my hope and intention that we can have an evening prayer service at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, blessing these seven priests and this dedicated theologian.

Such honors bring all of us closer to the Successor of Peter into the universal church.

The sports report

So a reluctant tip of the hat to the New York Yankees who surely are the best team in baseball.

But the final word on another season goes, as it does every year, to A. Bartlett Giamatti. A distinguished scholar of medieval literature, when elected president of Yale, he said, "The only president I wanted to be was president of the American League." His fitting words follow.

"It breaks your heart. It is designed to break your heart. The game begins in the spring, when everything else begins again, and it blossoms in the summer, filling the afternoons and evenings, and then as soon as the chill rains come, it stops and leaves you to face the fall alone. You count on it, rely on it to buffer the passage of time, to keep the memory of sunshine and high skies alive, and then just when the days are all twilight, when you need it most, it stops."

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Concerning Saint Joseph's High School relocation, renovation campaign

BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Today, I wish to present the South Bend community, but more especially, to the family of Saint Joseph's High School, my decision about the future of this school.

Why has this taken so long? This decision required many consultations. The building of a new high school at what is now the location of Saint Joseph Medical Center, so graciously offered to the diocese by the hospital, is quite attractive in some ways and yet presents many concerns.

Is it right to spend so much money on one institution? What are the ramifications of a decision? The bishop must be a good steward and cannot allow the financing of a totally new school building to be so excessive that it can only be accomplished by increasing tuition, so that a beautiful new school is built on the backs of families.

Indeed, I have to keep in mind my successor, and must not place an undue burden on him. The appointment of a new bishop cannot be too far away. I have made it clear that he will need to review this decision and, indeed, it will be his obligation to do so. But I always believed that, in light of my long tenure here, I had the obligation of making a firm decision while still bishop.

Is it right to leave this beautiful property in the midst of one of the finest settings of Catholic higher education in the world? Also, there was the consideration which needs to be given to Marian High School. The diocese is committed, and I am committed, to two excellent high schools in the Michiana area. All four of our diocesan high schools have achieved exemplary status according to the standards of the State of Indiana. We continue to be committed to four excellent high schools and to our large elementary school system, all achieved without benefit of tax funds.

It was also important to take into account the keen desire of many of the Saint Joseph's High School family to proceed with the possibility of a new school building on a different site. Saint Joe, like Marian and our two Fort Wayne high schools, has a great tradition — Catholic, academic, cultural and athletic.

Also, it was necessary to take into account, the intense interest of the wider community of South Bend in such a project, including the University of Notre Dame. I have shared these concerns over many months with an ever-widening circle of educators, pastors, parents and others.

I have met with parents: with the Saint Joseph's High School board; with the Saint Joseph's High School faculty; with officials at the University of Notre Dame; with the Brothers of Holy Cross; members of the Marian High School board and faculty members at Marian High; the Council of Priests in the diocese, which is the major consulting body of the bishop, and also with the Diocesan Finance Council as required by canon law.

The Marian High School board had already advised me in a meeting with board members, the principal, Carl Loesch, and the faculty that I should do what I thought was best and right for Catholic

secondary education in the South Bend area. Indeed, Marian is also considering a fund-raising effort, though on a much smaller scale.

On Aug. 13, we held a major meeting here with representatives of all these groups and others.

At this Aug. 13th meeting, the proposal was made that the Saint Joseph community be given permission from the bishop to see if it was able to raise the funds necessary to build a new school on the site of the Saint Joseph Medical Center within a certain timeframe; and if this proved not to be possible, that there be a fallback position which would be the restoration/renewal of the present building, also including some new construction. After prayer and further consultation, I have accepted this proposal with certain restrictions to preserve the fiscal integrity of the diocese and of Saint Joseph's High School. Here are some of those conditions.

1. The cost of new construction must be raised — \$35.5 million. The interest on any loans needed during construction must also be pledged. At the time construction begins, a reserve of 3 percent of outstanding pledges must also be funded so total pledges realized cover the total cost of the project.

2. Saint Joseph's High School must be debt free to begin construction. Saint Joseph's currently has a debt to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, on which they are paying.

3. This new school must accommodate at least 850 students.

4. The construction must be of a quality that is acceptable to a Diocesan Review Committee.

5. Pledges must be paid over three years, while larger pledges (\$200,000 or more) may be paid over five years.

6. The selection of the professional consulting fund-raising firm will be made by the diocese.

7. The cost of the professional consultants must be raised with the campaign.

8. Fundraising must be complete by June 2011, which includes 15 months of actual fundraising (December 2009 through July 2010 and December 2010 thru June 2011).

9. The diocese does not allow any other fundraising during the time of the Annual Bishop's Appeal, which is Aug. 1 through Dec. 1 of each year.

10. Cash-on-hand needs to be \$26,625,000 before construction can begin. This is in concert with diocesan requirements for any building: 75 percent must have been received in cash and the rest in pledges before construction can begin. A construction loan may need to be financed outside of the diocese, for example, by the Knights of Columbus or similar entities. The Knights of Columbus has recently assisted in financing the building of St. Pius X School, Granger, and also Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne.

If these criteria and conditions are not entirely and completely met, planning for restoration and new construction at the current site will begin. Donors who have pledged for new construction at the new site will be contacted to ascertain if their pledge can be used for a restoration/new construction project at the current site.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Pope confers title of Monsignor

Bishop John M. D'Arcy announced that the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has conferred the title of "Chaplain to His Holiness" ("Monsignor") on the following priests.

Cathedral rectors

- Rev. Robert C. Schulte, rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and vicar general/chancellor of the diocese and moderator of the curia.

- Rev. Michael W. Heintz, Ph.D., rector of St. Matthew's Cathedral, South Bend.

Major offices

- Rev. Bruce J. Piechocki, JCL, judicial vicar, director of Marriage Tribunal

- Rev. Bernard J. Galic, director of vocations office

Pastors

The same honor has been granted by the Holy Father to the pastors of the two largest parishes in the diocese.

- Rev. John M. Kuzmich, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.

- Rev. William C. Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger.

Senior priest

The same honor has been given to one of our retired priests.

- Rev. Raymond J. Balzer, former pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne; Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn; and St. Rose of Lima, Monroeville. Father Balzer resides at Saint Anne's Home.

In honoring these seven priests in the Year for Priests, Bishop D'Arcy said, "We receive these honors with gratitude to our Holy Father. In the Year for Priests, the Holy Father has honored our diocese and all priests who serve here."

He added, "Let us pray that through this Year for Priests all our priests will be sanctified and that more young men of good quality will join us in this demanding, but beautiful vocation."

The pope honors a distinguished theologian

Freedom of research, which the academic community rightly holds most precious, means an openness to accepting the truth that emerges at the end of an investigation, which no element has intruded that is foreign to the methodology corresponding to the object under study.

In theology, this freedom of inquiry is the hallmark of a rational discipline whose object is given by revelation, handed on and interpreted in the church under the authority of the magisterium and received by faith. — Instruction on the Ecclesial Vocation of the Theologian Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, May 24, 1990.

With joy, I am pleased to announce that in addition to conferring honors on seven diocesan priests, Pope Benedict XVI has conferred a high papal honor on a man who has devoted his life to the study and teaching of the theology. He has been teacher to priests; and to doctoral students; and undergraduates; and to the children, which God has given to him and his wife, Nancy.

Professor John Cavadini has always seen theology as linked to the church and to the life of faith. He sees himself as under the Word of God and in communion with the church. He is what is called a patristic theologian; that is, a student of the Fathers of the Church. He has been instrumental in the renewal and strengthening of the Department of Theology at Notre Dame. He has presented talks on the Catechism of the Catholic Church to priests and catechists. He has drawn the bishops from across the country to seminars in this diocese, first at Notre Dame on "Dei Verbum" — the Constitution on Revelation on the Second Vatican Council.

He has organized retreats for bishops, and organized and presented a seminar on preaching to the bishops of this country at the Franciscan Sisters in Mishawaka. In an age when some theology is ever more necessary for the life of the church, Professor Cavadini has avoided the trendy and the superficial. This is only fitting, since it is especially St. Augustine, that great Western father that remains the inspiration for his life of study and teaching.

Conferral of this papal honor brings honor to our diocese, to Notre Dame, and to theologians.

I am pleased to announce this honor, and it is most fitting that it is made at the same time that seven of our priests are honored by the Holy Father.

The Order of the Knights of St. Gregory the Great, which was established in 1831 by Pope Gregory XVI, is one of the five pontifical orders of knighthood in the Catholic Church and is bestowed on Catholic men in recognition of their service to the church, support of the Holy See, and the good example set in their communities. It is a charge to further carry their Christian principles into the professional, educational, and business worlds.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Concerning the Stupak Amendment

I would like to thank all those in our parishes who responded to our alerts on healthcare reform. Due to your calls and e-mails, joined by those of Catholics across the country, a significant pro-life victory was won on the House floor this past Saturday, Nov. 7. An amendment known as the Stupak Amendment was passed, which significantly restricts the use of federal funds for abortion as part of healthcare reform. All the Congressmen who represent portions of our diocese — Democrat Joe Donnelly and Republicans Mark Souder, Dan Burton and Mike Pence — voted in favor of this amendment. Joe Donnelly, in particular, is to be thanked for joining 39 other pro-life Democrats in the House in demanding an up or down vote on the House floor as a condition of voting in favor of any healthcare reform bill. To express your thanks to these representatives and to ask that they vote against any future legislation that does not contain these restrictions, you may call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or e-mail them at www.house.gov.

Bishop D'Arcy honored at Catechetical Institute Day

BY DENISE FEDOROW

SYRACUSE — It's traditional during the Catechetical Institute Day, which was held Nov. 7 at Wawasee Middle School in Syracuse, for an exemplary catechist to receive the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Award. This year the recipient was Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

Sister Jane Carew, former director of the Office of Catechesis, along with current director Jim Tighe made the presentation.

"Today we want to give it to you, in grateful thanksgiving for being our chief shepherd, for your steadfast teaching of the faith and for helping us grow, especially in the last year, in love and admiration for our first Indiana saint — St. Mother Theodore Guérin," Sister Carew said.

The bishop was presented with



DENISE FEDOROW

Bishop John D'Arcy was given the St. Mother Theodore Guérin award this year at the Catechetical Institute Day and was presented with a beautiful book of Gospels.

a "beautiful book of Gospels to use however you wish." Sister Carew said the special book had been saved for the bishop and she added, "Today is the perfect day as we thank God for the gift of our priests. Your constant encouragement for our Hispanic brothers and sisters, who make up half of those attending today, shows the great growth that has taken place."

Keynote Address

The theme for this year's Catechetical Institute Day was "Celebrating the Gift of Priesthood." Bishop D'Arcy was the keynote speaker. He told the approximately 380 attendees that this was the first time in history that it was ever declared the year for priests.

He emphasized "for" priests not "of" the priest, saying it was an important distinction as it was a year for the priests humility, sanctification, becoming more holy, offer more service and more love for Jesus Christ.

"When we understand the role of the priest, we better understand our own calling," he said.

"The parish priest, in my opinion, is the summit of priesthood," Bishop D'Arcy said. "They deal with the sick, teens, babies, weddings and funerals — the full spectrum."

The bishop said Pope Benedict in one of his writings before becoming pope, placed the root of priesthood in the call of the apostles. According to Scripture Jesus called the apostles by name. He decided who would follow him and he called them to be with him and to be sent out.

"The priest, bishop and deacon must hear that call," he said.

Bishop D'Arcy shared his own struggle, saying he was sure he wanted to be a priest but was concerned whether it was an authentic call from Christ. "Once a person accepts that call through grace there comes a peace and you're able to give everything to Jesus Christ."

The bishop said Jesus Christ was a priest and victim; he trans-

formed the priesthood by his acceptance of the will of God and he said that's the sacrifice God wants from us.

"We're joined to Christ's priesthood by doing his will," he said.

"The vocation of priesthood is not like hiring of employees. It comes from prayer. The prayers of young men, of parents, the pastor and the parish," Bishop D'Arcy said. "Teach your children to pray — if a young person has dialogue with God they will realize their vocation."

Bishop D'Arcy told attendees, "We've learned it's more important to have good priests, not many priests. A good quality priest is an instrument of vocation."

The bishop reminded his audience that no one can speak the homily but a priest, bishop or deacon who've been trained and ordained. "Without a priest we don't have the Eucharist, we don't have the word of God and we don't have confessions."

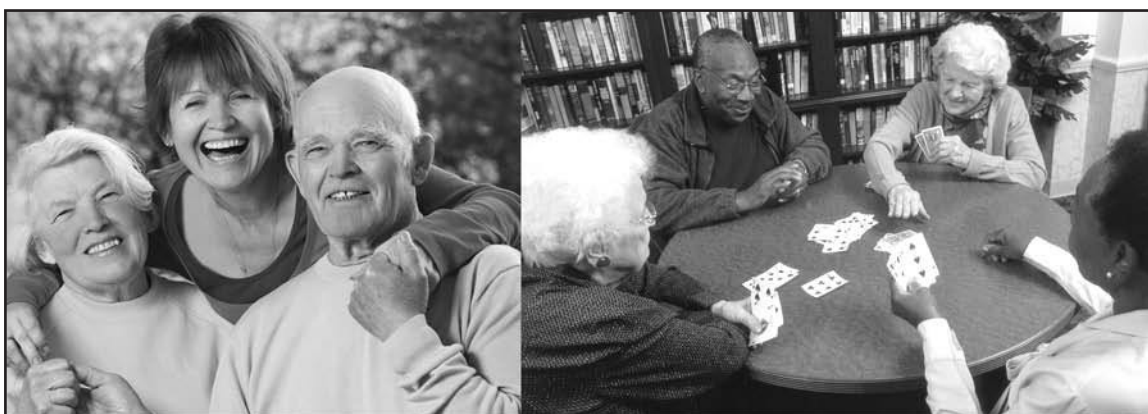
He spoke of the importance of the laity in encouraging vocations and faith formation.

"It's the witness value — people today listen to witnesses, not teachers. If they listen to teachers it's because they're also witnesses."

"Priesthood is the love of the heart of Christ. Jesus Christ is the good shepherd and his promise was, 'I will not leave you orphans.' That's what the parish priest is for."

In closing the bishop said, "If we want lay people to flourish in ministry to the church, it cannot be opposed to priesthood. A parish will only flourish when the pastor is devoted to ministry of the lay people."

The Bishop Luers choir sang during Mass and during the homily Bishop D'Arcy spoke of the "new evangelization," saying the message is the same, it's the method that is new, using television and computers and new in ardor and also new in the mindset that every place is missionary — the places where we work and play, not just foreign countries.



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Successful inclusion of abortion ban spells success for health bill

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the end, the successful battle to include strict language prohibiting funding for abortions, led by pro-life congressional Democrats with the strong support of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is what made the difference in the Nov. 7 House vote to pass a sweeping healthcare reform bill.

In a rare Saturday night vote, the House approved the Affordable Health Care for America Act 220-215, moving the legislation on to the Senate, which was expected to take up debate on its own healthcare bill later in November.

Key to passing the bill was the approval of an amendment by Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., to prohibit the use of federal funds to pay for abortion, including barring abortion coverage from insurance plans which consumers purchase on their own using government subsidies. The USCCB and other pro-life organizations had threatened to oppose any final bill that did not include such provisions.

The final bill fell short of another element pushed strongly by the church in recent weeks. It would bar people who are in the country illegally from receiving any government assistance to get health coverage. The U.S. bishops

also had urged that the legislation allow all immigrants access to the healthcare system, regardless of legal status.

What the bill does do is expand health insurance to an estimated 30 million people who currently lack coverage, meaning an estimated 96 percent of Americans would have access to more affordable health care.

Various news sources reported on the last-minute, behind-the-scenes negotiations among House leaders — and Catholic bishops and their staff.

When Stupak's amendment was allowed to come to the floor, it was approved by a vote of 240-194, with the support of many Republicans who did not ultimately vote for the final bill.

Only one Republican voted for the overall bill, Rep. Anh "Joseph" Cao of Louisiana, a

Catholic and former Jesuit seminarian who was elected in December 2008 to fill a vacancy.

In a statement, Stupak, a Catholic who has spoken many times of his often lonely role as a pro-life Democrat in Congress, focused not on his successful abortion amendment, but on the overall bill, which he called the most significant reform to government and private health insurance programs since Medicare and Medicaid were created in 1965.

Key to passing the bill was the approval of an amendment by Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., to prohibit the use of federal funds to pay for abortion ...

YEAR of our PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Diocese of Jamshepur in North India," says Father Cyril Fernandes.

Another who had profound influence in Father Cyril's life was Mother Teresa, whom he knew personally. Father Cyril recalls that her life in imitation of Christ had precise experiences matching those of our savior right down to being spat upon and caring for lepers and doing it for the love of God because she could see the face of Christ in those who suffered.

Father Cyril was himself a missionary when he was a seminarian at St. Albert Seminary in Ranchi and was ordained as a priest in 1978, fully expecting to minister to the faithful in India for his lifetime.

And that is the way his service to others began. After receiving degrees in education, for five years he was vice principal of a school and then became principal of a public school. In India, it is not unusual for priests to be administrators in the public school system.

Then came one of those unexpected turns in the road of life that brought Father Cyril to the United States, because priests were needed here.

His first assignment in the Diocese of Fort Wayne South Bend was at St. Patrick Parish in Arcola, where he spent eight and a half years before moving to his present assignment at St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne. There he serves a large parish and school on a solo basis.

Although his schedule sometimes calls for him to say four Masses in one day, Father Cyril never tires of "that beautiful moment of offering the Mass." As an aside, he admits that rolling out at 6:30 a.m. calls for a

bracer of self discipline.

He enjoys preaching and reveals that when, in his homilies, he instructs others to do right, he directs his remarks inwardly as well as to the congregation, "because I need help as much as they do!"

This priest, this former school principal, who has a master's degree in school administration from Indiana University-Purdue University of Fort Wayne, sees youth seduced by toys, technology and television when their sharper focus should be on kindness, goodness, charity and the beauty and goodness of God.

The appreciation for these virtues must be provided by a good family life and the example of priests and faculty members. Fortunately and by the grace of God, these elements are present, but must be cultivated at every opportunity with a prayerful appeal for increased abundance of such gifts from the Almighty.



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Chaplain describes 'total chaos' after Fort Hood shootings

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Two months into his new posting as an on-call chaplain at the United States' largest Army base, Father Ed McCabe had the longest day of his military chaplaincy. Father McCabe was 10 minutes into a weekly chaplain staff meeting at Fort Hood when the clergy got word of the shooting spree taking place at the base. "We ended the staff meeting and came to the hospital and that's where we stayed," Father McCabe said, "because that's where the wounded were. And then I went over to the crime scene to comfort the people who were there." Of the 13 who died in the shooting, Father McCabe said he anointed 11. He said he didn't have time to anoint the 30 wounded. "No, not really other than just a quick prayer. It was total chaos," Father McCabe said. "I was actually on call when the incident took place — actually not too far from my office, the crime scene site," Father McCabe told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview from Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas, Nov. 6, the day after the rampage. Maj. Nidal M. Hasan, 39, a psychiatrist on the base, was suspected to be the sole gunman, who emptied two handguns in the attack. He was wounded, placed into custody and hospitalized.

Maine voters reject gay marriage; Catholics win two governor races

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Maine voters Nov. 3 rejected same-sex marriage, overturning a marriage equality law passed in May. But in Washington state, it appeared that a referendum to uphold a law granting same-sex domestic partners the same rights as married spouses would be narrowly approved, 51 percent to 49 percent. The referendum had been opposed by Washington's Catholic bishops. The bishops also had opposed an initiative that would have limited government spending growth to inflation plus population growth, with excess revenue used to reduce property taxes. Voters, siding with Catholic and other faith leaders, rejected it by a 5-to-4 margin. The religious leaders warned the initiative would have cut human services and made the state's recession permanent. In Maine after vote totals were announced on the same-sex marriage law, Bishop Richard J. Malone, head of the statewide Portland Diocese, said: "I want to thank the people of Maine for protecting and reaffirming their support for marriage as it has been understood for millennia by civilizations and religions around the world." Republicans won the two governor's races up for grabs in 2009. In Virginia, voters elected a governor whose pro-life views had come under fire from his opponent. Bob McDonnell, a Catholic, won with nearly 60 percent of the vote over his Democratic rival, R.

NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. DEACON TALKS WITH MEDIA ABOUT MIRACLE



CNS PHOTO/MARCIN MAZUR, COURTESY CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

U.S. Deacon Jack Sullivan speaks to British journalists as Archbishop Vincent Nichols of Westminster looks on in London Nov. 9. Deacon Sullivan recounted in detail how he was inexplicably cured from a severe spinal disorder after he recited a short prayer to Cardinal John Henry Newman, a 19th century theologian and convert to Catholicism who will be beautified May 2 at the Birmingham Oratory.

Creigh Deeds. In New Jersey, incumbent Democrat Jon Corzine was ousted in a three-way race. The Republican, Chris Christie, a Catholic, won with 49 percent of the vote to Corzine's 43 percent. Chris Daggett, an independent, saw his double-digit support melt away in the campaign's waning days and wound up with 6 percent.

U.S. Anglican-Catholic consultation welcomes Vatican action

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Vatican's Oct. 20 announcement on the creation of personal ordinariates for Anglicans who want to be in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church was among the topics discussed during the 66th meeting of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Theological Consultation in the United States. The gathering Oct. 26-27 at the Washington Retreat House welcomed the Vatican's action to reach out to Anglicans who wish to enter the Catholic Church while "preserving elements of the distinctive Anglican spiritual and liturgical patrimony." Members from both churches also examined immigration reform in the United States and discussed Pope John Paul II's 1993 encyclical "Veritatis Splendor" ("The Splendor of Truth"), which outlined fundamental elements of Catholic moral teaching. The meeting marked the third round of the dia-

logue considering the theme "Ecclesiology and Moral Discernment: Common Ground and Divergences." In particular, members of the consultation welcomed the Catholic Church's acknowledgment of a substantial overlap in faith and the legitimacy of many Anglican traditions. They said the recognition comes from more than 40 years of official dialogue between the two churches.

Suspect charged in connection with murder of Blessed Sacrament nun

GALLUP, N.M. (CNS) — Authorities have charged an 18-year-old man in connection with the death of Blessed Sacrament Sister Marguerite Bartz, who was found dead in her Navajo, N.M., home Nov. 1. Reehahllo Carroll was charged with the "unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought." He was charged in accordance with federal laws governing Native American nations. Carroll remained in custody Nov. 9 as FBI agents continued investigating the murder of the well-known nun who had served at St. Berard Parish in the Navajo nation in northwestern New Mexico and northeastern Arizona since 1999. The suspect was arrested by authorities of the Navajo Nation when he was discovered driving the vehicle Sister Marguerite had used. Friends,

parishioners and supporters packed Sacred Heart Cathedral in Gallup Nov. 7 for the funeral Mass for the slain sister. Many wore ribbons on their shirts, dresses and jackets in honor of Sister Marguerite. Franciscan Father Gilbert Schneider, who worked with Sister Marguerite at St. Berard Church and the Guadalupe Indian Mission in Pena Blanco, told the hundreds who gathered that friends often suggested she take a break from her many ministries at the parish and in the Navajo Nation, where the parish was based. She rejected such talk, Father Schneider said, by insisting, "I have to be here for my people."

Virginia bishop urges mercy for convicted sniper set to be executed

ARLINGTON, Va. (CNS) — As Virginia prepared to execute convicted sniper John Allen Muhammad, Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington called for mercy and urged that Muhammad's sentence be commuted to life in prison without possibility of parole. "In the needles of lethal injection, we see the manifestation of despair," the bishop wrote in his column for the Nov. 5 issue of the *Arlington Catholic Herald*, his diocesan newspaper. "And in this despair, in advocating the use of the death penalty, our society has moved

beyond the legitimate judgment of crimes. Brothers and sisters, we are better than this," he added. "We are called to be more than slaves to despair; we are called to be heralds of hope." Muhammad, 48, was scheduled to die by lethal injection in a Virginia prison Nov. 10 for the Oct. 9, 2002, murder of Dean Harold Meyers, 53, one of 10 victims killed during a three-week spree police said was carried out by Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo in the Washington area. Three other people were wounded. Malvo, 17 at the time of the shootings, is serving a life sentence in a Virginia prison.

Gorbachev was key to fall of Berlin Wall, former papal aide says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The most important figure in the fall of the Berlin Wall was former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who allowed the revival of political freedom throughout Eastern Europe, a former papal aide said. Joaquin Navarro-Valls, who served as Vatican spokesman for Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, commemorated the 20th anniversary of the collapse of the wall in an article published Nov. 5 in the Rome newspaper *La Repubblica*. Navarro-Valls cited Pope John Paul's support for the Polish labor union Solidarity as a key development in the pro-democracy movement in the region. But he said that in evaluating the causes of that movement, it was impossible to ignore "the true great protagonist of it all, Mikhail Gorbachev." "Gorbachev ... knew exactly what was going on and intentionally allowed the wall to fall by itself," Navarro-Valls said. The Soviet leader saw that the political movement in Eastern Europe was popular and unstoppable, and he avoided military repression and even verbal opposition, he said.

Pope says hope of eternal life helps people face life, death

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Hope and faith in eternal life give Christians strength to overcome the difficulties of daily life and the pain of death, Pope Benedict XVI said during a Mass honoring cardinals and bishops who died during the past year. In the face of death, believers possess "the hope of immortality," the pope said during the memorial Mass Nov. 5 in St. Peter's Basilica. Pope Benedict told the cardinals, bishops, ambassadors and faithful gathered at the basilica's Altar of the Chair that death is "a disturbing enigma" that brings with it the "painful separation from loved ones." But faith "sustains us in these moments that are full of sorrow and dismay," he said. Faith also helps people get through all obstacles that are part of life, he said. "There is no lack of difficulties and problems on our paths, with situations of suffering and pain, moments that are difficult to understand and accept," he said.

Bridge of Hope sponsors birthday bash fundraiser

SOUTH BEND — The St. Joseph County Chapter of Bridge of Hope's First Birthday Bash Live and silent auction raised over \$25,000 for area single mothers and their children. Bridge of Hope St. Joseph County guests, with the help of Stephen Camilleri, executive director of the South Bend Center for the Homeless, and Lisa A. Jaworski, chief executive officer of the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, joined over 110 participants on Oct. 30 to assist Bridge of Hope Saint Joseph County in moving into the active ministry phase of their mission.

Bridge of Hope St. Joseph County partners a single mother and her children with a professionally-trained mentoring group from a local Christian church. The Bridge of Hope professional staff manages the 12-18 month program that achieves permanent housing and financial self-sufficiency through employment and helps the mother attain stability and enhanced self-esteem through ongoing mentoring friendships. While working with the Bridge of Hope staff and mentoring group, women learn the life skills necessary to set and achieve short-and long-term goals, responsible financial planning, parenting skills and job skills. The trained mentoring group and the mother develop life-long friendships as the mentors become an ongoing support group that sustains the successful outcome for the Bridge of Hope graduate for many years to come.

The goal of Bridge of Hope St. Joseph County is to exemplify Christ's love and to promote physical, emotional and spiritual wholeness.

For more information about this nonprofit organization, visit www.bridgeofhopesjc.com or e-mail mary@bridgeofhopesjc.com.

First-generation college student recognized

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College student Mariel R. Rose of Granger, will be among the 32 outstanding first-generation college students and their high school mentors who will be honored this Saturday, Nov. 7, at the 2009 "Realizing the Dream" banquet in Indianapolis. The students attend 32 independent college campuses in Indiana.

Made possible by a grant to the Independent Colleges of Indiana from the Lilly Endowment, "Realizing the Dream" recognizes the triumphs of first-generation students who demonstrated superior academic performance during their first year of studies and exhibited leadership in campus or community activities. A \$2,000 grant will be mailed to each of the institutions to be deposited into the student's account and applied toward the cost of his/her education.

The program also celebrates the roles played by teachers in shaping student aspirations for a college education. After being chosen by

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SERRA CLUB PRESENTS CHALICE TO FATHER RYBICKI



DIANE FREEBY

Serra Club member Richard Wasoski presents a special chalice to Father Daryl Rybicki, pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend, and Principal Maggie Mackowiak. Wasoski told the children present at last week's all-school Mass that the chalice is to be used as a reminder of the need for vocations. "The chalice will be placed in each classroom. Your principal and Father Daryl will determine how long it will remain in each classroom," he explained. "Every day when you see it, remember to say a prayer for more nuns and more priests. Remember that Jesus said, 'Many are called but few are chosen.' Always listen for God's call ... He may be calling you someday!" When all students have had the chalice in their classroom, it will be taken to another school where more students will pray for vocations.

their college, the students then named the elementary or secondary teacher or counselor who most influenced them to attend college. These mentors will each receive a \$1,000 professional development award. Rose named Linda Porto, who teaches math, history and Latin at Trinity School at Greenlawn in South Bend, as her mentor.

Rose's intended major is biology. She is the daughter of Chris and Mary Rose of Granger. Rose attended Trinity School at Greenlawn for high school and grew up in Christ the King Parish in South Bend. Her family currently are parishioners of St. Pius X Catholic Church in Granger.

USF to host discussion on economics, politics, faith

FORT WAYNE — The School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Saint Francis will host a panel discussion on Economics, Politics and Faith on Thursday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St.

Dr. Jason Jividan, director of political science/pre-law, will speak about "Caritas in Veritate" in light of opinions about political duties, rights and justice. Other

panel members will include Dr. David Fleischacker, chair, department of philosophy and theology; Dr. David Mullins, director of sociology; and Dr. D. Marshall Meador, assistant professor of economics.

This discussion is free to the public. For additional information, contact Doug Meador at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8314 or dmeador@sf.edu.

Center for Ethics hosts fall conference

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture will host its 10th annual fall conference Nov. 12-14, titled "The Summons of Freedom: Virtue, Sacrifice and the Common Good." Over 100 presentations will be given by scholars from around the country. Among the 13 invited lecturers are Michael Novak and Alice von Hildebrand.

The conference will open at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, with a keynote address by Josephite Father John J. Raphael, principal of St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, who is a Notre Dame graduate. On Friday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m., Thomas Hibbs of Baylor University will give the second annual Jack Schuster Memorial

Lecture.

All conference talks are free and open to the public, with most sessions taking place in McKenna Hall. A complete conference schedule can be viewed online at <http://ethicscenter.nd.edu>.

St. Peter Church will host Catholic-Lutheran Advent Vespers

FORT WAYNE — The Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue Committee extends an invitation to the community to take part in the Eighth Annual Catholic-Lutheran Advent Vesper Service of Light on the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29. The 4 p.m. service will include clergy of both communities in procession and will be held at St. Peter Catholic Church, located at 518 E. DeWald St., in Fort Wayne.

Featured in the service will be a combined adult choir from area Roman Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregations.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow in the church hall.

VNHH offers bereavement workshop

FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home will offer "Coping With the Holidays," a conversation on how to survive the holidays after a loss on Saturday, Nov. 21, at First Presbyterian Church, 300 W. Wayne St., from 9-11:30 a.m. Speakers are bereavement coordinators Lili Carroll and Bonnie Knuth. This free workshop includes a light breakfast. For information contact Lili Carroll or Bonnie Knuth at (260) 435-3222.

STUDENTS RECITE LIVING ROSARY



PROVIDED BY ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL

St. Matthew School, South Bend, gathered in the cathedral on Monday, Oct. 26, to pray the rosary celebrating the month of Our Lady of the Rosary. Students in grades 2-8 formed a living rosary. Each student held a candle that lit up as the prayers were recited. The students, faculty and parents reflected on the luminous mysteries. The sixth graders had illustrated posters and reflections on each mystery. They reflected on humility, trust, faith, dignity, courage and Jesus' infinite love.

Youth help disabled orphans

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — The middle school and high school youth groups at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen were moved to help children in orphanages overseas after seeing a presentation by parishioner Loren Hartman, who has been involved with Crosspath Ministry for several years bringing wheelchairs to Kyrgyzstan.

The youth raised approximately \$500 for the cause. Sara Knight, youth director at St. John's said, "The kids are very interested in service and they wanted to serve overseas in some way. They were very moved by the kids who had handicaps and disfigurements."

She said, "Kids are so smart — they thought as well as donating money for the wheelchairs, why not donate so the mothers could get the nutritional supplements they need so these sorts of things wouldn't happen."

Hartman is a physical therapist, who left on Sunday, Nov. 1, for his third trip to Kyrgyzstan with this ministry. Kyrgyzstan is in central Asia, next to China and two countries north of Afghanistan, according to Hartman. It is an Islamic country and was part of the former Soviet Union.

This trip he will be bringing 14 wheelchairs and five walkers. He and another therapist, Kevin Eby, will be visiting two state orphanages — Belvodsky and Tokmok.

It is Hartman's first visit to Tokmok but he has been to Belvodsky before. He said that he has to be granted permission from the state to visit the orphanages.

"In order to talk to them about Christianity you have to first develop trust and have them remember you," he said.

Andrew Wallach, who assists with the youth groups at St. John's was recently married and asked the kids to donate to the ministry in lieu of a wedding gift for he and his wife Ani. He said he knew Knight would suggest the kids chip in to get him a wedding gift and he thought the need was much greater for the orphans



PHOTOS BY DENISE FEDOROW

Members of St. John the Evangelist youth group gathered for a blessing of the wheelchairs that they helped collect money for before they were sent overseas to Kyrgyzstan with Loren Hartman, physical therapist and St. John parishioner. From left are Brant Hartman, kneeling, Father Chris Smith, Leah Kissinger; kneeling, Youth Director Sara Knight, Loren and Joanne Hartman; inside trailer with wheelchairs, Andrew Wallach, Father Constantino Rocha, Mark Wheeler, Maria Weaver and Nicole Hull.



Father Constantino Rocha blesses the wheelchairs traveling to orphans in Kyrgyzstan while St. John youth Nicole Hull, Maria Weaver, Loren and Joanne Hartman, Mark Wheeler and Andrew Wallach look on.

than for he and his wife.

"So I decided instead of more 'stuff,' why not give something so much more to people half way around the world. They were happy to do it and were 100 percent behind the idea," Wallach said.

Hartman reports a total of \$5,000 was raised for this trip, including the money raised by the youth. The kids are not done, though. Knight said the middle school group and the high school

group are having

a war to see which group can raise the most money. "It's good motivation for them," she said.

Hartman said on this trip the focus will be educating volunteers and parents on how to work with the kids. There is no therapy available and the kids are treated as though there is no rehabilitation for them — something Hartman has been striving to change. He and Eby will be gone for two weeks.

Msgr. Owen Campion receives award from seminary

BALTIMORE — Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher of *Our Sunday Visitor*, Huntington, was awarded the Jean Jacques Olier Distinguished Alumnus medal by St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore in recognition of his accomplishments in the Catholic press.

Of particular note is his work as editor of *The Priest* magazine, a periodical that addresses "important questions for the ministry and life of the priest today in an insightful, balanced and pastoral manner," said Father Thomas Hurst, rector of St. Mary Seminary.

Msgr. Campion was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Nashville in 1966. From 1971 to 1988, he served as editor of the *Tennessee Register*. Since 1988, Msgr. Campion has served as associate publisher of *Our Sunday Visitor* Publishing, Inc., and editor of *The Priest*, one of the periodicals published by *Our Sunday Visitor*.

"My writing in *The Priest* and in *Our Sunday Visitor*, and elsewhere, and my editing, builds on the conviction that we American priests today, in meeting our vocational obligation to present Christ in our own time, must be in, of and for the church," Msgr. Campion said in accepting the award.

"Experiencing priesthood for 43 years has shown me that priests find fulfillment, or are effective in ministry, only in an intensely personal relationship with Christ," Msgr. Campion said.

Active for many years in the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada, Msgr. Campion served for nine years as a member of its board of directors, and in 1984 was elected its 36th national president. For some years, he served as chair of the association's international committee.

In January 1989, the Holy See named him the ecclesiastical adviser for the International Catholic Union of the Press (UCIP), the official, worldwide organization of Catholic publishers and journalists, and he served three terms, until 1998. In 1997, UCIP elected him an honorary member of the union for life. He presently is president of the North American region of UCIP.

Msgr. Campion is a member of *Our Sunday Visitor's* editorial board, the board of directors of the *Tennessee Register*; the board of directors of *Today's Catholic*, the weekly newspaper of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend; the board of directors of the Catholic Journalism Scholarship Fund; and the board of governors of Aquinas College, in Nashville. He currently serves as a member of the Pontifical Council on Social Communications in Rome.



PHOTO BY RICK MUSACCHIO

Baltimore Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, right, congratulates Msgr. Owen Campion, left, after he was presented the Jean Jacques Olier Distinguished Alumnus in recognition of his accomplishments in the Catholic press.

The Public Religious Council, an ecumenical group of religious journalists, presented him with its Hinkhouse-DeRose Award, in 1984. In 1989, the Catholic Press Association conferred on him its highest recognition, the St. Francis de Sales Award.

The Olier Distinguished Alumnus Award is named after the 17th century founder of the Society of Sulpice, which owns and operates St. Mary's, and is given to St. Mary's alumni who through extraordinary contribution to the church and community embody the mission of St. Mary's to form priests after the heart of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

Jean Jacques Olier, who lived from 1608 to 1657 in France, was from an era of great priests, Msgr. Campion noted, including: St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle, founder of the Brothers of the Christian Schools; St. Louis Marie de Montfort, founder of the Montfort Fathers; St. Isaac Jocques, St. Jean de Brebeuf and their confreres, the Jesuit martyrs of North America; and St. Vincent de Paul, founder of the Daughters of Charity, the priests of the Congregation of the Mission and the Ladies of Charity.

"These remarkable priests are models for priests today, in two respects specifically, their absolute commitment to the church, and their personal priestly commitment to the Lord Jesus," Msgr. Campion said.

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Twenty years of Franciscan spirit celebrated at Franciscan Center

Center prepares for 'Thanksgiving Tuesday'

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Who does "Thanksgiving Tuesday," Father Benedict Groeschel, community giving and serving the poor have in common? They are all connected with The Franciscan Center in Fort Wayne with the spirit of St. Francis all packaged in the line: "I come to bring love and peace for all people."

The Franciscan Center is involved in a campaign to provide a turkey or ham on Thanksgiving for its clientele which has grown considerably during the economic downturn and unemployment. The Franciscan Center, located in the former Sacred Heart School in Fort Wayne, operates a food pantry on Tuesdays and Thursdays, a Sack Lunch Ministry that feeds 1,000 on Saturdays, and the Medicine Cabinet that offers medicines and hygiene products on Tuesdays from 10-11 a.m.

Executive Director Jim Christie has a goal to distribute 1,500 turkeys or hams on Tuesday, Nov. 24. Through the generosity of Tim Didier Meats, 200 turkeys were donated to The Franciscan Center through the recent fall Redeemer Radio — Catholic Radio 1450 AM — Sharathon. An additional 900 turkeys and hams were purchased, "and now we need to pay for them," Christie told *Today's Catholic*.

Christie hopes to raise funds to cover these purchases, but the public is also invited to purchase a turkey or ham on their own and



TIM JOHNSON

Jim Christie, executive director of The Franciscan Center, center, poses with food pantry volunteers John Matera, left, and Dave Sensenich, right, on Nov. 5. The food pantry operates Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11 a.m. in the basement of the Sacred Heart School in Fort Wayne at 4643 Gaywood Dr.

deliver it to the center on Nov. 19, 20 or 23rd. The turkeys will be distributed Nov. 24 to those clients who have obtained vouchers, which have been distributed during operational hours of the food pantry.

The Franciscan Center is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, and on Oct. 24, a successful dinner and auction fundraiser was held at the Marriott Ballroom in Fort Wayne with over 300 in attendance.

The 20th anniversary celebration continues on Saturday, Dec. 12, at the University of Saint Francis' North Campus auditorium with speaker Father Benedict Joseph Groeschel, host of the popular Eternal Word Television Network's "Sunday Night Live With Father Benedict Groeschel." Father Groeschel, who lived at St.

Felix Monastery in Huntington for some time, is one of seven Capuchin colleagues who founded the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal with the mission of preaching reform and serving the poor. Father Groeschel is a retreat master, author, psychologist and activist. A reception begins at the North Auditorium, located at 2702 Spring St. at 2 p.m.; his talk begins at 3 p.m.; and Bishop John M. D'Arcy will concelebrate a Mass at 4 p.m. A freewill donation is requested and Father Groeschel's books and videos will be for sale.

In the spirit of St. Francis

It was the work of Sally Ley, a Secular Franciscan who served the homeless of Fort Wayne, deliver-

ing food to them under bridges and in the streets. Later she served the homeless at a shelter and worked with fellow Secular Franciscan friend, Arlene Torgersen.

Larry Wright, who Ley calls her scout, helped school the ladies in ministering to the homeless, offering "street smarts," and how not to make themselves vulnerable. "Look all around" and "don't leave your purse sitting out," Wright and the other men at the homeless shelter would instruct.

"God was always there and took care of us. We just didn't think of it," Ley said of the possible dangers. "It reminds me of the Scripture passage as Jesus was walking through Capernaum, and they said, 'who is he who walks with such authority?' That's the Christ in us. He gave us the authority to go down there and straighten these guys out."

"I really felt God was with me ... and the angels and St. Francis," Torgersen added.

"I always said I would rather live a long, long life brave, than a short life fearful," Ley said. "I can't stand fear."

Along with Jean Kelly, who Ley says offered the wisdom and prayer to the ministry, and Ley, who offered the energy, the foundation was laid 20 years ago for The Franciscan Center. Kelly, who had a great love for the rosary and the chaplet of Divine Mercy, died last year. But through its years, Ley has taken on the "wisdom and prayer ministry" roles as directors Keith Burns, who directed the center for five years, and now Christie

take The Franciscan Center "to the next level."

After serving from various locations in Fort Wayne, The Franciscan Center located to the Sacred Heart School at 4643 Gaywood Dr. about 10 years ago.

Ley, her sister Nancy Henry, Torgersen and Jan Scher, who are Secular Franciscans, speak with obvious joy about the Franciscan spirit that abounds in the ministry of The Franciscan Center.

Ley says she has a great love for St. Anthony, but whenever she read anything about the saint, she was always referred to St. Francis. Finally, she realized that if she did things as St. Francis did, she could expect the same results.

Christie estimates that The Franciscan Center has probably served over 1 million plus people and families.

Ley said when The Franciscan Center first opened, Father Groeschel sent her a letter with the following advice: "Do not have meetings" and the prayer, "Lord, use me, but do not consult me."

Staffed by volunteers of many faiths, retirees and even young people, the spirit of St. Francis to assist the poor, and to do it with joy, is evident.

"We founded this, ultimately, to give opportunities for everyone to serve," Ley said. "And that's our culture — that students, senior citizens, men and women — we have something for every age (to serve at the center)." Students from the area Catholic high schools and elementary schools run drives and often volunteer at the center.

FATHER COX CONCELEBRATES MASS WITH MEXICAN BISHOP



Holy Cross Father Christopher Cox, pastor of St. Adalbert and St. Casimir parishes, South Bend, concelebrated Mass with human rights champion Bishop Samuel Ruiz, 85, who shepherded the Diocese of San Cristobal in Mexico from 1960 to 2000. He brought the church closer to the indigenous and one of his famous pastoral letters is entitled "In This Time of Grace." Bishop Ruiz eventually moved to Queretaro after retirement.

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VICTORY RALLY MARKS THE END



TOM UEBBING

A 40 Days for Life Victory Rally was held Nov. 1 at Little Flower Church in South Bend. In the photo, Vigil Director Shawn Sullivan, left, and 40 Days Director Mary Akre, right, encourage participants to continue on in their pro-life efforts. Other speakers included Knights of Columbus Indiana State Deputy Stephan Ziemba who compared the number of abortions daily and the number of American Christians, asking believers to get behind the pro-life cause. During the 40 Days fall campaign, Ziemba visited all six Indiana cities where vigils were being held. The K of C is organizing seven buses to attend the March for Life in Washington in January 2010. Dr. Charles Rice, professor emeritus of law at Notre Dame reflects on the judicial and legislative alteration of the meaning of the U.S. Constitution and on the effects of secularism and relativism on the culture. According to Rice, America has to choose between being Ninevah, which repented of its sins out of fear of God, and unrepentant Sodom, which “went up in smoke.”



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Spiritual dryness: A dark night of the soul

BY LINDA FURGE, KAY COZAD
AND MARY WORMAN

Sometimes living a devout life does not feel all that devout. A friend put it this way: “When I was driving to work this morning, it was cold and hazy. I could see behind the haze the colorful trees so I knew they were there. It was cold but not raining, just cloudy and dull, a day we northerners call a ‘blah’ day.

“Looking out my car window, I realized this is how my spiritual life feels. I say my prayers, do good deeds and live my life as a Catholic, but everything seems flat and blah.

“I know the sun can shine and make the fall leaves shimmer. I know the skies can be blue with beautiful white fluffy clouds. I know I can be closer to God ... but it doesn’t seem to be happening right now.”

Feeling this way when we pray is so common that it even has a name: spiritual dryness or darkness. It is a time when prayer is difficult, full of distractions, or empty and entirely without comfort. God may seem very remote. We may question why we believe or if God exists at all.

St. Francis de Sales points out that spiritual dryness happens to many people at some point on their spiritual journey. We learned not too long ago that even a saintly person like Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta can experience what St. John of the Cross describes as a “dark night of the soul” — a sense of loss, abandonment or the absence of God.

In one of her recently released letters, she says, “To be in love and yet not to love, to live by faith and yet not to believe. To spend myself and yet be in total darkness. Pray for me. (17 May 64, to Father Neuner)

Again, she writes, “People say they are drawn closer to God — seeing my strong faith. Is it not deceiving people? Every time I have wanted to tell the truth — that I have no faith, the words just do not come — my mouth remains closed. And I still keep smiling at God and all.” (21 Sept. 62) In her letters we discover that Mother Teresa’s spiritual darkness lasted for decades.

And, for those who have lost a loved one, spiritual darkness — questioning God and faith — can be very real. The painful, isolating process of mourning can be a time of confusion and disconnection. Even the most faith-filled hearts find that, as the pain of grief invades the purest of moments, God can sometimes feel very far away. A close relationship with God in prayer, as well as many familiar religious practices, such as attending Mass, can be difficult or feel strained or even nonexistent as we ask, sometimes vehemently, why our beloved has to die.

Persevering in a fertile void

But there is hope. Though a “dark night of the soul” is a time of dryness and isolation, it can also be a time of introspection and spiritual growth — a fertile void, so to speak. Though we may not feel God’s presence, God is always with us. St. Francis de Sales tells us that this time provides us with a chance to persevere, to prove to God and to ourselves that we are seeking God and not just God’s gifts and blessings. Are we praying for our sakes and feelings — or for God’s?

After all, true love does not expect anything in return.

Father Brian Kolodiejchuk, the editor of “Mother Teresa: Come

Be My Light,” thinks Mother Teresa’s letters may address a broader cultural problem: “The tendency in our spiritual life but also in our more general attitude toward love is that our feelings are all that is going on. And so to us the totality of love is what we feel. But to really love someone requires commitment, fidelity and vulnerability. Mother Teresa wasn’t ‘feeling’ Christ’s love, and she could have shut down. But she was up at 4:30 every morning for Jesus, and still writing to him, ‘Your happiness is all I want.’ That’s a powerful example even if you are not talking in exclusively religious terms.”

Although it can sometimes in retrospect be considered a blessing, no one desires a “dark night of the soul.” Sitting in the fertile void of spiritual dryness, with all its loneliness and chaos, can be the very act that brings healing to the soul. Spiritual dryness, though sometimes frightening and unpleasant, is an important part of the ongoing journey that will eventually reconnect you more intimately to God and your soul.

“As is often pointed out, even Jesus Christ had his own dark night on the Cross, where he cried out, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ This, of course, is his quotation of Psalm 22, written by his human ancestor David, a man to whom the dark night was no stranger. But to cry out to God, as did David and Mother Teresa, is to acknowledge his saving power, in the manner of the Psalm’s conclusion: “And I will live for the Lord; my descendants will serve you. The generation to come will be told of the Lord, that they may proclaim to a people yet unborn the deliverance you have brought.” (“Teresa in Dark and Light,” Lisa Fabrizio.)

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A NEW APPROACH TO SENIOR LIVING

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Local ad company creates message of hope for unborn

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Bob Floyd, an active pro-life advocate, is no stranger to the enticing secular message of abortion to the women of this country. So he's put his passion into action with a national public service announcement (PSA) campaign focused on promoting infant adoption this year — with great success.

Floyd, owner of Floyd and Partners Advertising and Public Relations Company, was awarded the challenging infant adoption awareness campaign by the National Council for Adoption and set right to work. With the campaign involving TV, radio and a Web site Floyd said, "It was a very time intensive project."

Floyd's son, Jeremy, who is pursuing a film career in Los Angeles, brought together a professional crew to film the spot. A house near a park was discovered in Pasadena as the choice location for interior and exterior shots. Surprisingly, the ad was filmed by the crew in one intense 14-hour day. Of the experience, Floyd said, "We were tremendously blessed with this crew and location to film the ad. ... And the result is a nice production."

And he adds that interestingly many of the people involved with the project had some experience

This national public service ad promotes infant adoption and is the handiwork of Bob Floyd of Floyd and Partners Advertising and Public Relations Company.

with adoption. "We just kept running into stories about adoption," he said, relating the story of the actress that played the ad's troubled pregnant mother who was given up for adoption. Her birth mother changed her mind and got her back.

The ad campaign was released to 400 stations in January of this year. To date it has aired 16,000 times on 186 stations and has become one of the top PSAs in the country. In addition to the success of the ad, the supplemental Web site created to support consideration of adoption has

enjoyed a strong influx of visitors.

The success of the ad is due, said Floyd in part to the research done by Dr. Charles Kenny of Right Brain research. His research, done for Fortune 500 companies and others, attempts to understand the emotional bonds that connect people to brands, so ad agencies like Floyd's can "create a more appealing message to the consumer." In this case, Kenny's research entailed interviewing women who had chosen to make an adoption plan and understand their decision-making

process.

"The women," said Floyd, "had to believe what they were doing was right for their child as well as for themselves." This sentiment was valuable for creating the tag line, "Sometimes choosing adoption is being a good mother," he said, adding, "When you can find the truth and communicate it effectively, you can do your job. Charley put his finger on the truth about pregnancy."

The truth about the experience of freely choosing adoption is seen in this 30 second spot that

airs at the discretion of each station's communications manager. It has been well received, said Floyd, who appreciated Kenny's research and his company's execution of this creative conception.

Floyd hopes to bridge the country to other venues in the country to offer hope to those women who struggle with an unexpected pregnancy. "My greatest hope is that the culture at large will embrace the idea of infant adoption," he said, passionately adding that this ad may seem a futile attempt to reduce the number of abortions in this country, but "by telling this story, you give a woman permission to consider another option."

He reports that many women don't know that in making an adoption plan they can choose open adoption where they stay in touch with their child. This kind of information can make the difference in choosing adoption over abortion.

Floyd is grateful to have had a hand in promoting adoption and regards the work as an "extreme privilege." His passion for the public service campaign confirms his strong pro-life beliefs. "It's not every day you get to do something like this!" he said.

To view the ad visit www.chooseadoption.org.

Bishop Luers welcomes exchange students

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — Hosting foreign exchange students has never been foreign to Bishop Luers High School. The school openly welcomes the students and the students seek out the school. The foreign exchange program at Bishop Luers benefits all involved. Foreign and American students learn about other cultures and host families provide welcoming homes from which to experience American culture.

For the past five years, several students have taken part in the program. Currently five foreign exchange students are attending Luers. Two students are from Germany, one from Denmark and two from China. One of the Chinese students is in his second year in America, and will graduate from Luers with an American diploma.

Jenny Andorfer, director of admissions at Bishop Luers High School, works with ASSE, a foreign exchange student agency, and monitors both agency-referred students and those arranged privately between the parents and host family. She says a diploma from a high school in the United States is a gateway to attending a university in America and many of the exchange students want to earn a U.S. diploma.

Andorfer says, "Having international students attend school for a year or visit, greatly enriches our students understanding of the world around them. We feel it

is a beneficial arrangement for everyone involved and encourage these students every year to attend our school."

The foreign students often find out about what Bishop Luers has to offer by word of mouth and the school's affiliation with several agencies. In addition, approximately 20 Japanese students, from Luer's sister school in Takaoka, Japan, visit for one week every other year.

Norman and Judy Cramer are the host parents for one of the five exchange students. Sune Holm-Madison is from Denmark and a junior at Bishop Luers. Sune came to the Cramer's by way of a friend in August and will be returning to his homeland in May. While some students are able to count their year aboard towards the academic requirements in their own country, such is not the case for Sune, who will go back for three more years of high school before he is eligible for college. High school requirements are more extensive in Denmark than in the U.S.

There are other cultural differences between the two countries. Judy says that they have had some interesting political discussions surrounding the socialism of Denmark. Citizens of Denmark, for example have full coverage, free healthcare, meaning there is no charge for a doctor's visit. They also enjoy two months of vacation each year. Sune speaks four languages — English, French, German and Spanish, which is reportedly rather commonplace in Denmark,



PROVIDED BY BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL

Exchange students attending Bishop Luers High School include, from left, front row, Chu Liang, Becca Rinkl and Christian Stafner; and back row, Sune Madsen and Henry Wu.

where Americans are typically much less versed.

Along with the differences, there are many similarities as well. "Sune is very much a normal kid, doing normal things — like enjoying chicken wings with the guys or taking the bus and exploring the city," says Judy. Sune has played on the football team for Bishop Luers and is currently in conditioning for basketball. In his spare time, Sune has even shared ethnic food dishes since he is very helpful around the house and enjoys cooking.

Norman says the hardest thing about hosting an exchange student is getting to know each other and learning to adapt to one another, which usually takes a few months. After everyone has adjusted to the new living arrangement, the exchange student is often seen as a part of the family. The exchange student is expected to do chores and expectations for daily living are a part of the family experience. Norman cautions, however, to limit and discuss the expectations because the student is only with the fami-

ly for a school year and then the student returns home.

Sune is the Cramer's second exchange student; their first experience was with a student from Germany. Norman says that while they have enjoyed getting to know each exchange student, it is also a lot of responsibility to bring a teenager into the home and parent them as part of the family. Since hosting an exchange student is voluntary, will Norman and Judy do it again? Norman replies, "Possibly. ... We've enjoyed it."

Family puzzles solved with genealogy

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Marge Graham, 70, takes pleasure in solving puzzles, but not the conventional jigsaw kind. She is a genealogical researcher.

The Fort Wayne native is a professional researcher at the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center. Her job involves helping patrons gather useful reference materials to trace their lineage and sometimes doing the work herself.

"You learn a lot by helping other people (trace their ancestry)," she said.

While not on the job, she invests a significant amount of time in researching her own roots. Graham first took interest in the hobby in 1981, when taking a class on beginning genealogy at Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne. From then on, she was "hooked" and devoted her free time to unlocking the past.

The first "aha" moment was when she found one set of grand-



MARGE GRAHAM

parents, the Gerardots, on a census. "That was a thrill," she said, because she never knew her paternal grandparents. This discovery further peaked interest in her family history and she was able trace her ancestry to as far back as 17th century Germany.

Other achievements include finding records of the Irish and French families in her family tree. The Irish line fought in the Revolutionary War, thus making her eligible to join the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Graham has discovered some tidbits about her Catholic heritage. One treasure is a marriage record that documents a wedding at the Immaculate Conception Church in Fort Wayne. Additionally, she learned ancestors on the Ryan side (her maiden name) were early founders of St. John the Baptist Church in New Haven.

Unlocking pieces of Fort Wayne's rich Catholic history did not stop there. Graham completed a book which details the history of the now demolished St. Andrew's School. The book contains memoirs of the happenings during the grade school years submitted by classmates.

"That stuff gets lost and no one knows how to (collect and organize it)," she said about the stories and artifacts of nostalgia.

Graham has worked to fill in the gaps in the history of religious in Indiana. She performed research on the various orders in Indiana, which ultimately resulted in an article published in the Indiana Genealogical Society's journal. Most recently, she has researched

the burial records of the church's faithful in Allen County. Through this work, she said, people can find comfort in proving their ancestors' existence.

Her work is indeed a labor of love; solving mysteries through research is rewarding. People rely on her to sift through hard copies of material to find valuable information. While the Internet provides useful information at one's fingertips, it does not always complete the picture.

"You would never know that if you stay online," she said.

Moreover, Graham stresses the value of patience and skepticism when researching genealogy: "Verify the information you find ... it would be horrible if you got misinformation," she said.

Graham recommends concentrating on one generation at a time, as to avoid information overload. Talk to elders and document what you learn, she advised. For example, she recalled a time when she tape recorded her grandmother's memoirs.

Genealogical research is not

just for the old, she points out. "I think young people should do these things," for the sake of posterity, she said. The holidays are a good time "to ask family members about family genealogy, relatives, traditions and other fun things like sharing old photographs, even recipes," she notes.

Tech savvy people will find convenience in the availability of software to record research. What's more, the library has launched a pilot program that has made digital records available for online use.

Last and perhaps most importantly, she urges people to visit the library to make the most of the project.

"This opens up the world for (researchers)," she said.

To learn more about the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center, visit www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/index.html.

Teders honored as outstanding adoption advocates

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Mike and Theresa Teders will be the first to say that adoption is a choice to love. They should know — they have raised 13 adopted children, along with four biological children. Their extra large family includes children with physical, emotional and intellectual challenges.

This year the Teders, nominated through Catholic Charities, were selected as an Angel in Adoption by U.S. Rep. Mark Souder (R-3rd) for their outstanding advocacy of adoption.

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI), which sponsors the Angels in Adoption program, honored the Teders and over 190 other Angels from around the country, at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., in September.

The Teders, both Fort Wayne natives, have known each other for many years through a long standing family friendship. Both families were community service minded, and Theresa recalls her parents fostering several children along the way. The two began dating after high school graduation and were married in Queen of Angels Parish in 1973.

Their family grew exponentially as their children, Michael, Jr., Richard, Cameron and Jon were born. Unfortunately, Theresa experienced two miscarriages and by the time Jon was seven, the couple

agreed, after much thought and prayer, that it was time to begin their adoption journey.

After living in several places including Dallas, Texas, the family came home to Churubusco only to learn that their third son Richie had contracted HIV while recovering from a car accident. Adoption plans were put on hold as they cared for their son. He later died and as their church and community rallied to support the grieving family, the Teders found strength and purpose again.

And in 1988 after perusing state adoption books, the couple felt called to adopt a sibling group of three. "We saw the picture of the three and they spoke to us," recalls Theresa, who adds that she and her husband look for sibling groups as "they are the ones that wait."

The family of eight grew to nine when in 1989 the Teders adopted a one-year-old biracial boy with health issues. After the baby's adoption they moved to Fort Wayne and became even more invested in adoption advocacy. Theresa became a local representative for the state adoption's local chapter. She and Mike assisted with the development of a registry of children who were available for adoption.

As the couple perused the state books, they discovered a sibling group of five, four boys and one girl, who were threatened with being split up. The tenacious Teders again felt drawn to the children. Mike recalls, "We started



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE TEDERS FAMILY

Angel in Adoption award winners Theresa and Mike Teders' family of three biological and 13 adopted children include in front from left Jessica, Shawna, Javani, Jasmine and Kaneshia. In back are Amanda, Kristina, Matthew, Cameron, Joe, Jon, Steven, Joshua, David and Mike Jr. Two children, Richie, who died in 1988, and Derrick, who is in North Carolina, are not shown.

talking about them. But realized we didn't have a table big enough to put all these kids."

But with their extended family's support, including a brother who made a table large enough for 12 children, the Teders went forward with the adoption. Melding and raising all of these children, several with special needs, was not always "roses and light," says Mike, who adds, "But we always came out the other side."

Family remained the focus of this committed couple throughout the hardships of investigating services for their children's special

needs as well as educational opportunities and just being a family. Each of the children came from a different environment with different ways of doing things. "It was a learning process for us all," says Theresa.

Then in 1993, a baby girl with spina bifida, was welcomed into this loving family that treated all its children the same. She was expected along with all her siblings to complete her chores and respect the others. "No challenge gives you a free ride in this country. We always tried to embed that in our kids. There are conse-

quences to all actions," says Mike.

The importance of family was always encouraged. "We taught them not to give up on family because rough stuff comes along," says Theresa. All the children earned their high school diplomas or equivalencies, and many attend or have graduated from college.

In 2003 the Teder clan grew again — this time with three teenage sisters who joined the family. The Teders family boasts 17 children, and 14 grandchildren, all unique in their own way. When asked why so many, Theresa replies peacefully, "It's what we were supposed to do."

She and Mike agree that their faith has seen them through the joys and sorrows of this incredible journey of parenting. Always involved in church life, including marriage encounter, the Teders, currently members of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, believe God has not only led them but supported them through the years. "They're my kids," says Theresa wistfully. "I wouldn't change anything even with all the problems. Through it all, I would still say yes to all of the kids."

As for the Angel in Adoption Award, the Teders say that it is an honor. "If one more child finds a home, then it makes telling our story worth it," says Theresa, as Mike adds, "It takes more than love to adopt. Especially when you take special needs, the word commitment is huge! ... With adoption you have a family!"

InForming Life group helps prepare for children with genetic challenges

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — It may seem like good news when hospitals don't see as many Down syndrome infants. However, it's not because fewer babies are receiving the diagnosis. According to a study done by the genetics department at Indiana University, 90 percent of the people who receive a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome choose to abort.

"The plus-side of prenatal testing is parents are prepared instead of shocked and unable to make crucial decisions in the first couple of days," explains Dr. Robert White, long-time director of the Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit at Memorial Hospital in South Bend. But he says much more information is needed during that crucial time.

White has assembled a local team known as "InForming Life" to help get accurate information to parents, as well as their physicians. The group believes awareness is critical in changing the negative outlook well-meaning physicians often give to patients who learn their child may have a genetic defect.

In addition to White, InForming Life includes John and Mary

O'Callaghan, Dr. David Solomon and Kathy Ratkiewicz, president of the local Down syndrome support group. The O'Callaghans are parents of five children, including a young son with Down syndrome.

As a physician himself, White says he understands why doctors paint a negative picture when discussing the challenges of raising a special needs child. White says, to some extent, physicians aren't aware of how things have changed and that more resources exist to help families. Those who are aware, says White, often fear lawsuits if they don't make a point of telling patients how difficult life can be for a child with a genetic defect.

"The obstetrician should get this information right," insists White, "because they have a responsibility to their patient and to give them objective information. To tell them all the potential hazards without telling them the good parts is like telling a patient all the side effects of a medication without telling him why that medication might be beneficial to him. We as physicians don't do that. And yet, when we're talking about a baby's life, they're more likely to emphasize the negatives than when they're talking about a medication."

The O'Callaghans agree parents need all the facts. Mary says their case was a little different because of previous miscarriages. She had the Triple-Screen test done because of her age, but did not have an amniocentesis for fear of harming the baby. Doctors didn't pressure her to have additional testing. Mary and John noticed a disconnect in the delivery room, when doctors and nurses stopped talking to them when they realized the baby had Down syndrome.

"We just wanted to celebrate his life," recalls Mary, "and they didn't know how to deal with it."

InForming Life hopes to help parents avoid seeing abortion as the only solution. In addition to billboard campaigns and getting information to parents through physicians, InForming Life hopes to partner with Women's Care Center. The area's largest pregnancy care center gets its share of calls from women who need help when they learn their baby might be born with special needs, and InForming Life hopes to provide another resource.

"When a mother learns this diagnosis," says White, referring to Down syndrome or spina bifida, "there's a pretty narrow window. If she doesn't have information right in front of her — and she will have

some information from her obstetrician — she's going to make a decision about abortion very quickly. We need something like billboards, and a hotline the mother can call that will give her full, balanced information."

White has always had a heart for children with special needs, dating back to his experiences during medical school with such kids and their families. Providentially, it was one such experience that restored the doctor's faith in God.

White, who was raised a Catholic but became agnostic while a student at Notre Dame in the late 1960s, says an experience at Johns Hopkins Medical School converted him back to Christianity. As part of the curriculum, he befriended a young man with leukemia, and when that boy died, White struggled with how there could be a "just God in the face of suffering." However, a few years later the boy's mother wrote White a note, thanking him for taking care of her son, and sharing the many ways in which her family had been blessed.

"Disability, pain and suffering were the environment in which I found God," explains White, "and so Down syndrome kind of embodies that for me. Many times since, I've seen the same thing,

For more on:

InForming Life call Kathy Ratkiewicz at (574) 234-0590 or e-mail at InFormingLife@gmail.com

Other Resources:

"My Child, My Gift: A Positive Response to Serous Prenatal Diagnosis" by Madeline P. Nugent, B.S., M.Ed. New City Press

Prenatal Partners for Life
prenatalpartnersforlife.com

where people's prayers weren't answered at the time ... but God blessed them. And I've had so many parents tell me, without prompting, that having this child with a handicap is the greatest blessing they could ever imagine. They got so much more than what they put in to all the care, the expense and the pain ... but still they've had even greater blessings."

EDITORIAL

Defending marriage, no time for complacency

Pro-marriage and pro-family advocates have reason to cheer after citizens of the state of Maine voted Nov. 3 to repeal a law that would have granted same-sex couples the legal right to marry.

That ballot came one year after California voters approved Proposition 8, which effectively banned homosexual marriage five months after it had been declared a constitutional right by the California Supreme Court. The Maine vote, in fact, marked the 30th consecutive time that homosexual marriage had been voted down at the state level in this country.

There's the good news. The bad news is that the 53-percent-to-47-percent victory, although it represented a statistically significant margin, was still too close for comfort.

It was also only the latest of a continuing string of battles we face in defending the traditional definition of marriage and family. Those who support the "right" to same-sex marriage are already at work — not only in Maine and California, but across the nation — developing new ballot initiatives, filing legal challenges, and lobbying state and national lawmakers in hopes of redefining marriage so that it no longer refers exclusively to a union of one man and one woman.

Even the U.S. Census Bureau is making concessions to the homosexual agenda: When it conducts its household surveys this coming year, the agency will record and report the number of same-sex couples who consider themselves "married" or who refer to each other as "husband" and "wife."

Homosexual couples already are permitted to adopt children legally in 45 states and have redefined "family" to include such arrangements.

The five holdout states — Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, Nebraska and Utah — will be challenged in Congress this coming year by the "Every Child Deserves a Family Act," which calls for the withholding of federal child-welfare funds for states with adoption policies that discriminate on the basis of the sexual orientation, gender identification or marital status of the prospective adoptive "parents."

The entertainment media often tends to idealize and mainstream the notion of the homosexual lifestyle as normal and acceptable. "Gay" characters appear regularly on many television series, almost always portrayed in sympathetic and affable roles. Homosexual celebrities openly discuss their relationships and inclinations as naturally as if they were the Ward and June Cleaver family — and without their television talk-show hosts as much as batting an eyelash. A-list Hollywood stars were among the movers and shakers of the failed effort to defeat Proposition 8 in California.

The pro-homosexual lobby is powerful, well-funded and skilled at the use of the rhetoric of intimidation. Register any reasonable objection to same-sex marriage, and you are likely to be considered "homophobic." Call sodomy morally objectionable or "inherently disordered," as the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, and you may well be accused of "hate speech."

Hate, however, is the furthest thing from the Catholic mind on this subject, except as applied to the sin of homosexual acts themselves. The church is motivated instead by a deep compassion for those who struggle with same-sex attraction and for those who find themselves in sexually active same-sex relationships. In condemning the sin of homosexual acts, the church also condemns all violence, lack of charity and unjust discrimination against persons with homosexual inclination. The church seeks only to assist those with this disorder to lead healthy, holy lives as fellow sons and daughters of the Father.

Some Catholics may indeed be intimidated out of fear of being labeled; others may fail to see the harm in allowing homosexual couples to marry. But it is important to keep in mind that marriage is of divine institution. God created the first man and woman in a state of marriage, and he ordained that marriage be an exclusive, lifelong covenant of love between a man and a woman. This marriage covenant must be oriented toward the unity of the couple and the procreation and formation of children, with the ultimate goal of reflecting the divine life of the Blessed Trinity and attaining everlasting life. The family created by this union is the fundamental building block of a well-ordered society, and any society that neglects to uphold these traditional definitions of marriage and family does so at its own grave peril.

Even as we laud the electoral victory in Maine, we cannot afford to be lulled into complacency on this important issue or any other that affects family life. With love and compassion, we must continue to work and pray for the defense of traditional marriage and family according to the plan of God.

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

Pro-life victory on the Hill

BY FRED EVERETT

On Saturday night, Nov. 7, the U.S. House of Representatives voted in favor of an amendment to the healthcare reform bill that would restrict the use of federal funds to cases of rape, incest or where the life of the mother would be in danger (which represent about 1 percent of abortions). Known as the Stupak Amendment, after Democratic Rep. Bart Stupak of Michigan, this vote came after days of high drama and intense negotiations involving Stupak and 39 other pro-life Democrats in the House, the Democratic House leadership and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

For weeks, the House Speaker, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, had rejected the possibility of even allowing the amendment to get a vote on the House floor. She and her pro-abortion colleagues wanted to maintain a bill that would require abortion coverage using federal funds — despite false claims that the House bill did not fund abortions. Consequently, in September, Stupak and 39 other pro-life Democrats in the House (including Rep. Joe Donnelly of South Bend) let it be known to the House Speaker that they would vote against any healthcare reform bill unless they were able to have an up or down vote on the Stupak Amendment.

In response to pro-abortion Democrats who argued that such restrictions went overboard, pro-life leaders, including the USCCB, countered by pointing out that all other federal programs are currently limited to the exact same restrictions. Known as the Hyde Amendment, federal funds for programs such as Medicaid for low income Americans and the insurance program for all federal employees have since 1993 been restricted to cases of rape, incest and where the life of the mother would be in danger (before 1993, only life of the mother case was funded).

The Stupak Amendment would only be applying the same standard to healthcare reform.

Unfortunately, the Democratic leadership was in no mood to listen. However, with the bill nearing a vote, the House Speaker realized that she did not have the votes to pass the bill without most of the pro-life Democrats in the House who demanded a floor vote. While

at first attempting to craft another phony amendment which would still have allowed for federal funding, after late Friday night negotiations with the USCCB and other pro-life leaders who refused to back down on principle, Pelosi finally acceded and agreed to allow a vote on the Stupak Amendment on the House floor the following day.

The amendment easily passed by a vote of 240-194. All those representatives who represent portions of our diocese voted in favor — Democrat Joe Donnelly and Republicans Mark Souder, Dan Burton and Mike Pence. While this represents an important pro-life victory, the spotlight now moves to the Senate bill and to an eventual conference committee to reconcile the differences between their bills in order to come up with one bill. During the floor debate on the amendment, the House Minority Leader, Rep. John Boehner, questioned the House Democratic leadership as to whether they would commit to supporting the position of the majority of the House on the Stupak Amendment when they move to conference with the Senate. The leadership refused to do so repeatedly.

Reactions from pro-abortion groups have been blistering. Planned Parenthood and NOW have expressed shock and disappointment at the lack of leadership by President Barack Obama who had promised them to place "reproductive healthcare" at the center of healthcare reform. They have promised to oppose any bill that includes the Stupak

Amendment and are calling on President Obama to assure that this won't happen.

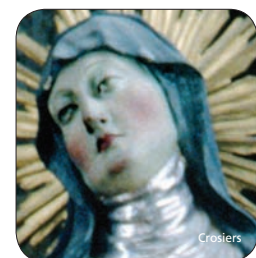
It would seem likely, then, that a final bill will not contain the Stupak Amendment, especially since the House leans more pro-life than does the Senate. This will only make it even more necessary for the 40 stalwart pro-life Democrats in the House, including Rep. Joe Donnelly of South Bend, to make a final courageous stand to vote against any healthcare reform measure that does not contain the Stupak Amendment. If they make such a stand, there is still a chance that they will prevail and help pass healthcare reform that respects the dignity of every human being from conception to natural death. However, no healthcare bill would be preferable to a bill that dramatically expands federal funding of the killing of unborn children in the name of healthcare reform. Were such a bill to pass, it would represent the greatest pro-life defeat since Roe v. Wade in 1973.

To express your appreciation to our representatives — especially to Rep. Joe Donnelly — for their vote in favor of the Stupak Amendment and to encourage them to vote against any healthcare bill that does not contain it, call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or go to the House Web site at www.house.gov.

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

Agnes of Assisi

1197-1253
November 16



Born Catarina, the younger sister of St. Clare of Assisi also ran away from home to follow St. Francis of Assisi's call to radical poverty. When her Italian kinsmen tried to bring her home, an uncle who drew his sword felt his arm wither. The men realized they were challenging God's plan and withdrew; the uncle's arm was healed. Taking the name Agnes, Catarina joined Clare's new order at San Damiano. About 1220 she became abbess of the Poor Clares in Florence and started other new convents. She returned to Assisi when Clare was dying, and died herself three months later. The sisters are interred in Clare's church in Assisi.

The church reaches out to modern arts

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Once made in heaven, the marriage between art and the church has long been on the skids.

"We are a bit like estranged relatives; there has been a divorce," said Archbishop Gianfranco Ravasi, president of the Pontifical Council for Culture.

Much of contemporary art walked away from art's traditional vocation of representing the intangible and the mysterious, as well as pointing the way toward the greater meaning of life and what is good and beautiful, he said during a Vatican press conference Nov. 5.

And the church has spent the past century "very often contenting itself with imitating models from the past," rarely asking itself whether there were religious "styles that could be an expression of modern times," he added.

In an effort to "renew friendship and dialogue between the church and artists and to spark new opportunities for collaboration," he said, Pope Benedict XVI will be meeting more than 250

artists from around the world Nov. 21 inside one of the world's most stunning artistic treasures: the Sistine Chapel.

The church's attempts to heal this rift with the world of modern arts span back to Pope Paul VI, who said the troubled relationship between the church and artists was based on misunderstandings and past restrictions on expression that had been removed.

Pope Paul loved art and saw an urgent need to encourage contemporary artists to reclaim their spiritual mission.

He held a landmark meeting with artists in the Sistine Chapel in 1964 and told them they were precious to the church for their "preaching and rendering accessible and comprehensible — or better still, moving — the world of the spirit, of the invisible, of the ineffable, of God."

The pope set up a collection of paintings, sculptures and graphic art to show how modern culture could still convey religious concepts. He inaugurated the Vatican's

THE VATICAN LETTER

CAROL GLATZ

Collection of Modern Religious Art in 1973, which contains works by Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Wassily Kandinsky and Edvard Munch.

Pope John Paul II, an accomplished actor, poet and playwright long before becoming a priest, eagerly continued Pope Paul's rapprochement.

He issued a papal letter to artists in 1999 in an effort to "consolidate a more constructive partnership between art and the church."

He sought to exalt artistic

LETTER, PAGE 16

God will prevail over evil



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 13:24-32

The Book of Daniel provides the first reading this weekend. Michael, the "great prince" of the angels, is the center of attention. He is one of the few angels who is mentioned by name in the Scriptures.

Michael's role in Daniel was to defend God's people. In this role, he, of course, was God's servant and instrument. Michael, along with the other angels, appears opposite the devils, the fallen angels.

In this reading, Michael protects God's people. However, the fundamental point is that God protects the good from everlasting death and defeat before evil.

The setting is very trying, a scene of great distress. Persecution, hardship and terror are everywhere. Some will die. However, the names of all will be recorded. The dead will awake. Some will live forever. Others will be cast into eternal doom. Living forever will be the wise. The wise, in the Scriptures' judgment, are not necessarily persons of high intelligence, but rather those able to perceive the greatness of God in all things.

For the second reading, the church offers us a selection from the Epistle to the Hebrews. This

book of the New Testament, majestic in its eloquence and deep in its message, extols Jesus. Drawing upon symbols in ancient Judaism, it describes Jesus as the one and eternal high priest. Jesus offered the ultimate and profound sacrifice.

One with God, Jesus sits at the right hand of God's throne, judging the good and the bad. He has vanquished all enemies of God and of the right and just.

He sanctifies, or makes holy, all who have been perfected by their turning to God and by having had their sins forgiven.

St. Mark's Gospel supplies this weekend's third reading. Scholars assume that this Gospel was the first of the four to be written. Many believe that it was composed in Rome. Some think that the author had connections with Peter. They wonder if the author of this Gospel might not have been a scribe, writing at the behest of the illiterate Peter.

In any case, the Gospel apparently was written in a time of anxiety if not outright persecution. Christians, of course, were under great duress from authorities in Rome about this time.

Maybe this experience led the evangelist to include in the Gospel text the Lord's words about "trials of every sort." Difficult times might come, as they indeed came in the awful persecution of Nero and subsequent emperors.

But, no power on earth, not even that the mighty Roman emperor, would be able to thwart God's plan of salvation. Even if evil seemed to prevail, the heavenly forces of God would descend from the clouds in glory and in victory. God's messengers would overwhelm any enemy, any representative of darkness and evil.

Reflection

The readings this weekend set the stage for next weekend, the great feast of Christ the King. They also address a situation as ancient in Christianity as the days of the Apostle Peter in Rome. They speak of the devout living among the enemies of God, amid harsh times.

The first part of the lesson reminds us that life on earth is no paradise. It has never been paradise for anyone loyal to God. Enemies of God are real, and they are active. They come, in the words of the old catechism, from "the world, the flesh and the devil."

However, none of these enemies is strong enough to stand against God. God will prevail. His will cannot be thwarted. Jesus is God. Jesus triumphed over the devil, for Jesus rescued sinners from the ultimate grasp of the devil. Christians have nothing to fear for Jesus is their guide and protector. Next weekend, the church will joyfully celebrate Christ the King.

READINGS

Sunday: Dn 12:1-3 Ps 16:5, 8-11 Heb 10:11-14, 18 Mk 13:24-32

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158 Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31 Ps 3:2-7 Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31 Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15 Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29 Ps 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15 Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 (Ps) 1 Chr 29:10-12 Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13 Ps 92:4-6, 16, 19 Lk 20:27-40

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

On Nov. 17, the church remembers St. Elizabeth of Hungary. This quiz looks at Christianity in that Eastern European country.

1. Christianity was preached early in what is now Hungary. When was the first missionary activity?

- a. The first century b. The fourth century c. The seventh century

2. Unusually, this activity

- a. was 100 percent successful.
b. left virtually no impression.
c. resulted in all the Hungarians becoming martyrs.

3. A re-evangelization occurred in these centuries:

- a. the first and the second
b. the ninth and the 10th
c. the 13th and the 18th

4. Which form of Christianity was introduced?

- a. Western (Catholicism) b. Eastern (Orthodoxy) c. Both

5. Which form eventually prevailed as the dominant force?

- a. Western (Catholicism) b. Eastern (Orthodoxy) c. Both

6. Formal church government was introduced in 1001 by this king:

- a. Stephen b. Kipperbang c. Wenceslas

7. He established several dioceses and one of these at Ezergom:

- a. An ark b. An archdiocese c. A synod

8. One of the tools the Hungarian monarchs was to use to influence the church was a rule that a papal proclamation could not be issued in Hungary without their consent. What was this called?

- a. The placetum regium
b. The sine qua non
c. The zamboni of Franconi

9. One monarch, Joseph, also tried to control the church. What was this philosophy know as?

- a. Josephism b. Anticlericalism c. Sanhedrinism

10. Somewhat bizarrely, ruler Maria Theresa got the pope to grant her this title:

- a. Grand Pooh Bah
b. Last of the Magyar Mohicans
c. Apostolic King

11. Although the church retained a lot of influence until 1945, many Hungarians were affected by this movement which had started in Germany:

- a. The Reformation
b. The Great Famine
c. The Muslim Invasion

12. This movement took hold especially in this region (then part of Hungary), which is also associated with vampires:

- a. Pennsylvania
b. Spotsylvania
c. Transylvania

13. During the WWII period, this Christian symbol combined with this weapon gave the Hungarian fascists a symbol:

- a. The cross and arrow (Arrow Cross)
b. The chalice and halberd (Grail Pike)
c. The church dome and a gun or bow (onion gunbow)

14. After getting rid of the fascists, the Hungarians had this anti-religious creed thrust on them:

- a. Horticulturalism
b. Communism
c. Conservatism

15. One of the results was the persecution of this man who took refuge in the U.S. embassy for 15 years:

- a. Vladimir Lenin b. Cardinal Mindszenty c. Imre Nagy

ANSWERS:

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

Shipwreck places St. Paul at Malta

Where did St. Paul suffer shipwreck?

The Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament describes the storm and shipwreck of St. Paul. Paul had been imprisoned at Caesarea in Israel. Since he was a Roman citizen, Paul was able to appeal his case to the emperor in Rome.

Paul and other prisoners were placed on a ship heading for Rome. They came to Myra in southern Turkey on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. From there they boarded a new ship that encountered a terrible storm or hurricane near the Greek island of Crete. Eventually they saw a bay with a sandy beach. The ship hit a sandbar, ran aground and sank. The passengers swam or walked on planks to the shore. Eventually they learned they were on the island of Malta. Here a poisonous snake bit Paul with no ill effects, so the natives thought

he was a god. The father of Publius, the chief of the island, was sick in bed with a chronic fever. Paul cured him and eventually all of the sick on the island.

The island of Malta is also called Melita. M. Grant says St. Paul was shipwrecked there about A.D. 60. Father John McKenzie says Malta lay 60 miles south of Sicily and 200 miles from Cape Bon, the nearest point in northern Africa. Malta is 17 miles long and 9 miles wide at its greatest extent.

St. Paul's Bay on the north side of Malta fits well for the site of the shipwreck, even to the direction of the prevailing winds. Hayit says Malta is almost directly in the center of the Mediterranean Sea. This archipelago is a remnant of what was once an isthmus connecting Sicily and North Africa.

In Malta they celebrate the



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

official holiday of St. Paul's shipwreck on Feb. 10. Within the few months that St. Paul wintered in Malta, he was able to spread Christianity. At the time of his departure, some of the Maltese had already been converted. Today 98 percent of the Maltese are Catholic. The Apostle Paul is Malta's patron saint.

In the city of Rabat on Malta, you can visit St. Paul's catacombs. Hayit says there you go down into this Christian burial site dating back to the fourth

through fifth centuries. It is a complexity of branching tunnels. The corpses were buried in tombs dug out of the soft sandstone. Also in Rabat is St. Paul's Church built in 1575. This church is built above a cave in which St. Paul supposedly lived after his shipwreck. A statue of the apostle and a model ship can be seen in the grotto. At Rabat are also the St. Agatha catacombs where some of the tombs are decorated with frescoes.

One of the largest tourist centers in Malta is St. Paul's Bay, the traditional site of the shipwreck. Here there are coastal cliffs and stretches of sand. Then there are the small St. Paul's Islands off to the north of St. Paul's Bay. Hayit says in A.D. 60, St. Paul landed on the nearer of the two islands

after having been shipwrecked. He then used this opportunity to spread Christianity. In 1845 a marble statue was erected on the site where the apostle presumably landed.

Valletta is the capital city of Malta. Here you can see St. John's Co-Cathedral finished in 1577. Hayit says the ceiling depicts the 18 stations of St. John the Baptist's life. The floor is comprised of 400 marble grave slabs on which the names are written in mosaic. This cathedral's museum houses the famous painting "The Beheading of St. Ian" by Caravaggio.

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

Norwegian sanctimony, global folly

The Norwegian Nobel Committee looked in the mirror, saw the president of the United States, and awarded the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize to Barack Obama. One is tempted to vary Rainer Maria Rilke ("Love consists in this, that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other") and suggest that this was the meeting of two narcissisms. But that, as the late Richard Milhous Nixon might have said, would be wrong. The Norwegian Nobel Committee is sufficiently enamored of its own moral superiority to ascribe its self-regarding virtues to any nominee it wishes — particularly one who will help it flog the political corpse of George W. Bush (see "Gore, Al" and "Carter, Jimmy").

The astonishing announcement of the Peace Prize — which surprised the president and may have caused him a moment's embarrassment — was a matter of the Scandinavian left projecting what it regards as its superior political morality onto the man who promised "change" and "hope" without specifying the content of either. Still, it seems reasonably clear what the Norwegians imagine that content to be.

The world of the Norwegian Nobel Committee is one which conflict is born from misunderstanding rather than from a clash of interests; thus diplomacy is a therapeutic exercise in which soothing words make for peace. The notion that "peace" might have something to do with creating structures by which conflict is resolved politically — which informed the award of the Peace Prize to George C. Marshall, Nelson Mandela and Frederik Willem de Klerk — is missing from the Norwegians' view of the world these days (unless, that is,

they're giving their award to a failed multilateral institution like the International Atomic Energy Agency).

Once upon a time, the Norwegian Nobel Committee also understood the linkage between human rights and peace; hence the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to heroes like Andrei Sakharov and Lech Walesa, who resisted the communist colossus with the power of moral truth.

But that commitment to human rights seems to have become a thing of the past, too. Did the Norwegians know that, a few days before this year's prize was announced, their 2009 awardee had stiffed their 1989 awardee, the Dalai Lama, declining to receive the nonviolent Tibetan leader at the White House for fear of aggravating a Chinese government that proclaims "human rights" a western imperialist imposition? Would it have mattered if they did?

The Norwegian Nobel Committee imagines that the president shares its worldview and, as one of its members said, it wanted to encourage Obama on his chosen path. But what if the path of "hope" and "change" turns out to be a snare and a delusion, because those to be appeased are unappeasable?

Suppose the path the Norwegian Nobel Committee wishes the president to follow leads to a revival of al-Qaeda terrorism and a nuclear-armed Iran? What if diplomacy-as-therapy leads, not only to a nuclear armed Iran, but to a nuclear-armed Egypt, a nuclear-armed Saudi Arabia, nuclear-armed Gulf states — and a devastating nuclear war in the Middle East? Is that the path of moral rectitude and political wisdom? What will the Norwegian Nobel Committee see



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

when it looks in the mirror the day after Tel Aviv, or Jerusalem, or Tehran, or Mecca, or Cairo, or Riyadh (or all of the above) is a smoldering, radioactive ruin?

The president has a golden opportunity to do something about this dangerous and willful Euro-naivete when he accepts the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize in December. He could accept it in the name of a United States committed to global leadership of the sort that saved Europe from its follies three times in the 20th century. He could use the global bully pulpit to tell President Ahmadinejad and the mullahs of Iran that their vicious regime will not be permitted to acquire a nuclear weapons capability. He could call on the Chinese government, and tinpot dictators like Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, to recognize that there is no peace without human rights.

If he does, the Norwegian Nobel Committee may well faint en masse; but the president will have taken a giant step toward earning his Peace Prize.

Correction: A previous column referred to the "Franciscan Friars of the Atonement" rather than the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. My apologies.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for November 15, 2009

Mark 13:24-32

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: a foretelling of the last days. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THOSE DAYS	TRIBULATION	DARKENED
LIGHT	STARS	POWERS
SON OF MAN	CLOUDS	SEND OUT
ANGELS	GATHER	ELECT
FOUR WINDS	EARTH	TENDER
SUMMER	HE IS NEAR	GATES
MY WORDS	THAT DAY	HOUR

AT THE GATES

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

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LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

endeavors and urged artists and entertainers to steer clear of "empty glory or the craving for cheap popularity" or easy profit.

Artistic gatherings and events have been a common occurrence at the Vatican.

In the decades of Pope John Paul's pontificate, it was not unusual to see all sorts of popular art forms employed.

Pope John Paul met with countless stars from the entertainment industry, and reminded them of their responsibility to be positive role models, "capable of

inspiring trust, optimism and hope."

While Pope Benedict XVI is an avid pianist and has spoken numerous times about the importance of beauty and art, he tends to shy away from raucous encounters.

In fact, the pope, then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, wrote in 1998 that he had been skeptical of the idea of Pope John Paul sharing the stage in 1997 with a group of rock and pop stars that included Bob Dylan.

"They had a message that was completely different from the one the pope was committed to," then-Cardinal Ratzinger wrote. He said he wondered whether "it was really right to let these types of 'prophets' intervene."

Sports

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FINISH STRONG AT STATE CROSS-COUNTRY MEET At the state championship cross-country meet Saturday, Oct. 31, Bishop Dwenger finished 12th overall and Saint Joseph's finished 16th. Boys academic all-state honors go to Bishop Dwenger's Mike Gloudenmans and Luke Momper and Mike Bradley and Charles Logue for Saint Joseph's. Academic all-state honors go to Elizabeth Everett, Kim Halstead, Ellen Roof and Emily Schmidt for Saint Joseph's girls team.

St. Jude, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, St. Charles crowned in CYO play

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In Catholic Youth League (CYO) volleyball action, three new champions were crowned on Saturday, Oct. 24, at St. Charles Hession Center in nail biters that each took three games to declare a winner. The Eagles from St. Jude earned the title for the Green League, seventh grade, by beating St. Joseph, Decatur. Eagles' Coach Matt Momper felt it was a "true team effort" in the exciting rematch against the team's only loss during the season.

The two teams tied for the league title both turning in a 6-1 record. When meeting once again for the tournament championship, Decatur was victorious the first game, 25-24. The tough Lady Commodores also led late in the second game, but the Eagles came back to win, 25-24, forcing a third game. The 12 young ladies from St. Jude once more came from behind in the tiebreaker to win by a final score of 15-8.

In the small school league, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel finished with a perfect record of 11-0, but not without a hard-fought battle from the St. Therese Crusaders. The Squires won the first game, 25-16, while St. Therese came back and won the second, 25-23. In the deciding game, which is played to 15 (with a 17-point cap) and must be won by two, Hessen Cassel squeaked by, 16-14.

Coach Doug Schaadt was pleased with his Squires' stellar performance commenting, "We played the best match we have played all year. And it needed to be. St. Therese played us real tight the whole time."

Because his team went undefeated, Schaadt agreed to shave his mustache as promised at the beginning of the season.

In the loss, Mackenzie North again led Lisa Palmer's Crusaders with 17 kills and outstanding all-around play. Taylor Luegring had seven assists and three kills, while Adriana Trevino had four assists and one block. Angelica Navarro added five kills and Carrie Lill played tremendously in the back row and had numerous digs. It was Sam Lee's serves which brought St. Therese back in the third game to tie things up at 14, but the Crusaders came up just short.

In the final edge-of-your seat contest, third-seeded St. Charles downed top-seeded St. Joseph,



PHOTOS BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Shown are St. Charles champion girls volleyball team. In front, from left, are Coach Angie Patterson, Sierra Fisher, Kaelinh Trinh, Abby Sordelet and Nicole Maxwell. In back are Emily Elsasser, Katie Yeager, Tori Houk, Brianna Bertoli, Vanessa Godfrey, Olivia Current and Coach Belinda Justus.



Shown are the St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel champion girls volleyball team. In front, from left, are Miranda Malott, Taylor Tobe, Cara Schaadt, Haleigh DeVido and Derek Schaadt. In back are Maddy Strack, Kayla Knapke, Samantha Muldoon, Hannah Beckman, Kendall Knapke and Coach Doug Schaadt.

Decatur, 20-25, 25-24, 15-12, for the White League (large school) medals. After losing the first game, the Lady Cards came back to win the second and third games.

On their way to the championship, St. Charles beat St. Jude in the first round and second seeded Queen of Angels in the semifinals. Hit by the flu bug, the Lady Cards rallied to avenge their season loss (25-12, 24-25, 14-16) against Queen of Angels.

In her 18th season with St. Charles volleyball, Coach Angie Patterson acknowledged, "The whole team really stepped up to advance to the championship."

With a full roster back and hard work in practice on improving coverage, defense and better com-

munication, the scrappy Cards were able to secure the title their eighth-grade season. The team's hitting strength from all five starters, but most especially, middle hitters, Nicole Maxwell and Olivia Current, combined with outstanding setting from Abby Sordelet, proved very effective in the championship game.

Patterson added, "Abby has truly been the core of this team. The same teams have been rivals all four years in this class. I've enjoyed the friendly rivalry with Decatur. They have a good program and Mike Wilder is a very good coach."

Patterson concluded, "It was really great to win. The eighth-grade year is the one we all want."

Cardegles finish well in cross country action

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In Catholic Youth League (CYO) cross country action, the Cardegles of St. Jude and St. Charles finished their 2009 season in grand style. Overall, the boys finished 39-24, while the girls had a 24-28 record on the year.

Coach Dan Kauffman reported that both teams were hit by some illness and injuries, but still did well.

At the Carroll Middle School Invitational, the boys turned in a fifth-place finish. They were also in the fifth-place spot at the New Haven Classic in the big school division.

The Cardegles girls took the first-place title, 42-54, over Blackhawk Christian at the Cardeggle Invitational they hosted at Shoaff Park on a cold and rainy Oct. 8. In a very close contest on the boys' side, the mighty Cardegles finished runner-up in the eight team race. Individually, Scottie Jauch and Kevin Wuest were the top two Cardegles at fifth and seventh overall, followed by Mark Roy and Blake Malone at 11th and 12th.

For the girls, Addie Rembold of St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth was

the overall meet champ, while Karen Eckrich finished third, Emily Miller — seventh, Gabrielle Acree — eighth and Abby Schwaiger was the 13th runner to cross the line in the Cardeggle Invitational.

At the annual awards banquet, Kauffman awarded his following top seven girls: Eckrich, Acree, Miller, Abbey Brelage, Schwaiger, Marie Lothamer and Eden Nitz. Named for the boys were Jauch, Tyler Johnson, Wuest, Roy, Alex Cagle, Jacob Scott and Bryson Tretter. Jauch and Eckrich were named "Most Valuable Runners," while the "Most Improved Runner" recipients were Zach Campbell and Nitz. Those named for their "Mental Attitude" were Mikey Desch and Acree. Finally, the Cardeggle Award was given to Zach McIntyre.

Coach Dan Kauffman described that the Cardeggle Award depicts what a cross country runner should truly represent. The winner is the athlete who displays a great attitude, hard work at practice, excellent attendance, dedication to the team and dedication to the sport.

"This person runs because they want to, not because they have to," explained Kauffman.



PROVIDED BY THE CARDEGLES

Scotty Jauch and Karen Eckrich are the Cardegles' top two runners.



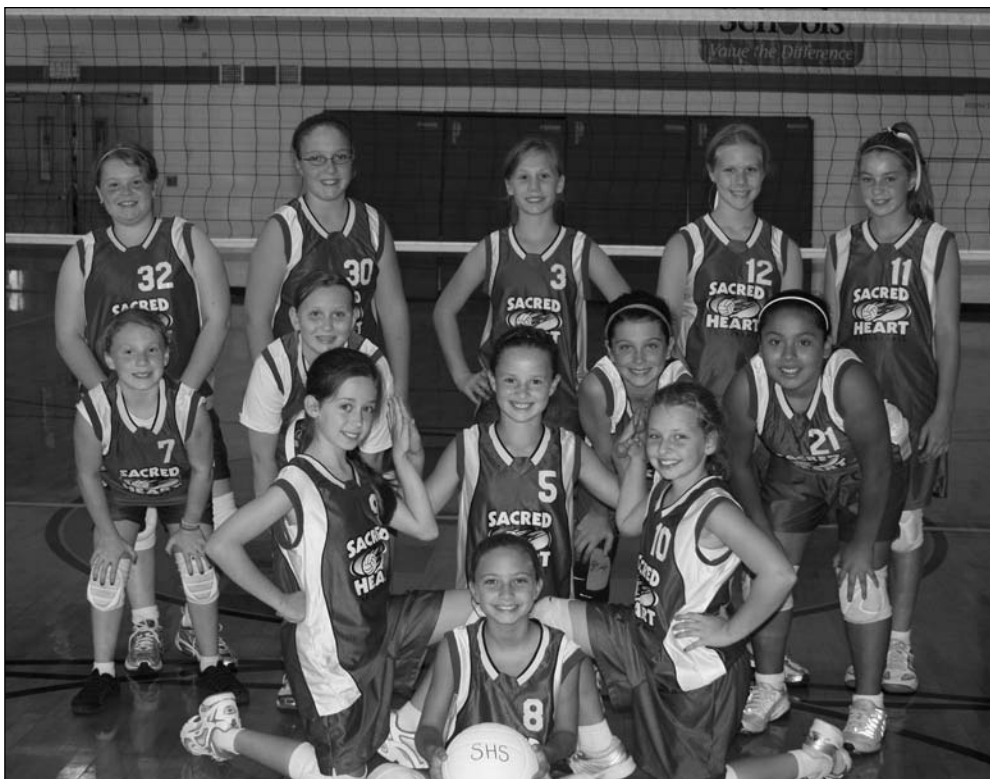
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Sacred Heart Elementary School, Warsaw, made history by being the first school to have both their A and B volleyball teams go undefeated in the season. The A team, (7-0 this season) has not had a loss since the third week of last season. "Our coaching philosophy is to prepare our girls to play at the next level by working hard at the fundamentals such as passing, serving and using three hits," said Coach Karin Steffensmeier. Members of the Viking volleyball team are Ella Knight, Quinn Downing, Paige Desenberg, Julie Frazzetta, Anne Sechrist, Brynn Durecki, Gabby Lancaster, Peyton Adamiec, Courtney Steffensmeier, Blake McGarvey, Taylor Graves, Natalie Conley, Cede Sanchez and Valesca Aquillar. Team managers were Macy Glenn and Libby Kirkham.



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

FUNDRAISERS

Turkey bingo

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School, 10700 Aboite Center Rd., will host turkey bingo on Sunday, Nov. 22, from 1-3 p.m. Win a Thanksgiving turkey, gift certificate or cash. Card prices range from 25 cents to \$1. Snacks are available for purchase. All proceeds support the SJSE Home and School Association. For information, call (260) 625-5056.

Turkey Trot Knight Party

Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club is sponsoring a Turkey Trot Knight Party Sunday, Nov. 22, at Columbia Street West with The Junk Yard Band. Donation of \$20 per person. Purchase tickets at the door or pre-purchase at Bishop Luers Athletic Department. Great food and prizes. Open to the public.

Queen of Peace holiday craft bazaar

Mishawaka — Queen of Peace Parish will have a holiday craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 65 crafters will offer their wares.

Buy chances for the piggy raffle, big cash raffle or purchase sweet treats from the bake sale. Refreshments and chili will also be available.

Ham and turkey for dinner

New Haven — The St. Louis Besancon ham and turkey dinner will be Sunday, Nov. 22, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the parish hall, 15535 Lincoln Highway East. A country craft store, silent auction, quilt raffle and turkey raffle will also be offered. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 5-13 and children under 5 are free.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Nov. 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic toast and coffee. Carry-out available.

Cookie walk, bake and craft sale

South Bend — St. Patrick Parish, 308 S Scott St., will have a cookie walk, bake sale and craft sale,

Saturday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cookies sold by the pound, crafts suitable for gifts and lunch will be available.

Card party and euchre tournament

Fort Wayne — St. Aloysius will have a card party and euchre tournament Saturday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. in the basement. \$5 entry fee. Doors open at 6:30, tournament begins at 7 p.m. Food and beverages for a free-will offering.

Christ Child Society plans cookie walk

Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a holiday cookie walk and bake sale Saturday, Dec. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in the church hall. The Christ Child Society is a non profit association of volunteer women of all denominations, devoted to promoting the welfare of disadvantaged children.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Bishop Luers High School open house
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will have an open

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Joyce A. Koch, 57, Immaculate Conception

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Ann M. Burke, 74, St. John the Baptist

Barbara C. Vermeire, 77, St. Vincent de Paul

Anna Todoran Purdy, 85, Most Precious Blood

Thomas Clinton Colvin, 79 Most Precious Blood

Mishawaka

Delia F. Brambert, 84, St. Bavo

Ronald E. Grontkowski, 71, Queen of Peace

Notre Dame

Richard H. Clifford, Sr., 80, Basilica of Sacred Heart

South Bend

Carl R. Berta, 70, St. Jude

Stanley J. Borek, 85, St. Adalbert

Bryan John Sepanek, 49, St. Jude

Flora O. Vega, 100, St. Adalbert

Emily M. Beitler, 95, St. Adalbert

Clarice A. Ferger, 88, Holy Family

Sister Mary Richard, 94, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Sister served at St. Patrick, St. Jude, and Central Catholic, Fort Wayne.

Sister Ellen Marie Stafford, 93, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Sister served at St. Jude, Fort Wayne.

house on Nov. 15, from 2-4 p.m. Information about clubs, sports, financial aid and more. Tours will be conducted and all teachers and staff will be available. For information, call the Bishop Luers Admissions Office (260) 456-1261.

Project Rachel founder to speak at seminar

A free daylong seminar sponsored by the diocese on post-abortion healing and reconciliation will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, at the Sacred Heart Parish Center at Notre Dame and Tuesday, Nov. 17, at St. Mary Parish in Fort Wayne. Vicki Thorn, the founder and director of Project Rachel will be the speaker. Anyone interested in learning more about post-abortion reconciliation is welcome. The seminar is free but pre-registration is required by Nov. 12. Call (574) 234-0687 in South Bend or (260) 483-3661 in Fort Wayne.

University of Saint Francis will offer living nativity

Fort Wayne — The University of Saint Francis will have a living nativity Sunday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. The Lighting of Mirror Lake will take place at that time as well and a choral music concert will follow at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St. No charge for these events.

5K run/walk helps Invisible Children

Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School students are sponsoring Peace of the Puzzle, a 5K run/walk Saturday, Nov. 14, at

Shoaff Park. Registration begins at 8 a.m., race at 9 a.m. Cost is \$15 and participants receive a T-shirt. All proceeds benefit Invisible Children, a non profit organization working to rebuild Layibi Secondary School in Northern Uganda.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Edward Erpelding will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel on Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 7:15 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Father Erpelding is pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla.

Holiday bazaar

Bristol — St. Mary Parish, 411 West Vistula St., will have a holiday bazaar Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bishop Dwenger Craft Show

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters will have a craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school gymnasium, 1300 E. Washington Center Rd. Concessions will be open for snacks and beverages. Admission is free.

Kris Kringle craft show and food pantry drive

South Bend — Little Flower Parish will have a Kris Kringle craft show and food pantry drive Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All hand-made crafts in 45 booths. Bake sale, drawings and lunch will be available. Non perishable food items will be accepted for the food pantry.

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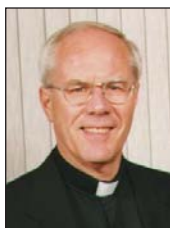
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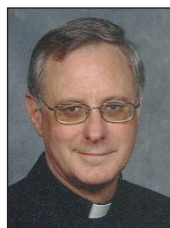
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MSGR. ROBERT SCHULTE

MSGRS.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Holy Father to one of our retired priests:

• Rev. Raymond J. Balzer, former pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne; Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn; and St. Rose of Lima Parish, Monroeville. Father Balzer resides at Saint Anne's Home.

In honoring these seven priests in the Year for Priests, Bishop D'Arcy said, "We receive these honors with gratitude to our Holy Father. In the Year for Priests, the Holy Father has honored our diocese and all priests who serve here.

"Let us pray that through this Year for Priests all our priests will be sanctified and that more young men of good quality will join us in this demanding, but beautiful vocation."

"Monsignor" is not itself an appointment but a form of address. Properly speaking, one cannot be "made a monsignor" nor can one

be "the monsignor of a parish." It is a title associated with an honorary award. The three awards or offices most often associated with the style "monsignor" are Protonotary Apostolic, Honorary Prelate and Chaplain of His Holiness.

These awards are granted by the pope, usually at the request of the local bishop. In most English-speaking countries, it is not used for bishops, but only for priests who have received certain specific honorary awards or who hold certain offices. The written form of address for a priest-monsignor is: "The Rev. Monsignor (last name)," and the spoken form of address is: "Monsignor (last name)." Monsignor is abbreviated Msgr.

The new monsignors will be honored at a special liturgy in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, in the near future, Bishop D'Arcy said.

"This honor was totally unexpected. It was a complete surprise," said Msgr. Piechocki. "Not only do I see it as recognition of the hard work and patient endurance of the entire staff of the marriage tribunal, it also gives testimony to the important role

played within the diocese by Our Lady of Good Hope Parish."

"Bishop D'Arcy has indicated that this honor is as much for the parish as it is for those of us who received the new title. That brings comfort to me," added Msgr. Schooler.

"I was very surprised, but also humbled," said Msgr. Heintz. "I figure it's a greater reflection on the good people I have had the privilege of serving and the other priests with whom I have worked and who have formed me, as these have been influences that have shaped me and made me a better priest."

"I'm surprised, I didn't know it was coming," said Msgr. Schulte. "It's an honor. A lot of people are commenting about it."

Growing up at St. Peter's Parish in Fort Wayne, Msgr. Schulte said he had monsignors, especially Msgr. John A. Bapst, pastor, as a priestly influence.

"It kind of made me feel like a senior priest," Msgr. Schulte added. "It will take some getting used to. I've been 'Father Bob' for 34 years."

And finally, Msgr. Galic said, "I am humbled by the honor and grateful for it."



PHOTOS BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Erica Renninger, a fourth-grade student from St. Joseph School, Monroeville, recites the Vocation Prayer with Bishop John M. D'Arcy at the all-school Mass celebrated at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Nov. 4. Erica chose St. Agnes as her patroness for the event.



Students from Catholic schools in the Fort Wayne area process into the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Nov. 4 with Bishop John M. D'Arcy who celebrated the all-school Mass.



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SAINTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The bishop referred to Father Damien, who was canonized a saint by Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 11, drawing that we all need to find "our island of Molokai" (where Damien served the lepers), and be kind to that person in our classroom or reach out to the poor. Bishop D'Arcy spoke of Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta and her thirst to bring Jesus to the poorest of the poor, St. Therese Lisieux and her little ways, and St. Charles Borromeo whose feast day was celebrated Nov. 4.

Finally, Bishop D'Arcy listed the ways to become a saint, which we are all called to through our baptism:

- Pray every day;
- Receive holy Communion;
- Go to confession.

At the close of Mass, Bishop D'Arcy referred to St. John Vianney, who died over 150 years ago. This saint could not read and

could not write, but wanted to be a priest. When he finally did, he loved his vocation more than anything.

Bishop D'Arcy reminded everyone to pray every day to get more priests, especially during this year, which Pope Benedict has declared the Year for Priests. He also used the opportunity to thank all the parish priests who took time out to be at the Mass and were seated on stage with him.

After polling students who could remember and calling students dressed as St. Timothy and St. Agnes to the microphone to assist him, Bishop D'Arcy asked the group to recite together his annual prayer: "Lord, help me, teach me to find my vocation in life."

The recently-named superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese, Dr. Mark Myers, was given an opportunity to address the students and add his thanks. At the end of Mass, Bishop D'Arcy gave one final instruction before the closing song and student dismissal: "Talk to Jesus every day. Talk to him like a good friend from your heart."