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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Challenged to become the men God wants them to be



St. Vincent de Paul Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference ignites men's faith

BY CASEY O'BOYLE

FORT WAYNE — To be a man, or not to be a man. That was the question.

Or, at least for those who attended the Feb. 6 Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, that was the unofficial theme of the day.

No, the sold-out event didn't adopt a Shakespearean motif. Instead, it focused on men becoming the men God wants them to be, with special emphasis on the de-feminization of today's male and a renewed vigor toward the essence of authentic masculinity, specifically concerning one's faith.

Featuring speakers Jon Leonetti, Jason Garrett and Father Larry Richards, the nearly-400 men who came from as far away as California were treated to a spirit-filled day saturated with laughter, introspection and an occasional tear.

Bishop Kevin Rhoades made his first appearance at St. Vincent, celebrating 8 a.m. Mass to kick-start the day. Msgr. John Kuzmich and Father Richards celebrated the early-morning Mass, which drew an estimated 700 people.

Afterward, the St. Vincent Parish Hall was slammed to capacity as men from various walks of faith — though predominantly attended by Catholics — were entertained, captivated and, most especially, challenged by the trio of speakers.

REKINDLE, PAGE 4

Father Larry Richards, the marquis speaker at the Feb. 6 Rekindle the Fire men's conference at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, was both animated and poignant in urging attendees to become the men God created them to be.

YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



FATHER PHILLIP WIDMANN

At the time Phillip Widmann attended St. Peter Grade School in Fort Wayne, the thriving parish where sermons had once

rung out in a strong German tongue, was presided over by Msgr. John Bapst, who had four young priests as assistants.

Today, Father Phillip Widmann is pastor

YEAR OF, PAGE 4

Fast and abstinence during Lent

Catholics in the United States are obliged to abstain from the eating of meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during the season of Lent. They are also obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended. — U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' pastoral statement of Nov. 18, 1966.

Persons between the ages of 18 and 58 are bound by the law of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday; persons 59 years of age and older are not bound to the law of fasting on these days. All persons 14 years of age and older are bound to observe the law of abstinence during the Fridays of Lent.

The law of fasting, which obliges on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and is recom-

mended on other weekdays of Lent, allows only one full meal a day, but does not forbid taking some food at the other two mealtimes. — Apostolic Constitution of Poenitemini 111, 1 and 2.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has urged that, according to a long-standing tradition, people try to attend daily Mass during Lent. Other traditional practices, such as Stations of the Cross, rosary, personal prayer and visits to the Blessed Sacrament, are highly encouraged. Concrete sacrifices, however small, for those in need are strongly encouraged. All are asked to pray for those among us who are preparing for Baptism or reception into the Church at Easter time. All are also asked to pray for more young men and women to respond to the call to the priesthood and consecrated life.

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Holy Spirit at work building and sanctifying the Church



BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

I am writing this column on Super Bowl Sunday, having returned from celebrating a Confirmation Mass at St. Therese Church in Fort Wayne. This was my second Confirmation in the diocese. Celebrating this sacrament is one of my most enjoyable ministries as bishop. It was a joy today to bestow the gifts of the Holy Spirit upon the young people of St. Therese's and to meet them and their families and sponsors. I thank Father David Ruppert, the pastor, for his warm welcome as well as all the teachers and catechists at St. Therese and throughout the diocese who prepare our young people for Confirmation. This is an important step in the faith life of our young people and a wonderful opportunity to share with them the teachings of our faith, especially the dynamic presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church and in our individual lives.

Speaking of the Holy Spirit, we know Him in the Church and in the Scriptures and tradition He inspired. We know Him in prayer and in the liturgy which puts us into communion with Christ. And we know the Holy Spirit in the fruits borne in the lives of those who live and walk by the Spirit. As I continue to travel around our diocese, I see these fruits. I see the Holy Spirit at work building, animating and sanctifying the Church.

This past week, I celebrated two dormitory Masses at the University of Notre Dame. I was invited to Siegfried Hall to offer Mass by three young men from the Diocese of Harrisburg. I was happy after Mass to greet them along with two young men from our diocese, as well as dozens of other students. They made me an honorary "Rambler," the nickname of their residents and intramural teams. The next evening I celebrated Mass at Morrissey Manor, a dormitory renowned for the number of priestly vocations that come from there. Both Masses were packed with students who participated wholeheartedly in the Masses. It is so edifying to see and experience the vibrant faith of the students at Notre Dame.

While in the South Bend area, I was able for the first time to visit our Chancery Office there. I am still getting used to the idea of having two see cities, two cathedrals and two chancery offices. The diocesan employees at both Fort Wayne and South Bend are deeply committed to the mission of the Church and I am grateful for their hard work and their assistance as I still become acclimated to my new surroundings and my ministry here.

Last week was Catholic Schools Week, a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Catholic education. We did so both in South Bend and Fort Wayne at two large benefit luncheons. Quality Dining Inc., generously provided these luncheons at which several of our Catholic school teachers received the Light of Learning Award. I expressed gratitude in my remarks to all our Catholic school teachers who are true partners in the Church's mission



CASEY O'BOYLE

Bishop Kevin Rhoades distributes holy Communion to St. Vincent de Paul parishioner Max Moore, as Msgr. John Kuzmich, right, looks on at the Mass before the Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference.

of educating the whole person and of transmitting the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ to our children and young people. It is their generosity, intelligent creativity, and pursuit of excellence that make our schools so successful.

The highlight of Catholic Schools Week for me was visiting Marian High School in Mishawaka and Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, my first visits to Catholic schools in our diocese. What great spirit I saw in both these schools whose student bodies welcomed me with such warmth and enthusiasm! I wish to thank the two fine principals of these high schools, Mr. Carl Loesch at Marian and Mrs. Mary Keefer at Luers. The liturgies at both schools were beautiful. At the end of both Masses, I engaged the students in some enjoyable conversation, though I think part of that time was a tactic to delay their return to classes. I visited some classes in both high schools where I witnessed not only the high caliber of their intellectual formation, but also their positive engagement with me in discussing our Catholic faith. I also enjoyed lunches at both schools with student leaders, student council members. They were excellent, engaging, friendly and joyful young people. I saw firsthand how the noble mission of Catholic education is being fulfilled so beautifully at Marian and Bishop Luers high schools. I encourage all in our diocese to support our Catholic schools spiritually and financially. They are very important for our future since they equip our young people with a sound education, rooted in the Person of Jesus Christ. In our Catholic schools, our young people receive the foundation to live morally and uprightly in our complex modern world.

While in the South Bend area, I stayed as a guest at the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka. Now I know why Bishop D'Arcy enjoyed staying there when he was in that area. Their hospitality is incredible! I thank Sister Angela, the provincial superior, and all the sisters for their kindness. I was happy to celebrate their community Mass on the morning of the feast of St. Blaise, during which we had the traditional blessing of throats. We remembered in our prayers all the sick of our diocese. How

blessed our diocese is to have this community of sisters who are so devoted not only to their many wonderful ministries, but most importantly, devoted to the Lord Jesus whom they adore night and day in the Blessed Sacrament! I encourage any young women in our diocese discerning a religious vocation to check out the Sisters of St. Francis in Mishawaka.

Early Saturday morning, I joined several hundred faithful at the beginning of a Men's Day of Prayer at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne. It was great to see so many men, young and old, who gathered to spend a day in prayer and in deepening their lives of faith. I thank Msgr. John Kuzmich, the pastor, for his support of this spiritual initiative. I hope to see this important ministry grow in our diocese.

As you can see, this past week has been quite busy for me. It has been a bit challenging to keep up with all the homilies and speeches I need to prepare, but I have to admit that I am enjoying the challenge. I already feel very much at home here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, thanks to the warm welcome I receive everywhere I go.

Finally, as I look back on this past week, I wish to note that on several days we celebrated martyrs of the Church, Sts. Blaise, Agatha and Paul Miki and Companions. At the various liturgies, I spoke about these martyrs. It is good that we remember those who gave the supreme witness to the truth of the faith, bearing witness unto death. They are an inspiration for us today as we seek to persevere in faith on our earthly pilgrimage, even when at times we encounter difficulties, challenges, or even persecution and hostility. We are all called to be witnesses of the Gospel by the example of our lives. As St. Paul said, we should never be ashamed of testifying to our Lord! May the holy martyrs intercede for us in our daily efforts to live in the truth and charity of Christ.

You may find Bishop Rhoades occasional columns or homilies at todayscatholicnews.org under the columnist section.

Confirmation schedule, spring 2010

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Date	Time	Parish and Location	Bishop
Jan 24	Sunday, 1:30 p.m.	Holy Cross, South Bend and St. Stanislaus, South Bend at Holy Cross	Rhoades
Feb 7	Sunday, 11 a.m.	St. Therese, Fort Wayne	Rhoades
March 6	Saturday, 5:30 p.m.	St. Anthony of Padua, Angola	D'Arcy
March 27	Saturday, 10 a.m.	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Rhoades
March 27	Saturday, 2 p.m.	St. Joseph, Fort Wayne	Rhoades
April 5	Monday, 7 p.m.	Group Confirmation: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	Rhoades
		St. Mary, Fort Wayne	
		St. Peter, Fort Wayne	
		St. Joseph, Roanoke	
		St. Catherine, Nix Settlement	
		St. Joseph, Bluffton	
		Immaculate Conception, Auburn	
		St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel	
April 9	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Mary, Bristol	D'Arcy
April 12	Monday, 7 p.m.	St. Mary, Decatur	D'Arcy
April 13	Tuesday, 7 p.m.	Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne	D'Arcy
April 14	Wednesday, 7 p.m.	Most Precious Blood, Fort Wayne	Rhoades
April 15	Thursday, 7 p.m.	St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne	D'Arcy
April 16	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Jude, Fort Wayne	Rhoades
April 17	Saturday, 7 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Ege	D'Arcy
		St. John Bosco, Churubusco (at Immaculate Conception, Ege)	
April 18	Sunday, 1:30 p.m.	St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne	D'Arcy
April 18	Sunday, 12:15 p.m.	St. Pius X, Granger	Rhoades
April 18	Sunday, 3 p.m.	St. Pius X, Granger	Rhoades
April 20	Tuesday, 7 p.m.	St. Mary, Huntington	Rhoades
		Ss. Peter & Paul, Huntington	
		St. Bernard, Wabash (at Ss. Peter & Paul)	
April 21	Wednesday, 7 p.m.	St. Anthony, South Bend	Rhoades
April 24	Saturday, 9 a.m.	St. Mary, Culver	D'Arcy
April 27	Tuesday, 7 p.m.	St. Thomas, Elkhart	Rhoades
April 27	Tuesday, 7 p.m.	St. John the Baptist, New Haven	D'Arcy
April 29	Thursday, 7 p.m.	St. Joseph, Garrett	D'Arcy
April 30	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Gaspar, Rome City	Rhoades
May 1	Saturday, 7 p.m.	Group Confirmation: St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend	Rhoades
		Queen of Peace, Mishawaka	
		St. Stanislaus Kostka, New Carlisle (at St. Matthew Cathedral)	
May 2	Sunday, 11:45 a.m.	Campus Ministries of Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College, Holy Cross College at Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame	Rhoades
May 2	Sunday, 7 p.m.	St. Adalbert, South Bend	Rhoades
May 7	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Mary's, Avilla	D'Arcy
		Immaculate Conception, Kendallville at Avilla	
May 8	Saturday, 5:30 p.m.	Little Flower, South Bend	Rhoades
May 8	Saturday, 5 p.m.	St. Paul, Columbia City	D'Arcy
May 9	Sunday, 2 p.m.	St. Patrick, Walkerton and St. Michael, Plymouth (at St. Michael, Plymouth)	Rhoades
May 10	Monday, 6:30 p.m.	St. John, Goshen	Rhoades
May 13	Thursday, 7 p.m.	Group Confirmation: St. Joseph, Mishawaka	Rhoades
		St. Monica, Mishawaka	
		St. Bavo, Mishawaka (at St. Matthew Cathedral)	
May 16	Sunday, 6 p.m.	St. Catherine of Siena, South Bend	D'Arcy
May 18	Tuesday, 7 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne	Rhoades
May 19	Wednesday, 7 p.m.	Sacred Heart, Warsaw	Rhoades
May 19	Wednesday, 7 p.m.	Holy Family, South Bend	D'Arcy
May 20	Thursday, 7 p.m.	Our Lady Good Hope, Fort Wayne	Rhoades
May 20	Thursday, 7:30 p.m.	Corpus Christi, South Bend	D'Arcy
May 21	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Joseph, South Bend	D'Arcy
May 23	Sunday, 11:30 a.m.	Adult Confirmation Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	Rhoades
		Christ the King, South Bend	
May 25	Tuesday, 7 p.m.	St. Joseph, LaGrange	D'Arcy
May 28	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Dominic, Bremen	Rhoades
May 29	Saturday, 5 p.m.	Adult Confirmation	Rhoades
May 30	Sunday, 11 a.m.	St. Matthew Cathedral	
		Hispanic Group Confirmation	
June 2	(time, location TBA)	St. Vincent, Elkhart	Garcia-Siller, MSPS
June 3	Thursday, 7 p.m.	Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend	Rhoades
June 4	Friday, 7 p.m.	St. Patrick, Ligonier	Rhoades
June 5	Saturday, 2 p.m.		Rhoades



BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES PUBLIC SCHEDULE

- Sunday, Feb. 14, 10:30 a.m. — Televised Mass in Fort Wayne
- Sunday, Feb. 14, 4:30 p.m. — Mass and reception with the Vietnamese community for the Lunar New Year, St. Patrick Church, Fort Wayne.
- Wednesday, Feb. 17, 12:05 p.m. — Ash Wednesday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, Feb. 18, 12 p.m. — Redeemer Radio luncheon with pastors, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Friday, Feb. 19, 10 a.m. — Mass for all Fort Wayne Catholic School Teachers, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne

Catholic leaders outline steps they say are key for Haitian adoptions

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The heads of five Catholic agencies that work with Haitian earthquake victims have outlined steps they say the U.S. government should take to protect children left alone after the Jan. 12 earthquake.

In a Feb. 4 letter to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, the heads of Catholic refugee, immigrant and relief organizations urged specific steps to be followed before “children are brought to the United States and placed in any legal adoption proceedings.”

The agency heads acknowledged the compassion of people in the United States as demonstrated by the “many offers to adopt children who might have lost their parents in the tragedy.”

In any humanitarian crisis, they said, “many children are left without anyone to care for them. Whether parents or guardians are killed or families are separated by war or natural disaster, these children are in dire need of special assistance or protection. In order to properly serve these children and to ensure that their special needs are met, safeguards and procedures must be established that preserve the best interest of each individual child.”

The Catholic leaders stressed that Haitian children who are not already matched with U.S. adoptive parents should only be brought to this country if it is determined to be in the best interest of those children.

The letter was signed by

Johnny Young, executive director of the Migration and Refugee Services of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; Maria Odum, executive director of Catholic Legal Immigration Network; Father Larry Snyder, executive director of Catholic Charities USA; Ken Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ overseas relief and development agency; and Johan Ketelers, secretary-general of the Geneva-based International Catholic Migration Commission.

“Family reunification is an important goal and must be protected to the greatest extent possible, while placement with a guardian within Haiti will sometimes prove to be the appropriate course,” they wrote. “If no family or appropriate guardian is found, and if it is further determined that it is in the child’s best interest not to remain in Haiti, the child should be considered for international placement.”

Save the Children, the international aid organization the United Nations has asked to coordinate efforts to reunite Haitian children and their families, has similarly stressed the need to make every attempt to reunite children with their families and evaluate orphans’ needs before adoptions take place.

A Jan. 21 press release from Save the Children said that “it is almost always in the best interests of a child to remain with their relatives and extended family, when possible.”

It also noted that the chances of

REKINDLE

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Leonetti, the 24-year-old who is best known for his nationwide walk that covered 12 states, over 3,500 miles and legions of "people" encounters along the way, encouraged the men to live a life of renewal "by deepening their love for our Lord through prayer," the passionate, lifelong Catholic said. "I'm the most unoriginal man you've ever met," he began his talk. "Everything I am or have, came from someone else. I don't care who you are, what you've done, where you come from, the hounds of hell have chased you out of your homes and off of your couch, to be here to hear the fire of God's love."

After the conference, Leonetti said: "I've never done a men's conference before (this one). I tell you what — if every men's conference was like this ... the Lord is doing some great things for (the men of Rekindle the Fire). The spirit is moving."

Garrett, a 1988 graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School and founder of the Apostolate Center, implored the attendees to seek out God's holy word and, in doing so, help rebuild the crumbled walls in our world.

"I am first and foremost a son, second a husband and third a father," said Garrett, who also spoke last year at the annual event. He challenged the men to be co-redeemers to their heavenly Father, and asked them to write down two or three things that they could do in this quest, along with their name and phone number, before trading that information with another man at their table.

"I was not expecting that," said St. Vincent parishioner and Rekindle the Fire member Sean Lyons. "Basically, it's 'Brother, I'm going to be checking up on you every week.' It's that accountability factor that says, 'I'm going to be with you on your road,' that I



CASEY O'BOYLE

Father Larry Richards entertains and challenges men at the Feb. 6 fourth annual Rekindle the Fire men's conference.

have not seen from other conferences."

Father Richards, the nationally syndicated radio host and Pennsylvania pastor (he's an avid Steelers fan, and he'll let you know it), was the conference's headliner.

Known for his in-your-face truths and razor-sharp wit, Father Richards did not disappoint; men could be heard laughing throughout the day as Father Richards intertwined personal anecdotes with Scripture and doctrine the way

only he can.

With an emphasis on men acting like men — his most recent book, aptly named "Be a Man," was the cornerstone for his first talk — Father Richards urged those in attendance to seek God's forgiveness often, segueing the 90-minute lunch break which brought with it an opportunity for reconciliation. All told nine priests, includ-

ing Father Richards, heard confessions during the intermission.

Father Richards said a husband's and father's solitary goal in life is to ensure that his wife and children make it to heaven. "Nothing else matters," he said. He echoed this thought throughout the day: We're either going to heaven or to hell.

"Challenge yourself daily," said Father Richards, whose brash style and comedic approach was a dramatic shift from past speakers. "Am I the man God wants me to be?"

He concluded the afternoon session with an impassioned plea, a homework assignment of sorts: each man was asked to write letters to their children and wife, telling them that they loved them. The catch? The sentiment was to be written as if today was their last day on earth.

"You'd have to be dead not to feel the power of the Holy Spirit in that room," Lyons said.

The fifth annual Rekindle the Fire men's conference is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 19, 2011. If this year's installment was any indication, be sure to reserve your tickets well in advance.

**"Am I the man
God wants
me to be?"**

FATHER LARRY RICHARDS

A call to become men of the Eucharist

BY MARY KINDER

FORT WAYNE — For his first Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne, Bishop Kevin Rhoades had a clear message for all the men seated in the church — through the Eucharist they will gain the strength they need to proclaim their faith and take up the cross daily.

Although this special Saturday Mass was also attended by women and children, the bishop's message was directed to nearly 400 men attending the fourth annual men's conference presented by Rekindle the Fire, a men's group which began at St. Vincent de Paul.

In his opening remarks, Bishop Rhoades praised the men for "stepping away from their busy lives for a day of prayer and reflections." He hoped attending the conference would bring them closer to the Lord and leave them "spiritually refreshed."

The men's conference was held on Feb. 6, the feast day of St. Paul Miki. Bishop Rhoades' inspiring homily recounted the story of the martyred saint who was crucified for his beliefs, along with 25 other Catholics, in 16th century Japan. The Jesuit priest, known for his eloquent sermons, continued to preach while dying on the cross, saying, "My blood will fall as a fruitful rain." Hundreds of years later, when missionaries were once again allowed in Japan, they found almost no traces of Christianity, except in Nagasaki, the site of the crucifixions, where thousands had secretly passed down their Catholic faith for centuries. St. Paul Miki did indeed bring a fruitful rain of belief to the area.

Bishop Rhoades commended the "courageous faith" of these Japanese martyrs and said that it takes courage to be a committed Catholic today. While he admitted it was unlikely anyone in attendance would be martyred for their beliefs, he said it is still vital to profess your faith in Christ above all others. He asked the men in attendance to reflect on their own

lives and ask if they are courageous disciples, calling on them to answer the Church's need for courageous laymen, husbands and fathers.

Bishop Rhoades then explained the way to find the courage to take up the cross daily, as Christ commands us to do, is through the grace Jesus bestows upon us. He went on to explain that courage is one of the gifts from the Holy Spirit and that we can all be strengthened by the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

He ended his remarks with a bold invitation for all of the men to gain the strength and courage they need by becoming men of the Eucharist.

Rekindle the Fire was formed in 2005 by a few men who wanted to continue their spiritual journey after attending a Christ Renews His Parish weekend. What began as an informal group has grown to a movement, spreading to several other parishes through the diocese.

Al Scagnoli, one of Rekindle the Fire's 12 core group members, explains the group's mission, "We are men working to help each other become the men God wanted us to be."

The group, which meets weekly at the parish, is open to Christian men of any denomination who want to strengthen their faith. Rekindle the Fire is quickly growing in popularity — the latest conference sold out with 365 registered attendees. Scagnoli explains the group's broad appeal, "There are a lot of guys who really need this guidance right now. ... They truly want to become the godly men Jesus calls us to be. The desire is there and that's why we continue to do it."

Aside from the opening Mass celebrated by Bishop Rhoades, the one-day conference featured speakers Jon Leonetti, who gained prominence for walking across the United States to raise awareness for the need for prayer, and Father Larry Richards, Catholic radio personality and author of the book, "Be a Man! Becoming the Man God Created You To Be."



CASEY O'BOYLE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gives his homily Feb. 6 at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, while concelebrants Msgr. John Kuzmich and Father Larry Richards sit nearby.

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ADOPT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

a child being mistakenly identified as an orphan are "incredibly high."

Deana Myers, vice president of international programs for Save the Children, told Catholic News Service that the risk is great of children having their rights ignored or being exploited by human traffickers and the child-sex trade. She added that keeping children in familiar surroundings — around food, language, customs and people they know — goes a long way toward helping them come through such a traumatic experience in good physical and emotional shape.

"The process needs to unfold at its own pace," she said. "The key is to take the time to do this thoughtfully," while at the same time guaranteeing that children have food, water and a safe place to live.

Reiterating a similar message,

the Catholic agency leaders said in their letter that as "a general rule it would not be in the best interest of Haiti's children, or Haiti as a whole, for unaccompanied children to be evacuated from their home country without a careful, individualized assessment of what is best for each of them."

They urged U.S. leaders to make sure several procedures were in place before U.S. adoptions of Haitian children could proceed:

- Establish safe havens in Haiti so children have security and proper care.
- Assign child welfare experts to make determinations for the best interest of each child and the best placements for children.
- Make every effort to locate families so children can be reunited with them.
- Place children whose best interests would be served by relocation to the United States in foster care.
- Expedite consular processing for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with minor children in Haiti and for those with approved petitions for family reunification.

YEAR of our PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the still thriving St. Peter's, as well as pastor of St. Mary Parish in Fort Wayne.

Besides saying all the Masses at both parishes and hearing confessions at each place, he oversees a full service soup kitchen at St. Mary's, a food pantry at St. Peter's, and Ave Maria House, a daytime oasis where the homeless and winless can take a shower, make phone calls and spend some time in a clean and warm place. Father is also the curator of one of the leading Catholic museums in the United States ... and he must wonder what those four assistants at St. Peter's did to keep occupied.

When Father Widmann does get a day off, he enjoys dipping into antique shops in search of items for the Cathedral

Museum; books, photos, cruets, crucifixes, candle holders, predieux, or anything weaving a connection with Catholicism and diocesan history.

His love of history and objects of historical interest was matched by a close friend and mentor, Msgr. Thomas Durkin, a compulsive collector of cast off liturgical articles, many of which came his way via Vatican II's rubrical revisions and housecleaning.

Msgr. Durkin's debris gathered in parish garages, classrooms and elsewhere. "This stuff should all be in one place," he told his protégé, Deacon Widmann ... and at that point, the future Cathedral Museum existed only as a phrase and well intentioned thought of the monsignor.

But that thought ripened into action following Father Widmann's ordination in January of 1977 and Msgr. Durkin's death in May.

As a memorial to his friend, Father Widmann requested permission from Bishop William E.

McManus to establish the museum and thus the collection first found its home in a classroom of the Cathedral Center, and then moved to the lower level of the MacDougal Chapel and finally to the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, where it chronicles church history in this region from the time of black-robed missionaries to the present. Possessions of the first eight bishops of the diocese are combined with gold, silver, illuminated Bibles, precious fabrics, stained glass and papal rings, as well as cartoons and examples of the terror directed at the Church by the Ku Klux Klan.

Strangers observing Father Widmann would not suspect that this tall, broad-shouldered man, at the end of the day, makes small talk with three Siamese cats. Perhaps it is with them that he shares his thoughts about his encounters of the poor, the homeless, the hungry and how he finds the face of Christ among these otherwise forgotten and unknown individuals.

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Conversion breaks bonds of selfishness, pope says in Lenten message

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Conversion to Christ gives people the strength to break the bonds of selfishness and work for justice in the world, Pope Benedict XVI said in his message for Lent 2010. “The Christian is moved to contribute to creating just societies where all receive what is necessary to live according to the dignity proper to the human person and where justice is enlivened by love,” the pope said in the message released Feb. 4 at the Vatican. Latin-rite Catholics begin Lent Feb. 17 while most Eastern-rite Catholics begin the penitential season Feb. 15. The theme of the pope’s message was, “The Justice of God Has Been Manifested through Faith in Jesus Christ.” The common understanding of “justice,” he said, is to give each person his or her due. But because people are created in God’s image, they not only need food, water, shelter and jobs; they need God and they need love, he said. The greatest sign of God’s love is the gift of salvation in Christ. When people accept that gift, the pope said, they recognize that they are dependent on God.

Bishops call charges against USCCB official false, ridiculous

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishops who work closely with John Carr, who oversees the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, say new claims against him and the agency are false and “totally ridiculous.” Bishops William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y.; Roger P. Morin of Biloxi, Miss.; and Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., spoke with Catholic News Service Feb. 3 and 4 about recent allegations of “a systemic pattern of cooperation with evil” by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops because of Carr’s past involvement with the Center for Community Change. “I’m concerned about these attacks on John Carr and I know they are false and I think they are even calumnious,” said Bishop Murphy, who chairs the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, by telephone to CNS. “I am taking this to be a very sad, sad commentary on the honesty of some people in these pressure groups.” In a separate telephone interview, Bishop Morin, who chairs the USCCB subcommittee that oversees CCHD, the bishops’ domestic anti-poverty initiative, said: “Personally I think (the claims) are totally ridiculous.” Bishop Hubbard, chairman of the USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace, told CNS Feb. 4 by telephone that he had worked with Carr for more than 30 years and “always found him to be a staunch opponent of abortion.” A report released Feb. 1 by the Reform CCHD Now Coalition, a group that includes the American Life League, Human Life

NEWS BRIEFS

CARDINAL HANDS PASTORAL STAFF TO NEW BISHOP



CNS PHOTO/RAMIRO LOZANO, VALLEY CATHOLIC

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo hands a pastoral staff to Bishop Daniel E. Flores during his installation as the sixth Bishop of Brownsville, Texas, at the Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan del Valle-National Shrine in San Juan Feb. 2.

International and Bellarmine Veritas Ministry, said the Washington-based Center for Community Change “has lodged itself into the highest places of power in the USCCB while working to promote abortion and homosexuality.” Carr, executive director of the USCCB’s Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, said he stepped down as chairman of the center’s board in February 2005, and the board never addressed those issues during his tenure. “My experience with CCC was that it focused on poverty, housing and immigration and had no involvement in issues involving abortion and homosexuality,” he said. “When I served, the board never discussed or acted on any position involving these matters, and if they had, I would have vigorously opposed any advocacy for access to abortion or gay marriage.”

Adequate nutrition is a fundamental right for all people, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Adequate food supply is a fundamental right for all people, said Pope Benedict XVI. Working to ensure proper nutrition for all means bringing dignity to human lives and should be a top priority, he said in a speech Feb. 6 welcoming Alfonso Roberto Matta Fahren, Guatemala’s new ambassador to the Vatican. Beyond the need for appropriate policies and resources dedicated to ensuring food security

for everyone, “it’s necessary to have men and women with feelings of compassion and solidarity who walk together toward reaching this goal,” he said. Adequate nutrition for the most vulnerable, like children, should be a primary international concern, he said. Without proper nutrition, children’s physical and emotional health is compromised, he said. Often, he added, in exchange for food children are “exposed to work that is inappropriate for their age” or plunged into tragic situations. Pope Benedict expressed his concern and prayers for increased episodes of drought in Guatemala, which have caused crop loss, malnutrition and poverty. He encouraged the country to continue addressing the many factors that lead to a number of social ills in Guatemala like drug trafficking, violence, emigration, illiteracy, sects, and the lack of a solid moral foundation for young people.

Clinton, Obama reflect on faith at breakfast

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In an address to the Feb. 4 National Prayer Breakfast, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recalled how her relationship with Mother Teresa began with conversations during the 1994 breakfast, when the founder of the Missionaries of Charity was keynote speaker and Clinton attended as first lady. That discussion behind the stage curtains led to a collaboration between Clinton and the Missionaries of Charity to open the Mother Teresa

Home for Infant Children in Washington just over a year later, Clinton said as keynote speaker for this year’s breakfast. President Barack Obama also spoke at the breakfast, continuing a long-standing presidential tradition for the annual gathering. The several-day event draws thousands of people from around the world, including a broad representation from Washington’s political and diplomatic circles, but little of the proceedings are open to reporters. Noting that she has attended the breakfast as first lady, as a senator and now as secretary of state, through three presidential administrations, Clinton said her own heart “has been touched and occasionally pierced by the words I’ve heard.” Also, she said, “during difficult and painful times, my faith has been strengthened by the personal connections that I have experienced with people who, by the calculus of politics, were on the opposite side of me on the basis of issues or partisanship.” Clinton also talked about the role of religion in the world’s diplomatic realm, noting that each of the world’s major religions “got the same talking points and the same marching orders” to love one another and care for those who have the least. Yet, she said, “across the world, we see organized religion standing in the way of faith, perverting love, undermining that message.” In various places, religion is used to justify horrific violence, to deny human rights and to enshrine intolerance in law, she said. “It seems to be a rather dramatic identity crisis.”

Shelter kits provide short-term solution for 35,000 homeless Haitians

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (CNS) — A pregnant Germaine Sylace struggled to get control of the two tarps, a plastic bin of nails and 100 feet of nylon rope. Nothing was going to stop her from making sure her family of five would be sleeping under something better than a couple of thin bed sheets tied together with string. Sylace, 44, was trying not to drop the supplies being delivered Feb. 5 and 6 by Catholic Relief Services to thousands of families forced from their homes by January’s earthquake. Isaac Boyd, an American-born shelter expert summoned from Kenya, where he handled crisis housing for refugees for Catholic Relief Services, said the shelter kits are not meant to be a permanent solution for thousands of Haitians left homeless by the quake. CRS provided up to 7,000 kits to the estimated 35,000 people at the camp at the Petionville Club, a local golf course. Some of the kit materials had been in storage in Dubai and were assembled in the Dominican Republic. Boyd said CRS officials decided against providing tents to people because of a lack of space and because they hope to begin moving people to other locations as soon as possible. Even as the kits were distributed, Boyd and CRS shelter experts were looking for alternatives to housing people on the golf course. Its hilly terrain and lack of sanitation facilities are not ideal, especially once the rains begin next month.

Metuchen opens sainthood cause for Venezuelan mystic

METUCHEN, N.J. (CNS) — The sainthood cause has formally opened for Maria Esperanza Medrano de Bianchini, a Venezuelan woman believed to have seen 31 apparitions of Mary, who spread worldwide a message of family reconciliation and fraternal unity that she said Mary relayed to her. “We gather together as a people filled with faith believing in the gift of God,” said Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski, who presided at the ceremony at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen Jan. 31. “We believe God gives us men and women of fine example who show us the way to Jesus Christ. Today, we begin the cause for Maria Esperanza, a woman of faith and we pray as this faith community that God will recognize her through his church as one of his saints,” he said. Bianchini reportedly first saw an apparition of Mary in 1976, but she became a world-renowned figure after Mary reportedly appeared to her and 150 others at a farm named Finca Betania in Venezuela on March 25, 1984. Mary is said to have appeared under the title “Mary, virgin and mother, reconciler of all people and nations.” Bianchini died in New Jersey in 2004 after a long illness.

Math and science opportunities offered at Saint Mary's College

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College will offer Mad Science Productions presents CSI: LIVE!, an exciting journey through the fascinating world of crime scene investigation, based on the popular television series, "CSI," on Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in O'Laughlin Auditorium. This family friendly, interactive production will engage girls and boys alike as they take on the task of solving a baffling crime. Tickets prices are \$5 for kids under 12 to \$12 for adults. Visit www.moreauevents.com for box office information.

On Feb. 20 at 8:30 a.m. in Madeleva Hall, 125 seventh- and eighth-grade girls, chosen by their science teachers at schools throughout the area, will participate in Hypatia Day. The event, unique to Saint Mary's College, encourages middle-school students to stick with their math and science studies. The day is named for the first known female mathematician, Hypatia of Alexandria.

The Summer Academy in forensic science for girls entering grades 8-12 will be held July 11-16 and an environmental science camp will be held July 18-23. Forensic science camp will involve learning how to analyze a crime scene with deductive reasoning and scientific skill using biology, chemistry and mathematics. Environmental science campers will learn about global climate change, renewable energy, land pollution and more. For information on Summer Academy, go to www3.saintmarys.edu/camps-summer-academy.

Saint Mary's College offers many math and science related undergraduate degrees, including a dual degree in engineering program with the University of Notre Dame.

Bishop Luers scholarship recipients announced

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced the recipients for the the 15th annual Bishop Luers Henry-Keefe Scholarship.

The eighth-grade scholarship placement exam was established by former Bishop Luers High School Principal Norm Glismann to recognize and promote academic achievements of incoming students at Bishop Luers. The placement exams were held Nov. 7 and Dec. 12.

The incoming freshmen student recipients and their schools include the following: Quinn Cook, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Samuel Stein, St. Louis Academy; Jack Jones, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; Nathan Grabner, St. John the Baptist; Riley Bubb, Unity Lutheran; Nicholas Miles, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Jacob Ganser, St. John the Baptist; Megan Quigley, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Brandon

AROUND THE DIOCESE

THE MINSTRELS TAKE HIGH RANKS



PROVIDED BY BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL

The Bishop Luers High School Minstrels were awarded grand champion at the Findlay Fest Show Choir Invitational on Jan. 30. They were awarded best in choreography, vocal, tech crew and female vocalist. On Feb. 6, they were awarded grand champion at the Northrop Charisma Classique and were awarded best in choreography, vocal and band. Timmy Kawiecki, senior, was honored at Dynamic Performer for the Bishop Luers Minstrels. The Show Choir Rating System, which polls the nation's top choirs, ranked the Minstrels sixth in the nation on Feb. 1.

Volmerding, St. John the Baptist; Nicholas Steffen, St. John the Baptist; Charles Scott, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Enzo Possemato, St. John the Baptist; and Taylor Puitz, St. John the Baptist. The alternates are Madeline Brown-St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Julia Hickey-St. John the Baptist and Mackenzie North-St. Therese.

Forever Learning Institute offers spring classes

SOUTH BEND — The Forever Learning Institute will begin spring class registration on site on Feb. 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spring classes, which are offered March 1 through May 7, include basic landscaping, which will be taught by Greg Leyes, who has been featured in *Master Gardner* magazine, at Ginger Valley in Granger. For information call Leyes at Ginger Valley at (574) 286-3699.

Other classes include heart healthy cuisine, beginning genealogy, The Sermons of Cardinal John Henry Newman and What Happened at Vatican II, which will be taught by Father Robert Nogosek, an advisor at the council.

Computer classes will be avail-

ble for both the PC and Mac platforms.

PC workshops include exploring the Internet, basic computing in Windows 7, making greeting cards and scrapbooks using a computer, Excel: Home projects and social media.

Mac classes include an introduction to Mac computing and introduction to Apple computing II.

Project Outreach is a DVD program designed for students unable to attend classes because of physical or distance limitations. The DVDs are available at cost and can be ordered through the Holy Cross Media Ministries at Notre Dame or through the Forever Learning Office.

LeRoy Friesen will offer talks about the life of Teresa of Avila on his DVD produced by the Holy Cross Ministries and Holy Cross Father Steve Gibson.

Steve Moriarty is featured in "Text and Images of the 1930s and 1940s" with residents of the Sanctuary at St. Paul in South Bend.

Course guides and registration forms are available at Forever Learning Institute, 54191 Ironwood Rd., South Bend, and on the Web site, www.foreverlearninginstitute.org.

Matt Bellina appointed HCC director of student activities

NOTRE DAME — South Bend native Matt Bellina has brought his "we can!" attitude and expertise to Holy Cross College as the new director of student activities and as an adjunct professor of education and gerontology.

With the South Bend Parks Department for the past five years, Bellina was responsible for overseeing the city's O'Brien Fitness and Recreation Center and wellness programs for city employees. While in this position, he worked closely with the directors of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to help make South Bend one of America's first "We Can!" cities — a national program to combat childhood weight problems through nutrition and increased fitness.

Bellina holds a master's degree in wellness management and gerontology from Ball State University. He is also a graduate of Holy Cross College's neighbor, Saint Joseph's High School, where he competed in soccer and track and was active in band and Student's Against Drunk Driving. "I have always been interested in sports and fitness, but it wasn't

until reaching graduate school that I realized I wanted to make it my life's work." Bellina said.

Bellina has been around Notre Dame most of his life. In addition to graduating from Saint Joseph's High School, he often attended events at Saint Mary's College where his father, Joseph Bellina, Ph.D., is professor of chemistry and physics. His mother Joan Weber Laflamme is a former employee of Ave Maria Press and the University of Notre Dame. Today he lives in South Bend with his wife Suzanne and their two sons, Michael and J.T.

Holy Cross College's Dean of Students Dan Cochran remarked, "We are very excited to have Matt on the staff. He is going to be a real plus for our college. He brings energy and great experience."

Lindenwood offers men's retreat

DONALDSON — Registration is now being taken for the men's Lenten retreat titled, "Our Vocation in These Changing Times." Facilitator Father Jerry Schweitzer is a priest from the Diocese of Gary and pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Wanatah, St. Mars Otis, and St. Martin in LaCrosse. He is a teacher of sacred Scripture, lecturer and mission director.

The program begins Friday, March 5, at 5:30 p.m., and concludes Sunday, March 7, at 1 p.m. The program fee is \$140 per person, double occupancy, or \$170 for single occupancy and includes lodging and all meals. Registration deadline is Feb. 26. For more information or to register, contact Lindenwood at (574) 935-1763 weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e-mail rvanvactor@poorhandmaids.org or visit www.lindenwood.org.

'Knowing God from Creation and Revelation' lecture on Feb. 18

FORT WAYNE — Dr. David Fleischacker, associate professor of theology, will offer a lecture/discussion titled "Knowing God from Creation and Revelation" on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St.

How is it that our finite minds can say anything about the infinite or the divine? We use the word "God" all the time, but what do we mean? When I pray to God, how is it that I can do so?

These and other questions and answers will be discussed. Light refreshments will be served.

For additional information, phone Angie Springer at (260) 399-8066 or e-mail aspringer@sf.edu.

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

Church officials look at 'troublesome' legislature at session mid-point

INDIANAPOLIS — Church officials call immigration enforcement and delay of the scholarship tax credit proposals "troublesome" as they continue to move forward in the process and as the Indiana General Assembly reached its halfway mark, Feb. 3, commonly called "crossover."

The unauthorized aliens bill, Senate Bill 213, authored by Sen. Mike Delph, R-Carmel, mirrors federal law with regard to enforcement of undocumented immigrants. "The problem with the bill is it may encourage racial profiling by law enforcement officials to arrest individuals suspected of being undocumented," said Glenn Tebbe, Indiana Catholic Conference executive director. The bill passed the Senate, 46-4.

"This strong vote in the Senate was a bit surprising and may be indicative of today's political climate favoring an appearance of a crackdown on the undocumented," said Tebbe. "However, those in our faith community who work with the Hispanic immigrant community on a daily basis know how legislation emphasizing enforcement hurts all Hispanic families — documented and undocumented and is troublesome public policy. It does nothing to address a solution," said Tebbe. "That solution must be comprehensive and uniformly delivered, which makes it best addressed at the federal level."

Senate Bill 213 now crosses over to the House. Tebbe said that the House considered a bill dealing with the undocumented last year which was much harsher than this one which the Democrats shelved by not giving it a hearing. "However, given that this is an election year and considering the current political tide, the bill might move in the House," said Tebbe.

The other issue of concern to the Church is a proposal which would place a two-year delay in the implementation of a new scholarship tax credit. House Bill 1367, authored by House Education Chairman, Rep. Greg Porter, D-Indianapolis, passed the House, 51-48, along party lines with the Republicans opposing the

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

bill and Democrats supporting it.

The scholarship tax credit, which passed in June, offers a 50 percent tax credit incentive to corporations or individuals for donations made to qualified Scholarship Granting Organizations SGO's. These SGOs would then provide grants to qualifying families for school tuition or other school related costs, at the public or private school of the parents' choice.

Diocesan education officials who are working with the SGOs and had hoped to award scholarships beginning in the 2010-2011 school year.

House Bill 1367 now moves to the Senate. "While the House vote was disappointing and more about political posturing than about making sound education policy, the good news is there is not much support in the Senate for the bill," said Tebbe. "I am hopeful the bill will not move in the Senate."

Other bills of interest at the halfway point include a proposal to prohibit state funding for Planned Parenthood. While the proposal, Senate Bill 198, failed to get a hearing, author Sen. Greg Walker, R-Columbus, said, "The fact that it was introduced did bring the issue to light. Many lawmakers were unaware that Planned Parenthood received any state money." The Indiana Catholic Conference supported the legislation and expects the bill to resurface as early as next year.

Senate Bill 198, which was introduced in the Indiana Senate Jan. 5, would prohibit state agencies from entering into any contracts with or making grants to Planned Parenthood.

A bill to strengthen marriage, Senate Joint Resolution 13, passed

the Senate, 38-10. The bill, which passed Jan. 28, and is authored by Sen. Carlin Yoder, R-Middlebury, would amend Indiana's Constitution to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman. Current statute defines it that way, but a legal challenge to that definition could allow for same-sex marriages to be permitted. The Indiana Catholic Conference supported the bill. The resolution moves to the House for further consideration.

The Indiana Catholic Conference is tracking over 80 bills. The bills in each issue category number as follows: education 20; government reform 16; immigration 4; Church organization 12; pro-life 4; social justice 8; and miscellaneous watch category 18.

During the next few weeks, bills that passed the first chamber will be considered by the other body. For example bills that passed the Senate will "crossover" to the House for consideration. Bills that passed the House will "crossover" and go to the Senate for consideration. There is no guarantee that if a bill passed one house that it will pass the other. Committee chairs still decide which bill is heard and can move through the process.

Bills must get a hearing, pass committee and floor votes to move forward. This phase will end during the first week of March when the last phase of the process begins — conference committee. The Indiana Catholic Conference will be a part of all the steps. The session deadline is March 14.

Legislative Update at Crossover

In the Senate

SJR 13-Marriage Amendment — amends Indiana's Constitution to reflect state law that a marriage can be between only one man and one woman.

Status: passed the Senate, 39-10.

Next Action: Headed to the House.

SB 213 — Unauthorized Alien — increases penalties for undocumented persons, and requires government and government contractors to use the E-Verify system to verify worker's citizenship.

Status: passed the Senate 46-4

Next Action: Headed to the House.



TOM UEBBING

South Bend area 40 Days for Life organizers met Jan. 31 to plan the upcoming Feb. 17 to March 28 spring campaign. From left are Vince Feck, Fran Holmes, Tony Stein, Mary Akre (director), Dr. Tom Akre and Shawn Sullivan. 40 Days for Life is a nationwide response of prayer and fasting to end legalized abortion. To participate visit www.40daysforlife.com/southbend.

40 Days for Life campaigns to oppose abortion in 156 cities

WASHINGTON, D.C. — "While many see a time of darkness this week as the United States marks the 37th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling that imposed abortion on America, and as the U.S. Congress deliberates legislation that could lead to dramatic increases in taxpayer funding for abortion, I see a time of great hope," said David Bereit, national director of 40 Days for Life regarding the National March for Life Jan. 22.

"I am hopeful for many reasons, but especially because pro-life advocates in some 156 cities from coast to coast — plus four Canadian provinces and three Australian states — are willing to step out in faith and host 40 Days for Life campaigns," he said. The coordinated international campaign begins Feb. 17 and runs through March 28.

"The fact is that even as proponents try to encourage more abortions — and as they try to encourage government funding of abortions — more women are realizing the truth about abortion and rejecting it as an option, and more people are simply saying 'Enough!' and taking a stand against these efforts to promote a culture of death," he said.

40 Days for Life consists of 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, peaceful vigils outside abortion centers and Planned Parenthood offices, and active pro-life community outreach. The list of participating

communities is posted online at www.40daysforlife.com/location.cfm.

The 40 Days for Life movement continues to grow. Five coordinated national 40 Days for Life campaigns have been conducted, twice each year, beginning in the fall of 2007. More than 300,000 people in 280 cities have already taken part. Five abortion centers have closed following 40 Days for Life prayer vigils. Twenty-seven abortion industry employees have quit their jobs, including Abby Johnson, who left her position as director of a Planned Parenthood abortion center in Texas last October.

"And most incredibly," Bereit said, "we are aware of 2,168 children and their mothers who were spared from the tragedy of abortion. And those are just the ones we know about."

The campaign dates of Feb. 17 through March 28 coincide with the Christian season of Lent. "The Lenten season presents a call to sacrifice," said Bereit, "and that is central to 40 Days for Life. Standing in prayer outside an abortion facility is indeed a sacrifice, particularly in northern locations where cold temperatures and snowy conditions are often part of the weather landscape in February. But people know their efforts have a profound impact, and so they overlook the inconvenience and their personal discomfort to stand in peaceful witness."

Bereit and 40 Days for Life are key participants in the Stop the Abortion Mandate coalition that is rallying support around the United States for keeping taxpayer-funded abortion out of any Congressional healthcare measures. "Through the efforts of 40 Days for Life volunteers," he said, "local campaigns will help to publicly reinforce the message, in 156 communities over the next couple of months, that abortion is not health care."

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Gracious and loving God, we thank You for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience Your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for Your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of Your kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of Your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

— From the Web site:
www.catholicdaughters.org.

Excerpt from Pope Benedict XVI's Letter to Priests

"I think of all those priests who quietly present Christ's words and actions each day to the faithful and to the whole world, striving to be one with the Lord in their thoughts and their will, their sentiments and their style of life."

Commentary from Franciscan Capuchin Father Ron Rieder, pastor Ss. Peter and Paul, Huntington

These words of Pope Benedict XVI mean a lot to me: "I think of all those priests who quietly present Christ's words and actions each day to the faithful and to the whole world. ..." I have been a priest for almost 47 years, most of them in parish life, 32 of these as a pastor. I have ministered in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan

OATH OF FIDELITY ADMINISTERED TO SEMINARIANS



PROVIDED BY PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM

Seminarians Matthew Coonan and Terrence Coonan of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend made the Profession of Faith and took the Oath of Fidelity in the presence of the seminary community at the Pontifical College Josephinum on Jan. 30 in preparation for their ordination to the diaconate. Candidates for ordination pledge to always remain faithful to the teachings of the Church and, with their hand on the Book of Gospels, swear before Almighty God to be faithful teachers of the Gospel and never to lead the people astray with false teachings. Bishop John M. D'Arcy will ordain the Coonans to the Order of Deacon at the Josephinum on April 25.



Sharing Faith

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

and now for the past 26 years here in Huntington, in this wonderful Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

I have always been impressed, intrigued and amazed at the power of the office, of being a priest, and how people of all faiths have a truly deep respect for the Catholic priesthood. If we use our priesthood wisely and generously, we can do so much good, not only in bringing Christ's words and actions to our faithful, but also to the non-Catholic world around us. I have always tried to get deeply involved in the "bigger" world around the parish. I have tried very hard not to be a "sacristy" priest. I have always gotten very involved in the civic and social affairs of the community in which the parish exists. This involvement has not taken away from my work as a parish priest, but I feel is an integral part of true parish ministry, reaching out to the whole world, as the pope writes about.

I feel very strongly that this involvement has been a very positive influence in the larger communities in which I ministered. Much of my ministry has taken place in predominantly non-Catholic communities. I feel the involvement of the Catholic priest does much to give a good impression of the Catholic Church and of Catholic priests.

A great deal of this ministry is nonverbal, simply good example. St. Francis of Assisi once said to "preach always, and if need be, use words at times." I have truly tried hard to make people like me, not for my sake, but for the sake of the Church. I believe that if people like me as a person, they will like what I stand for. They know I am a Catholic and a priest. I never hide this fact. I wear my Roman collar at all times in the public arena so the

people know who and what I am.

I am thrilled to be a priest, to be an ambassador of Jesus Christ. I pray that I will always present His words and actions to the people whose lives I touch.

Common priesthood of our Baptism

It is through our Baptism that "... all the members of the Church share in the priesthood of Christ. The ministerial priesthood of bishops and priests and the baptismal priesthood of all the faithful participate in the one priesthood of Christ, each in its own proper way." — U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults, 273-4.

Like Father Ron, we are all called to be ambassadors of Christ. We should follow Father Ron's lead and "... always present His words and actions to the people whose lives we touch."

In the sense that we are all ambassadors of Christ, our common priesthood and the ministerial priesthood are united in purpose, striving to be one with the Lord in thoughts and in will, in sentiments and in lifestyle. The Church — and all its members — is a sacrament, a sign and instrument of God's salvation.

The Church as sacrament is based upon the interaction of these two priesthoods, the living expressions of Christ's ministry to transform the world. This brings us to the heart of the Church's mission: to spread the Good News of the Gospel message to the world. As Father Ron tells us, we draw others to Christ if we act as Christ to others.

Both the baptismal and ministerial priesthoods are nourished as they come together for worship at Mass. The laity comes to the Eucharistic community to

offer their humanity and their human actions to Christ for the salvation of the world. They come to be nourished by Christ who is present in the word and sacrament made possible through the priest who stands "in persona Christi" so they can "Go forth (once more) to love and serve the Lord." Laity and clergy alike "go forth" from their Eucharistic celebration — as new creations, a royal priesthood, the people of God — to be Christ's hands and feet in the world today, ambassadors of Christ, presenting His words and actions to the people whose lives they touch.

Reflection questions:

- Do I "wear" my Catholicism at all times? In what sort of situations do I find it difficult to wear my Catholicism?
- What is my understanding of "sacrament?" How am I a sacrament? How are we, as a church community, a sacrament?
- What are some ways I non-verbally minister to my family and others? What are some additional ways I can "preach always?" How am I an ambassador of Jesus Christ?

Closing prayer

Lord, our God, help us to walk with You on the pathway of the beatitudes and to live out Your mission in today's world. Bind us to all men and women so that together we may bring the Good News to the ends of the earth. Open our hearts and our communities to the needy, the afflicted and the oppressed. May we radiate the Living Christ and transform our lives in the hope of the Resurrection. This prayer we make to You, our living God, now and forever. Amen.

— *Prayer for Mission No. 2:*



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EDITORIAL

First comes love — new study on sex education surprises ‘experts’

A new study on sex education has found that abstinence-only education is the most effective in delaying sexual activity among young people as compared to those who receive education on contraception. Published in the *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, the rigorous and careful study followed junior high aged students from low-income families. While about half of the students in classes that received education on contraception began having sexual relations within a two-year period, only a third of those in abstinence-only classes did so.

The “experts” were very surprised. In fact, Dr. John Jemmott of the University of Pennsylvania who led the study had previously been skeptical that any type of abstinence-only education could be effective — much less the most effective. Because of the rigorous standards by which the study was conducted, even those who would typically dismiss abstinence-only education are grudgingly admitting that it might have a place after all.

In addition, the students in abstinence-only classes who became sexually active were no less likely to use condoms or other forms of contraception. This puts to rest those claims that young people who do not receive education on contraception are at greater risk of disease or pregnancy.

Of course, common sense should already have led the so-called experts to realize that teaching contraception sends a mixed message. In dealing with illegal drugs, for example, no one advocates an approach where we tell young people to avoid them and then follow-up by saying that if they choose not to, here is how to use the drugs more safely and enjoyably.

Not only common sense, but divine revelation tells us that God has designed sexual relations to express the complete gift of self that is marriage, relations outside of this context is not only wrong — it is dishonest. In their pastoral letter, *Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan*, that was released in November, the U.S. bishops write:

“Many ... couples believe that their desire for each other justifies the sexual relationship. This belief reflects a misunderstanding of the natural purpose of human sexual intercourse, which can only be realized in the permanent commitment of marriage. Sexual intercourse is meant to express the total and unrestricted gift of self that takes place in married love. To have sexual intercourse outside the covenant of marriage is gravely immoral because it communicates physically the gift of oneself to another when, at the same time, one is not willing or able to make a total and permanent commitment.”

Marriage a reflection of the life of the Trinity

Ultimately, the truth about sexual relations is not only found in the commitment of marriage, but most deeply in the life of the Trinity. Again, the bishops write:

“Throughout history God has shown us his selfless love. In espousing himself to the Church in sacrificial, life-giving love, Christ reveals the Father’s love in the power of the Holy Spirit. He shows us the inner life of the Holy Trinity, a communion of persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Church herself is a communion of persons that shares in God’s Trinitarian life and love. ...

“Through the sacrament of Matrimony, married love not only is modeled on Trinitarian love but also participates in it. ... To be in the image and likeness of God is not simply to have intelligence and free will, but also to live in a communion of love. From all eternity the Father begets his Son in the love of the Spirit. In the begetting of the Son, the Father gives himself entirely over to the Son in the love of the Holy Spirit. The Son, having been begotten of the Father, perfectly returns that love by giving himself entirely over to the Father in the same Spirit of love. It is because he is begotten of the Father, and loves the Father in the same Spirit, that he is called Son. The Holy Spirit is then acknowledged as the mutual love of the Father for his Son and of the Son for his Father. This is why the Spirit is known as the gift of love.”

Only when marital love is fully grafted into the mystery of the Trinity does it express its deepest meaning. In this light, education in contraception for a Christian is not just ill-advised, it is a desecration of a temple of the Holy Spirit.

Today's Catholic editorial board is Kay Cozad, Fred and Lisa Everett, Father Mark Gurtner, Msgr. 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

Justice in Wichita

Recently the news media reported the murderer of a Kansas abortion provider was found guilty of first-degree murder. Both the murdered man's family and pro-abortion advocates applauded the jury for “reaching a just verdict.”

The abortion doctor was described as providing “late term abortions,” a fancy term for partial birth abortions. Without getting too graphic, what the abortion doctor was doing was to induce the mother's labor contractions and while the baby is half born, he then kills it. I can easily imagine alarm bells going off in the abortion doctor's conscience, telling him that what he was doing is morally wrong. It's my understanding the abortion doctor justified the killing of babies, because he felt he was “providing a service to women.”

Yet it seems the abortion doctor wanted something more; this he would get in a local Wichita church. If he could regularly attend a house of God worship service, then he

would gain acceptance by the congregation and ultimately by God himself. Plus having a duty (usher) in the church made it all the better. Acceptance in God's house was the coveted prize that the abortion doctor wanted. Now he could effectively turn off the alarm bells in his conscience. Now he could continue to kill late-term babies and still keep his head held high.

So, was justice done? I think the higher court jury is still deliberating.

Donald R. Neff
Columbia City

Wrong St. Joseph team lauded

Visitors to the South Bend area can be forgiven if they get mixed up with all the many uses of “St. Joseph” to name various places, rivers and schools.

But, it was surprising to see a long time resident of South Bend and a journalist of many years experience in this area make such a mistake in

his Feb. 7, 2010 article entitled “Wildcats a raging force opening the ICCL girls' basketball season.” (sic). Mr. Freeby's opening paragraph while correctly praising last year's St. Joseph Mishawaka grade school girls team (a truly excellent team), nonetheless wrongly identified them as the ICCL champs instead of recognizing the real ICCL champs from St. Joseph South Bend!

Both teams finished the ICCL season undefeated and squared off in the finals. However, the true “queens of the ICCL” were the St. Joseph Eagles.

The error, while no doubt a good faith mistake, has the effect of failing to recognize the tremendous team effort put forth by the Eagles.

As their coaches, we want to set the record straight and ensure that they get the praise that is their due.

Ed Sullivan
Mike Sullivan
Eric Haag
Dan Fangman
South Bend

Indiana Knights support Haitian survivors

Members of the Indiana Knights of Columbus have joined with state and local councils from around the country as well as Canada in sending funds for Haitian earthquake relief. Currently, \$144,000 has been donated for the relief effort, a number that includes \$50,000 from the Supreme Council located in New Haven, Conn.

Catholic Relief Services has a large presence on the island nation and report the death of Archbishop Joseph Serge Miot of Port-au-Prince as being among the hundreds of thousands killed. Churches have been destroyed in this mostly-Catholic nation and many priests have been injured or killed in the earthquake. Roads, schools and hospitals have been destroyed. This very well may prove to be the most costly natural disaster in lives and property in the western hemisphere in the past 100 years.

Hundreds of Catholic churches from around the country have had long relationships with the Haitian churches and continue to send aid. Indiana Knights have also been actively supporting this relief effort. In the past they have responded during floods, tornadoes and ice storms here in Indiana without hesitation, as well as hurricane Katrina, sending money and manpower to aid in the rebuilding effort. It will take years to rebuild Haiti.



THE INDIANA KNIGHTS

BY ROBERT HARTENSTEIN

We speak often about pro-life and usually associate the mission with the protection of the unborn. Here is an example of an opportunity for Indiana Knights to reach out in love to protect the living, the most at-risk Haitian children of this tragedy. As the dust settles and the numbers of homeless are better understood, the greater will be the need for agencies to have somewhere to protect these children.

Every day we hear news of children being air lifted out of Haiti with critical injuries, amputations and infections. When they are stabilized where will they go? The recently orphaned still in Haiti — where will they go? We Knights stand for charity, unity and fraternity. The most important of these attributes is charity. There will be many months ahead where Indiana councils can walk-the-walk and demonstrate everything the Knights of Columbus stand for. The needs of the Haitian people in food, shelter and health care will be ongoing long into the year and Indiana Knights of Columbus need to stand tall and be all that we can be in helping this impoverished nation.

Try to imagine no sanitation, no running water or electricity. Your home is destroyed and what little possessions you have are gone. You face the possibility of malaria, cholera and other dangerous diseases. Phones don't work and roads are destroyed. You can't get to work and you can't check on family members. Did I mention the rainy season is right around the corner?

Thank you brother Knights on behalf of the state council for all that you have done so far in relief efforts in Haiti. Keep up the badly needed prayers and keep up the council involvement in this effort. As the news begins to become background noise, we Indiana Knights must keep vigilant to the needs of the Haitian people.

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

On the ministry and life of priests

At the second Vatican Council bishops from around the world discussed topics important to renewing faith. They identified their goals as three in number.

First, a desire to “impart ever increasing vigor to the Christian life of the faithful.” Second, some institutions can be “adapted more suitably to the needs of our times.” And third, the council wanted to “promote union among all who believe in Christ” and “call the whole of mankind into the household of the Church.”

Toward this end, the council produced constitutions, declarations and decrees — 16 of them in total. Some of them are fairly familiar to us. For example, there is a constitution on the sacred liturgy and one on the Church. There are decrees on ecumenism, and on the Church’s relationship to non-Christian religions. And a pastoral constitution on the Church in the modern world.

These documents are like blueprints for drawing up blue-



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The Year for Priests

prints. They don’t prescribe details of the reform, but describe the direction in which the reform should go.

Among them is a decree on the ministry and life of priests. It is called “Presbyterorum Ordinis.” And it has some interesting touch points for this year of the priest.

The part we’d like to focus on here is what it says about the ministry of priests amongst the faithful.

The document repeatedly says that priests share in Christ’s ministry. By this ministry, “the

Church here on earth is unceasingly built up into the people of God, the body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit.”

What is the purpose of Christ’s ministry? “To procure the glory of God the Father in Christ.” The priest devotes “all this energy to the increase of the glory of God and to man’s progress in the divine life.”

The document names a number of the priest’s activities: prayer, adoration, preaching the word, administering other sacra-

LITURGY, PAGE 12

The spirit is everlastingly alive



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 6:17, 2-26

This weekend is within Ordinary Time. However, on Wednesday, the Church will observe Ash Wednesday.

These readings from Scripture might be seen as a prelude to Lent, or more directly, as an invitation to join in the observance of Lent.

For its first reading, this weekend’s liturgy presents a selection from the Book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah must have been intense in his personality. Certainly he was strongly committed to the task of being a prophet. He keenly felt that God had called him to be a prophet, and his calling evidenced God’s will for the salvation of the Chosen People.

Upsetting the story was the spiritual sluggishness, if not the downright sinfulness, of the people. Often the people strayed from God because instead of following God’s will, they followed the fads of the time or earthly leaders.

Jeremiah continually, and eloquently, insisted that true peace and well-being existed only by obeying God and by listening to God’s word in making decisions about life.

To use a simile, life can be like being alone in a wasteland. Knowing God, and following

God’s will, however, provide an oasis.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians supplies the second reading. Paul’s two existing letters to them, both of which are in the New Testament, easily show us how challenging he found their tendency to accept the Gospel halfheartedly or with reservations.

In a way, it is understandable that they were difficult to convince and fully to convert. They lived in a city renowned across the Roman Empire for its material excesses. Being in such surroundings surely made attention to the spiritual foundations of the Christian Gospel less than quick and easy.

Paul calls the Corinthians to spiritual values. They alone endure, and they alone will satisfy.

For its last reading, the Church this weekend gives us a reading from St. Luke’s Gospel. This passage is part of the Synoptic Tradition. Similar readings are in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark.

Luke’s approach to religion was very similar to that of Jeremiah. Luke’s approach was urgent and bold. He minced no words. He cut to the chase, in modern day terms.

So, the situations in the life of Jesus that appealed to him were those in which the Lord was emphatic and the most direct. Such directness at times took the form of warnings, as is the case in the latter part of this reading, or on other occasions it appeared in a lesson or in a compliment.

Jesus makes very clear that true discipleship involves the spirit. The things of this earth come and go. In the end, all the things of this earth will go. Those people who set their sights on material goals, or live only for material advancements, do so at their own peril.

Reflection

The Church in this liturgy, and through these readings, prepares us for Lent. By definition, Lent will be a time of reflection, but it will be a reflection in which — to be beneficial for us — we must be completely focused and starkly realistic.

In these three readings, ending with the words of Jesus, the Church presents as the most fundamental facts the reality that earthly incentives are fleeting in survival and rest on quicksand.

Only the spirit is everlastingly alive. Only judgments based on spiritual motives have lasting effects. In these quite somber teachings, the Church leads us down no primrose path. It warns us that we are of the world, so the enticements of the world are especially appealing to us. Nevertheless, they can bring us only emptiness and maybe eternal death, if we do not turn to the Lord.

Choosing our future is our task. Lent is designed to assist us in making the choice.

READINGS

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8 Ps 1:1-4,6 1 Cor 15:12m 16-20 Lk 6:17,20-26

Monday: Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67-68,71-72,75-76 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14, 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6b, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplisson

The first letter of each correct answer will identify a day in February associated with a man who is remembered this month.

1. What was Peter’s name before he became Peter (Rock)?

- a. Cephas
- b. Petrus
- c. Simon

2. Which one of these terms refers to a messenger of God?

- a. Djinn (Genie)
- b. Angel
- c. Demon

3. Which child was almost slain by his own father?

- a. Isaac
- b. Cain
- c. Abel

4. This exotic sounding name is simply Latin for Our Lady

- a. Donna Maria
- b. UndSerDama
- c. Nostradamus

5. This apostle brought Christianity to southern India according to the locals

- a. Jain of Atman
- b. Indira of Magdalene
- c. Thomas

6. This Holy See is also one of the smaller nations on earth

- a. San Marino
- b. Vatican City
- c. Andorra

7. Even sheepish Christians can pray this prayer

- a. Licanthropo
- b. Agnus Dei
- c. Vexin Tocsin

8. Not quite a Jewish Deacon, but certainly a temple helper

- a. Levite
- b. Pharisee
- c. Scribe

9. Where Jesus appeared to some of his disciples soon after his death

- a. Corinth
- b. Emmaus
- c. Kerala

10. The first Roman emperor to be considered an arsonist and first to persecute Christians

- a. Augustus
- b. Nero
- c. Caligula

11. This man’s raising of money got Martin Luther all worked up

- a. Tetzal
- b. Henry VIII
- c. Amerigo Idolo

12. A modern state but also one of two ancient Jewish kingdoms

- a. Samaria
- b. Israel
- c. Judea

13. The main part of a church where congregants sit

- a. nave
- b. proscenium
- c. pewter

14. City, formerly Greek, where a letter attributed to Paul is addressed, and where Mary may have ended her time on earth

- a. Sparta
- b. Crete
- c. Ephesus

15. This refers to a concept (exemplified in the “Hunchback of Notre Dame”) that churches were off limits to secular authorities

- a. Quasi Legal Status
- b. Sanctuary
- c. Nole me Tangere

ANSWERS

- 1.c, 2.b, 3.a, 4.c, 5.c, 6.b, 7.b, 8.a, 9.b, 10.b, 11.a, 12.b, 13.a, 14.c, 15.b.
(The answers spell out St. Valentine’s)

Rediscovering the sounds of silence

We're surrounded by noise. At Miami International Airport recently, I counted five sources of noise — TSA announcements, airline announcements, airport announcements, muzak and the ubiquitous CNN-Airport channel. And that's before we get to squawking children, loud conversations and passengers who address their cell phones the way Hitler "talked" to the Nuremberg rallies. Stores and restaurants are full of canned music; an NBA or NHL game is an exercise in noise-pain management; there is virtually no public space, outside art museums and courtrooms, where our aural senses are not under assault.

Churches should be different. To enter the body of a Catholic Church should be to experience a change in location: to cross a portal into a different kind of space than the space in which we live our daily lives. Yet as I get around the country I can't help but notice that the contemporary American noise culture has invaded and distorted what used to be understood as space in which we sometimes listened to God speaking in the sounds of silence.

Chatter, if low-key, is constant, not simply in the narthex or vestibule (which is fine), but in the body of the church before Mass. Immediately after the recessional hymn is sung, the chatter breaks out again, often louder — despite many a choir's noble efforts to sing a choral postlude. The exchange of peace is another opportunity, rarely spurned, for the chatter to recommence.

And then there are the kids. The idea that crying babies or fussing children should not inter-

fere with the celebration of Mass seems to have been lost on an entire generation of parents — and this, despite the (expensive) efforts of many churches to build cry-rooms. Pastors who point out that fractious children really don't belong in church during services are accused of callousness or (gasp!) insensitivity; parents have been known to leave congregations because the pastor, in the kindest possible way, reminded them that the cry-room was built for a purpose.

So here's a suggestion for Lent, just around the corner: rediscover the sounds of silence in church.

Refrain from chattering with friends when you leave the narthex (I almost said "gathering space!"), and remind yourself that to cross the threshold between the vestibule and the body of the church is to pass one of those permeable borders between the natural and the supernatural that constitute the physical texture of Catholicism's sacramental imagination: that way-of-seeing-things that teaches us that the extraordinary lies just on the far side of the ordinary.

Don't begin chattering with neighbors as soon as the recessional hymn ends; preserve a dignified silence as you leave the church, as a reminder that we're about to return to "the world," as a gesture of courtesy to fellow-Catholics who wish to offer prayers of thanksgiving after Communion, and as an act of respect to the choir singing (or the organist playing) the postlude.

Parents with small children: use the cry-room, if your parish has one; take the squawking kids out of the body of the church when they start caterwauling, if



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

there's no cry-room; or consider leaving small, fractious children at home, with the parents attending different Masses — a sacrifice, I know, but a kindness to others and a way to ensure that you actually get a chance to pray yourself.

Liturgists and organists: there is no need to fill every second of Mass with vocalized prayers, songs or organ solos. The Roman Rite has always made room for silence; silence after Communion is particularly appropriate. It doesn't have to be all noise, all the time.

Recovering a sense of sacred space is as important as rediscovering sacred time in the renewal of the liturgy. All the more reason then, to welcome a splendid new book by Denis R. McNamara of the Liturgical Institute of the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary: "Catholic Church Architecture and the Spirit of the Liturgy," (Hillenbrand Books). Full of both insight and illustrations, McNamara's new study is a reminder of what sacred space is, and why it ought to nourish an attentive listening to the sounds of silence.

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

The many faces of Antioch

What are the Christian sites at Antioch in Syria?

Ancient Antioch in northern Syria is now called Antakya in southeastern Turkey. It was at this Antioch that St. Peter was the first bishop, before going to Rome. Eventually St. Ignatius was bishop of Antioch (d. A.D. 107) who wrote many letters to the churches of Asia. Nicholas, one of the first seven deacons, was from Antioch. St. Paul and St. Barnabas also visited Antioch, which became the home base for St. Paul's missionary work. The doctor of the Church, St. John Chrysostom (d. A.D. 407) was born at Antioch.

There is a second Antioch in Pisidia in Turkey where St. Paul visited and preached on one of his missionary journeys. Then there is a third Antioch in Mygdonia in what was once northeastern Mesopotamia (Iraq), but now lies in southeastern Turkey. This Antioch is also called Nisibis. St.

Ephrem the poet lived here, before moving to Edessa or modern Urfa in Turkey.

M. Grant says that Antioch in Syria was situated at the edge of a large and fertile plain between Mount Silpius and the left bank of the Orontes river where it cut through to the Mediterranean sea. This city stood at a focal point of communications with both south and east. Daphne, a suburb of Antioch, was famous for its shrine of Apollo. In Daphne Mark Antony married Queen Cleopatra in 40 B.C. The Olympic Games of Antioch were also held here. There are beautiful gardens with cypress and laurel trees and little waterfalls. Antioch became the third largest city in the Roman empire, after Rome in Italy and Alexandria in Egypt.

At Antioch today you can see St. Peter's Grotto. A. Edmonds says this grotto is at the foot of the hills east of the city. The Crusaders in the Middle Ages dis-



HIRE HISTORY

FATHER RICHARD HIRE

covered this grotto and said it is the cave church where early Christians met in secret. A narrow tunnel winds from the church through the side of the hill and away from the town, as an escape route. The white façade of the church stands out against the reddish rock from which it was hollowed. Fodor says the feast of St. Peter and Paul is celebrated here in the simple bare grotto on June 29 and Mass is said the first Sunday of every month.

D. Darke says in Roman times Antioch was a great center for cultural, artistic and commercial

LITURGY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

ments, performing works of ministry. And most especially, offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice. It is the very heart of the congregation.

I find many of the verbs in the document interesting. They describe a relationship to the laity which is gentle, encouraging, but unwavering. Priests are to "coax their people" to a greater spirit of prayer. They must "gently persuade" everyone to fulfill their state of life. They must "train the faithful" to sing hymns and spiritual songs in their hearts.

Most especially, priests must instruct their people to "offer to God the Father the Divine Victim in the sacrifice of the Mass, and to join to it the offering of their own lives."

Priests must be attentive to

everyone, but they have a "special obligation to the poor and weak entrusted to them," because Jesus had a special union with the poor. The document also singles out youth, married people, parents.

It is not an easy job! "To achieve this aim, certain virtues ... contribute a great deal: such as goodness of heart, sincerity, strength and constancy of mind, zealous pursuit of justice, affability and others."

We can all think of priests who exhibit these virtues, each in their own unique way. They have accepted the call to ministry not for glory, but for service. They exercise a power, but this is a spiritual power "conferred upon them for the building up of the Church."

The Notre Dame Center for Liturgy provided this column from a series on the priesthood during the Year for Priests.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for February 14, 2010

Luke 6:17, 20-26

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a promise of joy with the Son of Man. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

LEVEL	CROWD	DISCIPLES
PEOPLE	JUDEA	JERUSALEM
TYRE	POOR	KINGDOM OF GOD
SATISFIED	LAUGH	HATE YOU
EVIL	REJOICE	LEAP FOR JOY
REWARD	HEAVEN	WOE TO YOU
WEEP	WELL OF YOU	PROPHETS

ON THE PLAIN

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

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activities, and the people loved the pleasures of life. Today you can still see the ancient city wall, the old Roman bridge and a picturesque bazaar. H. Vos mentions that, at the time of St. Paul, Antioch was a magnificent city. It had a circus, palace, marketplace, citadel, Christian cemetery, theater, forum, a statue of Romulus, Remus and the she-wolf, colonnades, squares for children, a statue of the Roman emperor Tiberius, Roman royal residences, a hippodrome, and temples of Jupiter,

Dionysus and Pan.

T. Goltz mentions that Antioch became a center for ascetic monks and spiritual acrobats who expressed their devotion to God by a complete abnegation of the world. The most famous was St. Simeon the Elder (d. A.D. 459) who devoted his life to sitting atop an increasingly higher pillar, now located right across the Syrian border. Here Simeon would rant and rave against such human frailties as the desire for a good meal and a clean pair of sheets.

Sports

ND MARATHON HELD TO RAISE RELIEF FUNDS FOR NEW ORLEANS The sixth annual Holy Half Marathon, hosted by the Class of 2011, will be held on the campus of the University of Notre Dame on April 11. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the race start at 10 a.m. Awards presentation will be held at 12:30 p.m. The race will be chip timed by River City Race management. All proceeds will be donated to the rebuilding efforts in New Orleans, after the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Gustav. For information on race events and course map visit www.nd.edu/~class11/holyhalf/registration.html.

The Twins snag their first win

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Snagging their first win of the season, the St. Louis/St. Rose Twins downed Most Precious Blood, 33-15, on Saturday, Feb. 6, at St. Aloysius. Hanging

tough in the Catholic Youth League (CYO) Blue League, a pleased coach Paul Gerardot explained, "A record is not always reflective of a team's success. We have had some very close match-ups and improved immensely down the stretch. But the win was sweet. The boys really wanted it." After a motivational half time speech, Gerardot felt the Twins picked up their intensity and really hustled the second half.

Fueled by Luke Hamman's seven third quarter points, the Twins outscored the Reds, 17-4. Hamman came out with back to back buckets and later swished a couple free throws. In the Blue League contest, the Reds' Nick Greenlee paced his team with 10 points while Twins guard Jake Castleman led all scorers with 13.

In his first official season with the Twins, veteran Coach Gerardot adds, "These boys practice and play as hard as any team I have ever coached." And that accounts for a lot of teams. Although in his rookie season with the Twins, Gerardot is a longtime friend of CYO.

Beginning in 1983, Gerardot has been at the helm of teams from St. Henry, Sacred Heart and Benoit Academy and has claimed a few titles along the way. In 2008, a parent from St. Louis contacted Gerardot asking if he would consider coming

back to the court and coaching for St. Louis Academy, who were reestablishing their seventh and eighth grade. Because there were no eighth graders and just a few seventh graders a year ago, the boys joined with St.

John the Baptist-New Haven, but did not play in the CYO league circuit.

"It worked out fine, but I couldn't wait to 'wear the green,'" admits Gerardot. Gerardot has strong family ties to the Besancon community and was excited for the opportunity to practice in the old parish hall and coach the Twins.

The 2009-2010 Twins, made up of young men from St. Louis Academy and St. Joseph School, Monroeville, combined roster lists 11 players. The three eighth graders, now in their second season under Gerardot, are big men Martin Lortie and Jacob Matter, and spark plug Hamman. The talented seventh graders include: Adam Oberley, Dereck Brinkman, Castleman, David Cruz, Nick Castleman, Derick Herschberger and Jacob VanHorn. And running the point for the Twins is the lone sixth grader, Jacque Jacquay.

Gerardot will be treating his

team to pizza their next practice. "I told the boys I always bring pizza after a victory," Gerardot explained. Amused by their response to his tradition, Gerardot concluded, "They asked why I didn't tell them sooner in the season!"

Scores from Feb. 6-7

Boys

St. Aloysius 39-Huntington 20 (Thiele 16, Pike 10)

St. Therese 46-New Haven 30 (Burrows 18, Hoffer 14)

St. Louis/St. Rose 33-Precious Blood 8 15 (J. Castleman 13, N. Greenlee 10)

St. Vincent 8 62-St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel 28 (Scott 11, Fiacable 22)

St. Charles 8 46-Decatur 8 34 (Feher 18, Sefton 14)

Decatur 7 37 - Precious Blood 7 24 (Konin 13, Baker 12)

St. Charles 7 37 - St. Vincent 7 23 (Kalonji 8, Gabet 12)

Girls

St. Charles 8 37-Precious Blood 10 (Irvine 4, T. Sordelet 10)

St. Vincent 35-New Haven 29 (E. Butler 14, Hope 16)

St. Joe/St. Elizabeth 8 28-St. John 16 (Hall 6, Addie 16)

St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth 7 25-St. Charles 7 15 (Allison 8, Pittinger 5)

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel 48-St. Charles 7 20 (Kryder 8, Beckman 16)

St. Therese 35-St. Aloysius 22 (Luegring 14, Kryder 9)

Precious Blood 15-Huntington 13 (Irvine 7, Sims 6)



St. Joseph Eagles' guards make for a good year

BY CHUCK FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph (South Bend) coach Brian Weaver quoted an old basketball axiom, saying "you're only as good as your guards." That's one of the main reasons the Eagles are very, very good this year.

Michelle Weaver and Madeline Raster combined for 64 points this weekend, as St. Joseph ran its record to 4-0 with wins of St. Matthew (48-23) and Christ the King (38-15) in Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) girls' basketball play. Weaver scored a season-high 27 in the Friday night win over the Blazers.

Coach Weaver is quick to add that team defense is what generates so many offensive opportunities for his squad.

"We constantly stress defense," said the Eagles mentor. "We play defense hoping to create some offensive points. Anybody can play defense, whether you have a high skill level or not. So, really, anybody can contribute."

That was evident in the Sunday game against Christ the King, as St. Joseph held the Kings without a field goal in the first 11 minutes. Raster and Weaver scored 16 of the first 18 points for the Eagles, who used a smothering 3-2 press.

In the second half, the Eagles relied more on their inside game,

as post presence Sid Corrigan finished with nine points. Beth Solkey led Christ the King with six points, as the Kings fell to 2-2 on the season.

"They're obviously a good team," said Kings coach Kevin Kruggel, whose team knocked off previously unbeaten Holy Family on Saturday. "We need to play better. We missed a lot of shots today."

St. Joseph (Mishawaka) is the only other unbeaten team in the league. Tagin Schultheis scored 20 in the Wildcats' 41-23 win over Mishawaka rival St. Bavo.

St. Jude/St. Monica and Corpus Christi enjoyed weekend sweeps. St. Jude/St. Monica used a stingy defense holding both St. John/Our Lady and St. Michael to single digits. Guard play stood out for Corpus Christi. Rachel Cole tallied 14 in a win over previously unbeaten Holy Cross, while Mary Freeby netted 14 in the Cougars' win over St. Thomas.

For all the weekend scores, check out icclsports.org.

Correction

In last week's ICCL girls' basketball story, St. Joseph, South Bend, Lady Eagles should have been recognized as the ICCL champs last year, rather than the St. Joseph, Mishawaka, girls' team.

GOOD VOLLEYBALL HABITS



DIANE FREEBY

Sister Lissetta Gettinger, from the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, is helping at Corpus Christi this semester. In addition to preparation of the second graders for first holy Communion, she brought her A-game to last week's teachers vs. eighth grade volleyball match during Catholic Schools Week. Despite her spikes, the eighth graders won 4 out of 5.

Happy Saint Valentine's Day!



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the pierced side
of Christ,
we can understand
the starting point
of the
Encyclical Letter:
"God is love."*

~Pope Benedict
XVI

Book captures spirit of the Irish

BY MIKE KROKOS

There is the story about losing his parents on a family trip to Ireland — within a few hours of arriving on the Emerald Isle.

And the one about the priest whose deep Irish roots and upbringing led him to befriend and become the primary caregiver for an 80-year-old widower who had just lost his wife of 40 years.

But we can't forget reading about the tradition of Notre Dame football between a father and son that started years ago and has been carried on from generation to generation.

In "The Irish Way of Life: Stories of Family, Faith and Friendship," author John Shaughnessy's second book is filled with the kind of stories that the Irish are known for, stories that make you laugh and bring a tear to your eyes, the author said.

Though many of the stories draw upon his own experiences, Shaughnessy also interviewed people of Irish descent, including several with ties to the Indianapolis area.

"I wanted to write a book that would be a tribute to Irish immigrants, like my grandparents, who came to America with their most important possessions: their dreams," said Shaughnessy, who is the assistant editor of *The Criterion*.

"I also wanted the book to be a tribute to their sons and daughters, who made the United States

their home and shared their Irish-American heritage with their children."

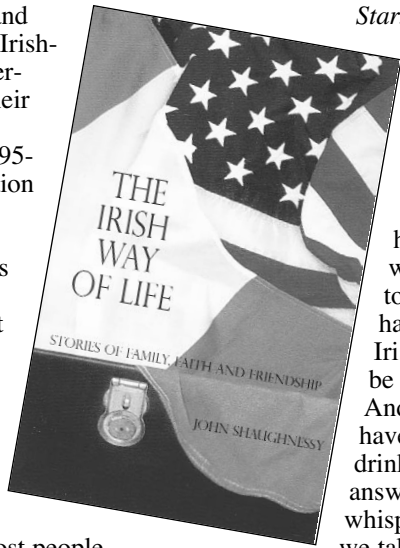
But the 195-page nonfiction book, published by Corby Books in Notre Dame, is not only meant for people of Irish descent.

"These stories would connect with most people because most of the stories in the books are about fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives — all relationships that touch our lives," Shaughnessy said.

"One of the threads throughout the book is how people left everything behind in one country to come to the United States for a better life for themselves and their families. That's a story that is still a great part of our country today."

Shaughnessy spent a recent evening recounting some of his book's Irish stories with members of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians at the Northside Knights of Columbus Hall in Indianapolis.

The group erupted in laughter several times, including when listening as the author reminisced about a story from his early days working for *The Indianapolis*



Star. The St. Patrick's Day feature was about the now-late Joe Wilson, an Irish immigrant musician in Indianapolis.

"I visit him in his house and right after we sit down, he leans toward me and says, 'I have a fine bottle of Irish whiskey that can't be bought in the States. And it's the last bottle I have. Would you like a drink?' Before I could answer, Wilson winks and whispers, 'Of course, once we take off the cork, we throw it away.'"

Though the young reporter declined the offer, Wilson went on to tell him the story of his life, Shaughnessy said, "and certain qualities came through in his story that I associated with the Irish way of life: the desire to make a better life for your family, the gift of storytelling, a spirit of generosity, a strength to overcome life's challenges, more than a touch of irreverence, a core of faith and the pride of being Irish."

"The Irish Way of Life: Stories of Family, Faith and Friendship" is available at www.corbypublishing.com.

Mike Krokos is the editor of *The Criterion*, publication of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

ICCL wraps up regular season varsity basketball

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND, MISHAWAKA — The Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) wrapped up its regular season with the game that would decide the St. John Bosco League Champion.

Christ the King had already sewed up the St. John Bosco West title with its win against Holy Family, 25-20.

The big game would be between St. Anthony and St. Joseph-South Bend with the Panthers of St. Anthony holding a one game lead with a 1-point victory over the Eagles in December. With the victory, the St. Joe squad would not only win the East Division but the overall league because of their head to head victory over the Kings.

The matchup would live up to the hype as St. Anthony's pushed their lead to 10 in the third quarter, but the resilient Eagles kept on coming. With under a minute left the teams were trading one point leads in a classic battle of power houses.

With just under 15 seconds left St. Anthony's Matt Royecca scored his 19th point giving the Panthers a brief lead by one. A quick eight seconds later, Tommy Clark again came to the rescue hitting a nine footer in the lane sealing the fate of both teams, com-

pleting his 20-point scoring out burst and giving the league championship to the St. Joe Eagles.

In the Martin DePorres Division St. Joseph-Mishawaka remained perfect to claim the title knocking off rival St. Monica, 39-21.

The Falcons of St. Jude defeated Queen of Peace, 38-27, behind the scoring of Matt and Jared Henry collecting 13 and 10 points apiece.

In the highest scoring affair of the afternoon, the St. Pius Lions closed out their campaign with a win over Our Lady of Hungary, 64-44.

St. John Bosco East

Team	W	L
St. Joseph (SB)	5	1
St. Anthony	5	1
St. Thomas	2	4
St. Matthew	0	6

St. John Bosco West

Christ The King	6	0
Holy Cross	4	2
Holy Family	2	4
Corpus Christi	0	6

St. Martin DePorres

St. Joseph (Mish)	10	0
St. Pius	7	3
Our Lady/Hungary	6	4
St. Jude	4	6
St. Monica	2	8
Queen of Peace	1	9



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Feb. 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Give Thanks and Praise." Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Feb. 19 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Thom Lombardi will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Father Thom is pastor at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel in Fort Wayne.

Holy Name and Rosary Societies plan retreat

South Bend — A retreat will be held Sunday, Feb. 21, at the Hedwig Memorial Center following the 8 a.m. Mass and ending at 2 p.m. Retreat master will be Sister Barbara Ann Hallman, OSF. Light breakfast and lunch will be served. Call (574) 287-8932 for reservations by Feb. 17.

St. John plans mission

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish will have a Parish Mission from Sunday, Feb. 28 through Wednesday, March 3 at 7 p.m. Morning sessions will be at 9:15 a.m. in Providence House with child care provided. The Sunday topic "You are mine" will be presented by

Father Tony Steinacker, Monday's topic "I call you" will be presented by Mary Pohlman, Tuesday the topic "You are forgiven" will be presented by Father Larry Kramer and Wednesday the topic "I send you" will be presented by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

FUND RAISERS

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7.50, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$7.50 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth students raise funds for Haiti

Fort Wayne — A concert will be held at St. Joseph Church, on Friday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m., Freewill donations raised will be given to Catholic Relief Services for the people in Haiti. There will also be a fish fry going on from 5-8 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Fish fry planned

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus, Council 553 will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 19, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Knights' hall, 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$3.50 for children under 12 and free for children under 5.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

NFP classes offered

Fort Wayne — The Couple to Couple League will offer Natural Family Planning classes starting Sunday, Feb. 28, at 6 p.m. in the

home of Ron and Marilyn Shannon. The course consists of three classes, one per month. To register call (260) 489-1856.

Priests recognized at dinner

Huntington — There will be a recognition dinner Saturday, March 6, at 7 p.m. in Rieder Auditorium at Ss. Peter and Paul Church for all priests serving Huntington County. St. Joseph, St. Catherine, St. Mary and Ss. Peter and Paul parishoners are invited along with the public. Seating is reserved at 200. Send a check to Norm Stoffel, 1121 N. Lafontaine St. Huntington, IN 46750 by Feb. 20 for reservation. The price per person is \$12.50 and dress is casual.

VNHH offer bereavement series

Fort Wayne — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home, 5910 Homestead Rd., will offer the first program in its spring bereavement education series, "Learning to Live after the Death of a Spouse," on Tuesday, Feb. 23, from 5-7 p.m. Speaker Kay Cozad, grief and loss educator, will lead the discussion of healing after spousal loss. The program is free and open to anyone with registration required. A light lunch will be served. To register call (260) 435-3222 or e-mail bonniedavis@vnhh.org.

Soup on Ash Wednesday

Fort Wayne — Begin Lent simply. Bring a friend for lunch of soup and bread on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. Mary Church, Lafayette St. and Jefferson Blvd.

REST IN PEACE

Decatur

Donald E. Roeder, 84, St. Mary of the Assumption

Elkhart

Esther G. Franger, 89, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

Monico Moreno Sr., 72, St. Joseph

Bernice A. Boyle, 89, St. Jude

Helen E. Horn, 86, Saint Anne Home Chapel

Helena Vebert Lucas, 90, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Terry M. Giese, 60, St. John the Baptist

Jean Babe Hoeffel, 74, Most Precious Blood

Clifford J. Schmidt, 91, St. Jude

Shirley C. Edwards, 89, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Goshen

Louise K. Guthrie, 55, St. John the Evangelist

Maxine O. Myers, 87, St. John the Evangelist

Granger

H. Frank Harris Jr., 76, St. Pius X

Huntington

Frieda Owens Karst, 86, Ss. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Richard L. Chapman, 52, St. Monica

Georgia R. Hummer, 90, St. Bavo

New Haven

Ervin A. Richman, 74, St. Louis Besancon

George J. Smith, 82, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Ruth E. Slowey, 86, St. Joseph Chapel

Henry J. Scroope, V, 4 months, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Roanoke

Phillip C. Freiburger, 87, St. Joseph

South Bend

Adeline Zmyslo, 84, St. Adalbert

Irene B. Derdak, 83, St. Jude

Joseph C. Mackowiak, 90, Holy Family

Germaine E. Cervin, 85, Queen of Peace

Raymond Zwierzynski, 82, St. Casimir

Theodore D. Gearhart, 83, Little Flower

Dolores T. Kovacs, 79, St. Stanislaus

Syracuse

Glenace L. Kerfin, 97, St. Martin de Porres

Warsaw

William L. Hilliard, 69, Sacred Heart

Eloise M. Bixler, 93, Sacred Heart

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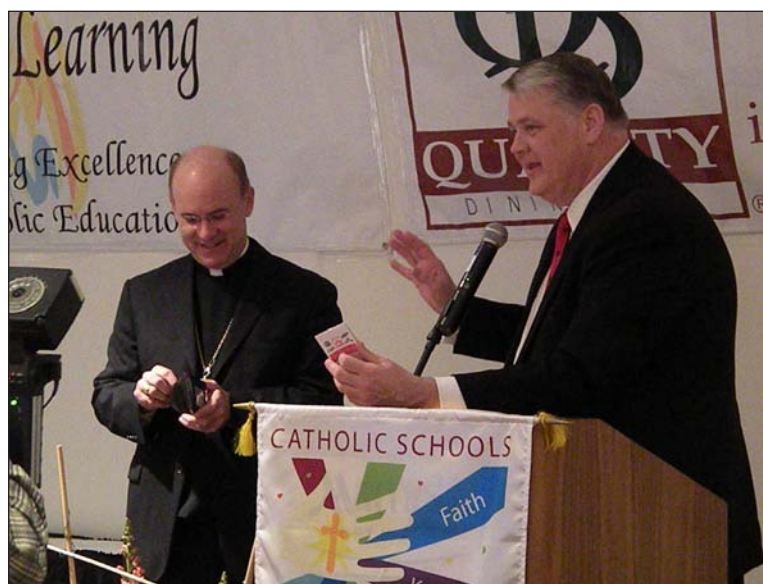
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BISHOP BUYS A YOU CAN LEND A HAND BOOK



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades offers a donation for the Quality Dining, Inc., Catholic schools fundraiser, You Can Lend a Hand, which was launched last week in South Bend and Fort Wayne. The coupon book sale is an integral part of Catholic schools' fundraising efforts in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Students from local Catholic schools will sell You Can Lend A Hand coupon books through March 5. Each coupon book sells for \$3, contains 16 coupons and is valued at \$80. Since the inception of the campaign in 1982, You Can Lend a Hand has raised \$7.8 million for Catholic education in northern Indiana and western Michigan. At the Fort Wayne luncheon on Feb. 4, Jim Fitzpatrick, senior vice president and chief development officer of Quality Dining, Inc., invited Bishop Rhoades to purchase a coupon book. Bishop Rhoades eagerly obliged. Teachers who were the recipients of the Light of Learning Awards were honored at both luncheons. The South Bend area teachers were honored on Feb. 2.

BISHOP RHOADES MAKES PASTORAL VISIT TO MARIAN



PROVIDED BY MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades makes a pastoral visit to Maria Ruvalcaba's Spanish IV/V class at Marian High School in Mishawaka on Feb. 2.

VOCATION ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART CHURCH

The Sacred Heart Vocations Committee and the Knights of Columbus of Warsaw, recently sponsored their annual essay contest "Increasing Vocation Awareness." Each grade level winner will be awarded a \$10 prize by the Knights of Columbus and read their essays at an upcoming weekend Mass. Grade level winners are, from left, Megan Dawson, third grade; Luke Adamiec, first grade; Taylor Graves, sixth grade; Joe Wilkinson, second grade; Riley Brennan, fifth grade; and Sarah Johnson, fourth grade.

BISHOP RHOADES VISITS BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, on his visitation to Bishop Luers High School on Feb. 5, celebrated Mass and visited classrooms, including Marilyn Fech's sophomore theology class. Bishop shared information about St. Peter and his burial at Vatican City.

Josephinum to hold fifth annual Irish Fest

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Pontifical College Josephinum welcomes the general public to its commemoration of the feast of St. Patrick at the seminary's fifth annual Irish Fest on Feb. 27 from 5- 11 p.m. The event celebrating Irish culture and heritage will be preceded by a Catholic Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the seminary's St. Turibius Chapel, followed by an evening of traditional Irish music, food and dance.

The Irish Fest was begun in 2006 to promote good will and raise awareness of the work of the Josephinum in the preparation of priests for the Church of the future. It has become a fundraiser to benefit seminarians who experience financial difficulties. One hundred percent of the profit goes to this cause. A substantial amount of the monies raised at the past festivals has helped students with medical bills, books, travel home for emergencies, computers and a variety of other needs.

"The Irish Fest allows people to enjoy an evening with the seminarians and to get to know the Josephinum in a more personal way," said Josephinum Rector and President Father James Wehner. "It also provides a way for people to help seminarians who have financial difficulties. The Irish Fest is a fun way to help a great cause."

Musical entertainment for Irish Fest 2010 will be held in two adjoining venues on the Josephinum campus and will include performances by Knot Fidd'n, The Ladies of Longford, Regan Irish Dancers, Kay Proffitt, The Shamrock Club of Columbus Pipe and Drum Band, Maidens IV, and Easter Rising.

Beverages and food selections, including fish and chips, will be available for purchase throughout the evening.

Tickets for the Irish Fest may be purchased at the door and are \$20 for adults and \$5 for youth age 11-16. Children under 11 are free. Pre-sale tickets (\$15 adults; \$5 youth age 11-16) may be purchased until 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26. Call (614) 885-5585 to purchase tickets by phone via credit card, or visit the reception desk in the main lobby.

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