



Runnerup team

Luers girls basketball team takes State runnerup spot

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Turn clocks forward one hour

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Diocese rallies in support of relief efforts for Haiti

BY KAY COZAD



CNS PHOTO/L ANE HARTILL, CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Workers with Catholic Relief Services unload ready-to-eat meals at a site for displaced people in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Jan. 17. CRS distributed food, water and hygiene kits to the site where about 450 earthquake survivors were camped out.

FORT WAYNE — In the wake of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that devastated Haiti on Jan. 12, killing thousands of people including the archbishop of Port-au-Prince, communities across the country and the world continue to rally in support of their rebuilding efforts. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, in its legendary generosity, has risen to the challenge, even in this depressed economic time, with a donation of its own.

Shortly following the quake newly installed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades addressed the faithful of the diocese in a statement saying, "Our faith compels us to pray for and reach out to our brothers and sisters in their time of suffering. I ask you to take up a second collection for the people and Church of Haiti on the weekend of Jan. 23-24. These funds will be used to support the efforts of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic Church in the U.S."

The total raised from the diocesan-wide collection topped \$559,000 and chief financial officer of the diocesan business office, Joseph Ryan, said this collection is second only to one taken to assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. "It was a super response," he said. The money will go directly to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), which will distribute the funds to the Haitian relief effort through Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Top donor parishes in the diocese include St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne, St. Pius, Granger, Christ the King, South

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Call to conversion isn't about making people feel bad, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Lenten call to conversion is not an attempt to make people feel bad about themselves, but to promote their true good, which is eternal life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Celebrating Mass March 7 at the Rome parish of St. John of the Cross and reciting the Angelus at the Vatican afterward, the pope focused on the day's Gospel story in which Jesus tells his followers they must convert or they will perish.

At the parish, which was founded in 1989, the pope said Lent is "an invitation to the conversion of our lives and to doing appropriate acts of penitence."

The crowd Jesus was addressing in the day's Gospel story thought that people who met a sudden and violent death were sinners, while the fact that members of Jesus' audience were still alive meant they had nothing to worry about, the pope said.

But Jesus warned them that by not recognizing their own sins and the path to conversion, they would not be saved, he said.

"During Lent, each one of us is called by God to make a change, thinking and living according to the Gospel, correcting things in our way of praying, acting, working and relating to others," he said.

"Jesus makes this appeal to us not with an aim of severity, but because he is concerned for our welfare, our happiness and our salvation," the pope said.

YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



MSGR. WILLIAM SCHOOLER

Msgr. William Schooler, a priest of 36 years, enjoys the literal image of "laboring in the Lord's vineyard;"

he likes being among the planters, pickers and diggers of his parish. "These are my heroes," he says, "the members of our parish who have embraced stewardship as a

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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ions. Letters must not exceed 250
words. All letters must be signed and
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Notre Dame president looks forward to working with new bishop, strengthening culture of life

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — In a new year with a new bishop, the president of the University of Notre Dame is looking ahead. Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins says he is looking forward, not only to working with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, but also to helping strengthen the culture of life on the Notre Dame campus.

Criticized by many for his decision to invite President Barack Obama, an ardent supporter of abortion rights, to speak at last spring's commencement, and to confer upon him an honorary doctorate of law, Father Jenkins faced opposition not only from faculty and student groups but from over 60 United States bishops. Bishop Rhoades was among those who spoke out, writing to Father Jenkins last year to express his disagreement with the decision.

The two Catholic leaders have met several times since Bishop Rhoades was named bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, including a brief visit during the March for Life in Washington, D.C., and last month when the Notre Dame community officially welcomed him during Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

"I think the relationship is going well," said Father Jenkins. "I had a good conversation with him when he visited and I've had a number of good conversations with him. As I said, he's very personal and very pastoral, and I think very interested in having a good dialogue, so I feel very positive about that and I think he feels the same. I hope he does."

Some wonder how Notre Dame's relationship with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend might change after that relationship became further strained when Bishop John D'Arcy decided to boycott last spring's commencement.

"We tried to be welcoming to Bishop D'Arcy ... we will be welcoming to Bishop Rhoades," stated Father Jenkins. "I don't see it as a big change, but the only thing I'd say is as we look ahead to visits with him, we'll be welcoming toward the bishop and we consider him a part of the university and we'll continue to work on that."

Father Jenkins continued, "As a Catholic university I think it's clear that the bishop is an extrinsic participant in the life of a university, but part of the university, as the pastor of the diocese, as the leader of the Church in this diocese, and that's how we see him and that's how we welcomed him and that's how I'll look forward to working with him."

Father Jenkins took part in the March for Life this past January, as did Bishop Rhoades. This was Father Jenkins' first experience at the Washington, D.C. march, while Bishop Rhoades attended the first march as a high school student and



HOLY CROSS FATHER JOHN I. JENKINS

only missed a few years while he was studying abroad. *Today's Catholic* asked Father Jenkins why he decided to attend the March for Life this year.

"As you probably know," replied Father Jenkins, "I started initiatives to deepen the culture of life and the witness to life here on campus ... faculty and students gave me recommendations, and we've done a number of things in that regard. This was one suggestion I was happy to do, to go to the March ... and I think it should be seen in that larger effort, to deepen the culture of life and witness to life here on campus."

When asked about his impressions of the March for Life, Father Jenkins echoed many of the thoughts shared by Bishop D'Arcy last year when he participated himself for the first time, reflecting on the dedication of the young people in attendance.

"It was great," recalled Father Jenkins. "I spent my time mainly with the Notre Dame group. We had a Mass that morning at a parish nearby, and then traveled to the march. I marched with them. I think the best thing for me was to be with those young people who were so enthusiastic, prayerful. They just have a spirit — a witness — about life and I really enjoyed that ... I interacted with Bishop Rhoades just briefly. I just saw him ... and took him over to the Notre Dame students. It was great to be there with him as well."

While Father Jenkins took steps, literally and figuratively, to support Notre Dame's culture of life, he continues to take criticism from those who disagree. Some faculty, students and alumni believe he is not doing enough to promote Catholic identity at a place many see as the preeminent Catholic university. Others say Notre Dame has no business getting involved in controversial issues like abortion, with one theology professor going so far as to publicly express her disagreement in the local newspaper. Father Jenkins believes these wide-ranging campus opinions are part of Catholic university life and still serve the Church.

"What is a university? It is a forum. It is a place where a lot of different views get expressed. And you hope," said Father Jenkins, "it's a place, particularly at Notre Dame, where you're committed to the highest level of reason and

inquiry, and committed to faith. And if you look at the history of the Church, there's always been disagreement. There's always been strong feelings about issues. But what we try to do is, in a way informed by the faith, provide a forum where there can be serious reason and discussion at the highest level ... If there are different views, that's not necessarily a bad thing. Sometimes we go, 'Oh, this is terrible to disagree.' Well, people disagree about a lot of things. A university should be a place where there can be serious, responsible, reasoned disagreement, again, informed by faith."

"Ex Corde Ecclesiae" is the papal document, authored by Pope John Paul II in 1990, that provides clear guidelines on the nature of Catholic universities. Earlier, Bishop Rhoades told *Today's Catholic* why he believes the document is so important.

"It has to do with what is a Catholic university and what are the essential characteristics of a Catholic university," explained Bishop Rhoades. "So, only a small part of it deals with the bishop's relationship with a Catholic university. But it has to do with what it means to be a Catholic university in the world today, what is required in having the name 'Catholic.' It's very beautiful and it looks at various issues and I think the four essential characteristics are very important. That's what truly makes a university Catholic, and that's how to implement that and make sure those four characteristics are prominent in the life of the university."

Those characteristics are:

1. Christian inspiration in individuals and the university community;
2. Reflection and research on human knowledge in the light of the Catholic faith;
3. Fidelity to the Christian message in conformity with the magisterium of the Church;
4. Institutional commitment to the service of others

Bishop Rhoades said "Ex Corde Ecclesiae" is fully embraced at the last school he served, Mount Saint Mary's University. He said "it strengthened the university as Catholic, but also strengthened it as a university by being faithful to both the spirit and the letter of that document."

Father Jenkins called it "an excellent document" and said it is something he talks about, and something that is often quoted. *Today's Catholic* asked him if it would be helpful if more faculty, more than half of whom are Catholic, were familiar with the contents of "Ex Corde Ecclesiae."

"Oh, perhaps," replied Father Jenkins. "I hope the themes of that are present in the life of the university, whether it's of service to the Church, or whether it's to reflect on the Gospel message or whether it's being open to the truth

in engagement with the culture. All those things are touched on in that document ... and we try to do that in a lot of different ways."

Last spring's decision to honor a politician whose actions oppose Catholic teaching on abortion divided the Notre Dame family, and Catholics everywhere. *Today's Catholic* asked Father Jenkins if there is anything he would have done differently.

"I've said everything I have to say about that," he responded quickly. "I'm comfortable with my decision to invite the president, to bestow on him an honorary degree as has been done with many presidents before. I actually think the presentation of the president showed a movement toward the respect for life that I was encouraged by. I think statements by the president since that time have been encouraging. The president visited the pope last July. The pope welcomed him and had good things to say ... some good things to say about his leadership. So I think it was positive. I'm most interested in looking ahead, but I think I've explained as clearly as I possibly could why we did that, I'm comfortable with that decision and I'd do it again."

Father Jenkins said he does not know if the student opposition group "NDRresponse" has had any further comment or requests of him. He acknowledged receiving "many letters from many people," including alumni groups like Sycamore, who say they are concerned about Notre Dame losing its Catholic identity. Father Jenkins said he is "not in any particular dialogue with that group."

Today's Catholic concluded the interview by asking Father Jenkins about Catholic identity, and why Catholic parents should be assured that Notre Dame is the right place. Father Jenkins paused before answering.

"The education we offer our students is as good as they can receive anywhere, in any subject," began Father Jenkins. "It is a Catholic university, and rich with liturgical life ... rich with opportunities to reflect on our faith ... rich with a superb theology department, a great campus ministry department. On any given day, I think there are over 50 Masses said on campus, and our students attend those in quite large numbers."

Father Jenkins continued, "The main thing I'd say to anybody who has a question is, look at our graduates. Our graduates have positions of leadership in many different professions. They are also leaders, quite often, in their parish and their diocese and the wider Church. Anybody who wonders about the value of a Notre Dame education should probably look at them because they're the product of our education. They are what I am most proud of and I think their lives speak most powerfully to the value of a Notre Dame education."

Healing the wounds in Haiti

Medical mission nurse assists quake victims

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — In the days and weeks following the disastrous earthquake that killed over 200,000 people in the impoverished nation of Haiti on Jan. 12, Dr. Scott Thomas and his wife Ann-Marie were waiting — waiting to hear when he might go there to help with medical relief.

Dr. Thomas is the director of trauma at Memorial Hospital in South Bend. He is a general and vascular surgeon there, and Ann-Marie, an operating room nurse, specializes in wound care.

Parishioners at Corpus Christi Parish, South Bend, where their two youngest attend grade school, the Thomas's have had an eye toward doing mission work after the children are grown. The earthquake in Haiti put those plans into motion much sooner than expected.

"It was always a question of whether or not Scott would go down," Ann-Marie told *Today's Catholic*. "He was also concerned that they have the right equipment. We have to know we can sterilize instruments. We have to know that we have an operating room, that we have an anesthesiologist ... because if we don't have that, we can't do anything. As it was, we had heard about all the amputations and surgeries being done without anesthesia. Scott said he couldn't be a part of that."

A group of 17 medical professionals from South Bend went to Haiti first, to scout out the situation and let Dr. Thomas know if he would be needed. Ann-Marie recalls getting marching orders with only a few hours notice.

"When they got down there they called and said, 'Well, we don't need you, Scott. We need Ann-Marie! They needed more nurses.'"

Six hours later, on Feb. 3, Ann-Marie was on her way to pick up supplies in Florida, then fly out to Haiti the next day.

"I didn't sleep a wink most of the night in Florida," she continued, "but once I got on the plane ... once I had all the supplies with me and I had a plan, I thought I can do this. I mean, if these people can live through an earthquake, surely I can help."

There wasn't much time to dwell on anything after Ann-Marie arrived in Milot, a village 75 miles north of Port-au-Prince. The capital city was leveled, but Milot was relatively untouched. Milot was also home to Hospital Sacre Coeur, the only hospital left standing.

"The 10 mile drive from the airport to the hospital took an hour because the roads are that bad," said Ann-Marie, "and immediately what impressed me was the poverty. The heat and the poverty ... it's everywhere, and it was like that before the earthquake hit."

When she reached the compound, Ann-Marie observed volumes of people milling every-



PROVIDED BY ANN-MARIE THOMAS

Ann-Marie Thomas, a nurse, assists those suffering in Haiti from the Jan. 12 earthquake.

where. She put on a pair of scrubs and went right to work, dressing wounds for the next six hours.

"As we go up towards the hospital, I think we're going to a facility, a hospital," recalled Ann-Marie. "It's a 70-bed hospital ... but they had 400 patients. So the hospital was overflowing, and then across the dirt road from the hospital, instantly I can smell the latrine ... I can smell food, and I discover they're cooking food right next to where they're emptying the bed pans. I mean, it's just mind-blowing."

Ann-Marie described the military tents, with rows of cots filled with earthquake victims. Behind the tents, a school was converted into another shelter for patients.

"My first thoughts were a little bit of dismay at the overwhelming disaster that we were in," said Ann-Marie, who said she wondered at first how could God let this happen. "Yet, there was such a presence of grace about these people that I was just totally thrown. What struck me was how faithful these people were in all the people who had come to help them."

Ann-Marie says her background helped her to better serve. She trained with a religious order in Ireland, the Bon Secours Sisters, and refers to her nursing career as a vocation. The sisters' mission is to bring good help to those in need.

According to Ann-Marie, a typical day for her group in Haiti began around 5:30 a.m. After breakfast, they went to the tents and spent the morning dressing wounds and doing "whatever else needed to be done." She said they tried to see every patient in the dressing tent at least once a day.

"There was a really energetic group from South Bend and they just were fabulous. Surgeons put on gloves and got down and dirty like the nurses, doing dressings. There was no delineation of jobs ... it was a team effort. We had patients singing and laughing, car-

rying on. There was actually a lot of that. We kept it upbeat, getting the patients up out of bed and moving around."

Ann-Marie said they stopped for lunch around 1 p.m. She admitted living on power bars and Coke during the five days she served in Haiti, in an effort to avoid the stomach illnesses that were so prevalent. After lunch they went back to the tents, working until dinner at 7 p.m. Around 8 p.m., all the volunteers met to discuss how the day went and what they could improve.

"The whole time was just trying to stay on the mission at hand, and that was to make one patient comfortable and move on to the next. I carried in my bag of dressings a vial of morphine and some IV fluids. ... I would go around and give morphine in the morning and then 20 minutes later start in on the dressings."

Despite their best efforts, Ann-Marie said each day was "organized chaos."

"In one tent, we had a group of paraplegics. What will we do with them?" she wondered. "There is nowhere for them to go. They will eventually die. Coming to terms with that was very, very difficult. Just realizing they will die ... and they are people who wouldn't die if they were here. They would be rehabbed. That was very, very hard."

Still, Ann-Marie says she was "blown away" by the Haitian people's grace.

"They live in the grace of the moment that God gave them. There's none of this 'what are we going to do for dinner' because they're just living in the moment of what's handed to them. They are happy people. They know what's around the corner, and it's not good. I do believe they are very faithful and okay with the trust that they have. And I don't know if it's trust in God, but it certainly seemed like it."

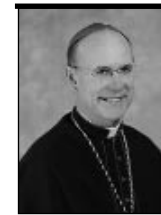
Gratitude for Haitian relief collection

My deep and heartfelt thanks to all the faithful of our diocese who contributed so generously to our special collection in January to assist the people of Haiti after the devastating earthquake there! As of March 2, we have collected \$559,075 from our parishes. That is a tremendous contribution for the Church's relief efforts in Haiti. I appreciate your generous sacrifices and your expression of genuine Christian love and solidarity with our suffering brothers and sisters in Haiti.

I was reading about the incredible work of our Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Haiti since the earthquake. CRS has provided food to nearly a million people there. Relief operations are ongoing. CRS has distributed several thousands of emergency shelter kits to families and is very busy in providing shelters as the rainy season there will soon begin. CRS is also involved in several health projects as well as water and sanitation projects.

Thank you again for your amazing response to help the Haitian people recover from this terrible disaster. Let us continue to pray for them.

Last week, we saw the news of another earthquake, this time in Chile. Our Catholic Relief Services is also active helping those in Chile affected by the powerful earthquake that struck that country. CRS is supporting the relief efforts of the local Catholic



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Church through Caritas Chile, the social service arm of the Catholic Church in Chile. Let us also remember in prayer the people of Chile at this difficult time.

Our annual collection for Catholic Relief Services will be taken up on the weekend of March 13-14. I know that you will again be generous in supporting this official international relief and development agency of the Catholic community in the United States. This collection is an opportunity to continue to express Christian compassion and generosity. Besides the above-mentioned work in Haiti and Chile due to the recent disasters, CRS is active assisting the poor overseas in 98 different countries.

During this Lenten season of sacrifice, we are called to remember "the least of our brothers and sisters," as Jesus teaches in the parable of the last judgment (Matthew 25). Thank you again for your generosity in coming to the aid of our suffering brothers and sisters in Haiti! May God bless you!

ANNOUNCEMENT BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following decree was received from the Holy See: On Dec. 11, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI decreed that Deacon Gabriel Hernandez is dismissed from the clerical state.



DIocese OF FORT WAYNE - SOUTH BEND

915 South Clinton Street • Post Office Box 390
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

GENERAL DECREE ESTABLISHING THE FIFTH EDITION OF THE
ETHICAL AND RELIGIOUS DIRECTIVES
FOR CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES
AS PARTICULAR LAW IN THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE - SOUTH BEND

Mindful of my responsibility as diocesan bishop to safeguard the integrity and unity of the truths of the faith, moral principles, and ecclesiastical discipline in the works of the apostolate pertaining to health care in the diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend (cf. canons 392, 394, 678, and 747);

I, Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, by the grace of God and the Apostolic See Bishop of Fort Wayne - South Bend, hereby issue this General Decree in accord with canon 29 establishing the Fifth Edition of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* as particular law in the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend.

The Fifth Edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* is to be promulgated in accord with canon 8, §2 by publication of the text in *Today's Catholic*, the diocesan newspaper of the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend and on the Diocesan Internet Web site (www.diocesefwsb.org) and by delivering a copy of same and a copy of this decree to the chief executive officer and the sponsors of all Catholic health care institutions located in the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend. The provisions of the Fifth Edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* Bylaws shall become effective and binding within the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend on April 1, 2010, any particular legislation, directives or instructions to the contrary notwithstanding.

Dated this 26th day of February, in the Year of Our Lord 2010

Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne - South Bend

Given at the Chancery

Robert Schulte
Chancellor/Ecclesiastical Notary

New Castle parish dedicates church built to replace original destroyed by arson

BY MARY ANN WYAND

NEW CASTLE (CNS) — “Tested in Fire. Strengthened in Faith. April 7, 2007.”

That inspirational message is engraved on a small plaque below a gleaming black statue depicting St. Anne looking at her young daughter, Mary, which is displayed in an alcove inside the new St. Anne Church in New Castle.

The statue of the parish's patron saint and Mary survived the arson fire that destroyed the historic brick church three years ago during the early morning hours of Holy Saturday, April 7.

Formerly painted in pastel colors, the statue was blackened by the intense heat of the fire yet otherwise remained intact.

For St. Anne parishioners, it is a spiritual reminder of what they have had to overcome and worked to achieve to be able to celebrate the Eucharist together in their own church again.

The statue occupies a place of honor on a pedestal made from the cornerstone of the old church, which had been a landmark for 84 years.

During a Mass of dedication and the consecration of the altar Feb. 28, St. Anne parishioners were visibly emotional as Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis celebrated the Eucharist with them, then installed the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.

On the brick wall behind the altar is a new crucifix, a large white corpus mounted on an oak cross. Children in the parish contributed the money to pay for the wood cross.

“The Transfiguration story is a timely Gospel (reading) as we celebrate the rebirth of St. Anne Church after the tragic fire that seems like a very long time ago,” Archbishop Buechlein said in his homily.

Congratulating St. Anne parishioners for their patience, sacrifices and hard work, the archbishop said the dedication liturgy marked “a joyful conclusion to the sadness and the anguish” caused by the fire.

Lent is “a wonderful time to celebrate the dedication of your beautiful church,” he said. “These walls of brick and mortar represent the coming together in faith of all of you faithful people, and this charming church testifies to your vitality and your hope.”

He also told the congregation that as they celebrated the new church they needed to remember those who founded St. Anne Parish in 1873 and the communion of saints.

“So we are a far larger parish in unity today than the eye can see,” he said. “As we rejoice this afternoon, it's good for us to remember that this sacred dwelling is an expression of our love of God. ... The beauty of this sanctuary is truly complete when it is filled with people of faith and love. And always we remem-

ber that our foundation is Jesus Christ.”

At the end of the liturgy, Franciscan Sister Shirley Gerth, parish life coordinator, thanked parishioners, the archdiocese and other supporters whose generosity helped build the church.

The total cost of the project was \$4.2 million, which included \$2.7 million in construction costs and \$207,000 in liturgical furnishings in addition to site preparation, engineering and architectural fees, landscaping and other expenses.

“We raised about \$1.5 million along with the insurance money to help in the rebuilding of the church,” Sister Shirley said.

Among the notable architectural features of the new church is the large, hand-crafted rose window above the sanctuary. It is a replica of the ornate circular window installed in the original church in 1923; it was replaced in 1963 and then destroyed in the fire. Other stained-glass windows closely resemble the originals.

It is handicapped accessible and also incorporates some of the architectural elements from the original church.

In 2009 William S. Abbott, a 34-year-old New Castle resident with a history of criminal offenses, pleaded guilty to breaking into the church and setting it on fire.

He was charged with arson, a felony with a maximum 50-year prison term. He received a reduced sentence of 40 years as part of his plea agreement. Other



CNS PHOTO/MARY ANN WYAND, THE CRITERION

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis dedicated the new St. Anne Church in New Castle, shown above, Feb. 28. The original 84-year-old brick church was destroyed during an early morning fire on Holy Saturday, April 7, 2007.

charges of burglary, theft and two additional counts of arson were dismissed.

“From the ashes will truly arise new life,” Sister Shirley said earlier in an interview with *The Criterion*, Indianapolis' archdiocesan newspaper.

“The Holy Spirit has guided us every step of the way,” she said. “We have much to be grateful for, and at the heart of all the gratitude is the forgiveness. You can't celebrate if you haven't forgiven.”



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TICKETS: \$15 Adults, \$12 Seniors, \$8 Students/children
Tickets available at www.VesperChorale.org and at the door.

YEAR *of our* PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

way of life and quietly give generous portions of their time and talent to make the parish run smoothly. They seek no recognition at all. My other heroes are the members of the parish staff, who give themselves in humble service to the parish."

As a seventh grader, Bill Schooler's admiration of others became the seeds of his vocation. "When I was in grade school in Decatur, I was intrigued by the priests who served our parish. When we moved to Wabash in the middle of my seventh-grade year, Father Robert Zahn and Father Adam Schmitt were extremely welcoming to our family. When my mother was hospitalized for an extended period of time, their care for our family impressed me. I wanted to do something like that."

At age 62 and shepherd of a flock of nearly 10,000 souls at St. Pius X, Granger, Msgr. Schooler finds that life continues to be a learning experience, citing events of a 620-mile bicycle pilgrimage he made in 2005 from St. Jean Pied de Port, France, through the rugged Pyrenees mountains to the tomb of St. James the Apostle on the northwestern corner of Spain. The pilgrims prayed the Liturgy

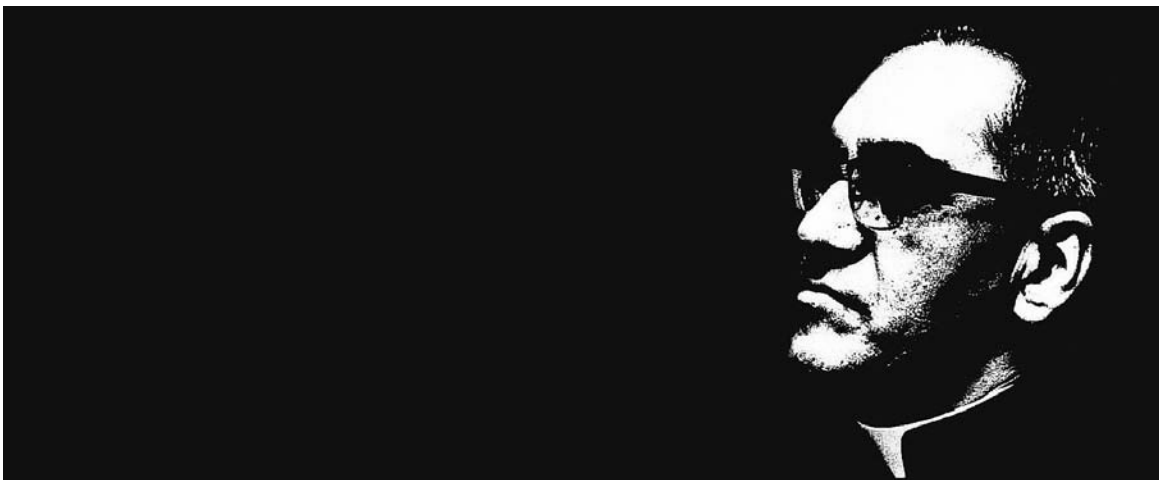
of the Hours together and celebrated Mass every day. For the final leg of the trip, Father Bill and most of the pilgrims abandoned their rented bikes and walked the last 62 miles to the Santiago cathedral.

Monsignor has made this trip twice and relates that "both pilgrimages were remarkable and taught many lessons. The 2005 pilgrimage taught me the importance of traveling light through life, since I jettisoned most of my luggage on the brutal climb up the Pyrenees. We learned the importance of praying together, giving one another support, and trusting that God would take us through the unexpected turns on the Camino. My leadership role in 2007 was very much like my "day job" here at St. Pius. As we maneuvered the twists and turns of this Camino, we learned similar lessons to what we were taught on the 2005 pilgrimage. All of us had to continually adjust our expectations of how God would work through the pilgrimage with us, based on some of the interesting and sometimes difficult situations we encountered. My goal is to return to that pilgrimage some day, either biking unsupported or doing the entire Camino on foot."



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Thursday, March 18, 8:30 a.m. — Meeting of Board of Our Sunday Visitor, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, March 18, 7 p.m. — Mass closing mission at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Warsaw
- Friday, March 19, 9 a.m. — Mass and pastoral visit to Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend
- Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m. — Speech at Diocesan Marriage and Family Conference, University of Notre Dame
- Saturday, March 20, 6 p.m. — Mass, dinner and auction, Marian High School, South Bend




The US premiere of *Monseñor, the Last Journey of Óscar Romero*

Thursday, March 25th
8 pm, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Browning Cinema
University of Notre Dame

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For more details about the 2010 Romero events, visit:
kellogg.nd.edu/romero



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Caution urged after study on brain activity by 'vegetative' patients

WASHINGTON (CNS) — New evidence of brain activity in patients judged to be in a persistent vegetative state should make physicians and neurologists more cautious in arriving at such judgments in the future, according to a Catholic ethicist. Edward Furton, a staff ethicist and director of publications at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, told Catholic News Service March 1 that recent research shows doctors sometimes “underestimate the consciousness of patients,” who can be “more aware than they are given credit for.” In a study published in February in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, researchers in England and Belgium found that five of 54 patients in states of persistent unconsciousness showed distinct patterns of brain activity on a brain imaging machine in response to questions that required a “yes” or “no” answer. Four of the responsive patients studied had been diagnosed as being in a persistent vegetative state, while the fifth had been considered minimally conscious. The other 49 patients in the study showed no signs of conscious brain activity. “These results show a small proportion of patients in a vegetative or minimally conscious state have brain activation reflecting some awareness and cognition,” the study concluded. “Careful clinical examination will result in reclassification of the state of consciousness in some of these patients.” The researchers said the technique used in the study “may be useful in establishing basic communication with patients who appear to be unresponsive.”

Extension of trade protections for Haitian garments supported

WASHINGTON (CNS) — U.S. bishops have called on the Senate to support the extension of favorable trade status for Haitian-made garments. In a Feb. 19 letter to senators, Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace, called for passage of the Renewing Hope for Haiti Act, S. 2978, which would renew existing trade protections set to expire in September. Passage of the bill, introduced Feb. 2 by Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., will help the Haitian economy create much needed jobs and reduce poverty, Bishop Hubbard wrote. Jobs especially are needed in Haiti following the massive Jan. 12 earthquake, which struck a large portion of the poor Caribbean nation, killing at least 220,000 people and leaving hundreds of thousands homeless, Bishop Hubbard told the senators. Citing the long-standing support from the U.S. bishops for protections for Haitian goods from taxes

PRIEST CELEBRATES MASS OUTSIDE CHILEAN CHURCH



CNS PHOTO/MAGLIO PEREZ, REUTERS

A priest celebrates Mass for earthquake survivors in front of a damaged church in Constitucion, Chile, March 7. The magnitude 8.8 quake that struck central Chile early Feb. 27 left more than 800 people dead and tens of thousands homeless.

and other trade barriers, Bishop Hubbard said passage of the bill can help rebuild the country's economy and encourage exporters to reconstruct damaged or destroyed factories more quickly. “Down the road it will be important to adopt broader preferential treatment for Haitian goods, but immediately extending the existing preferences will be important to the sustainable development of Haiti,” Bishop Hubbard wrote.

Christian, Muslim leaders make 'commitment to action' after dialogue

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A group of Christian and Muslim leaders, whose Catholic representatives included French Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, issued “an interreligious call and commitment to action” March 3 following three days of dialogue sessions in Washington. The document finalized at the end of the dialogue committed the leaders “to commit themselves to appeal to government and community leaders to promote peace and reconciliation efforts worldwide.” It added that “the worship of God, who demands serious moral purpose, is at the very core of Christianity and Islam.” It added that “religious leaders must cooperatively work with each other and the political leaders in their respective coun-

tries.” Over three days of what participants call cordial but “frank” and “intense” discussions, “around 12:30, 12:45, to borrow a phrase from the Vatican, the cloud of white smoke appeared from the Omni-Shoreham Hotel” in Washington where the dialogue sessions were being conducted, said Episcopal Canon John Peterson at a March 3 press conference introducing the document. The document includes seven principles that undergird its plan of action. Among them are “Justice and equity are essential to peacemaking among individuals, families, communities and nations,” and “religion and faith can play a significant role in healing divisions and in shaping a just and inclusive society.”

Pope to visit Santiago de Compostela, Barcelona in November

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will make a two-day trip to Spain in November, visiting the pilgrimage city of Santiago de Compostela and Barcelona, the Vatican announced March 3. The trip, scheduled for Nov. 6-7, will be pope's fifth this year, said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman. On the first day of the trip, the pope will visit Santiago de Compostela, the northern Spanish city that

became an important pilgrim destination in the Middle Ages. Tradition holds that the remains of the Apostle James the Greater are buried there. The pope's trip to coincides with Santiago de Compostela Holy Year, which occurs every time St. James' feast day, July 25, falls on a Sunday, Father Lombardi said. Traveling south, Pope Benedict will preside Nov. 7 over the consecration of Barcelona's famous church, La Sagrada Familia, the unfinished masterpiece by Catalan architect Antoni Gaudi. The Barcelona church, officially called the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia (Expiatory Temple of the Holy Family), was begun in 1882 but was not completed by Gaudi. It has never been formally consecrated.

Mexico City Archdiocese criticizes law allowing same-sex marriage

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — The Mexico City Archdiocese responded to a new law in the nation's capital that permits same-sex marriages with a tersely worded editorial, accusing the local government of pursuing an agenda of radical social changes instead of fixing pressing problems such as rampant insecurity and a crumbling waterworks. The March 7 editorial, published in the arch-

diocesan publication, *Desde la Fe*, accused Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard “of provoking constant social division through his political activism” and depending on the advice of foreign groups for “implementing the legal practice of abortion, homosexual unions and all the other things that they request.” In his Sunday homily, Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera told a gathering of lay Catholic family groups, “Let's not be discouraged by the apparent triumph of evil, of contrary values, of the individualistic vision of the family and a society that fails to support the true needs of households.” The law permitting same-sex marriage took effect March 4. It changes the definition of marriage from “the union of a man and a woman” to “the free union of two persons,” regardless of gender. It also allows homosexual couples to adopt children. The law replaces a 2007 measure that allowed for same-sex civil unions. Other states have shown less enthusiasm for same-sex marriage laws, however. Legislators in the northern state of Chihuahua agreed to begin amending the state constitution to forbid same-sex marriages.

Catholic church in downtown Atlanta elevated to minor basilica

ATLANTA (CNS) — The Vatican's elevation of Sacred Heart Church in Atlanta to a minor basilica Feb. 22 is a tribute to the “faith of so many Atlanta families whose Catholic heritage can be traced” to the parish for more than 100 years, said the pastor. “When our church was built in 1898, no sacrifice was too great and no effort was spared to make sure that this remarkably beautiful sanctuary would continue to honor God and inspire generations of worshippers,” said Father T.J. Meehan, Sacred Heart's pastor, who announced the new designation during the Feb. 28 Sunday Masses. A parish committee worked for more than two years to prepare the historical, architectural and ecclesial materials submitted to the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, with the approval of Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Father Meehan said the recognition “especially honors our current members, some of whom remember well the decline of the surrounding neighborhood and business district in the 1970s and 1980s. Some, in those days, may have wondered if Sacred Heart was going to survive. Today, however, we have rebounded, with many new and younger families at Sacred Heart. ... One of the important criteria for becoming a basilica was to show that our parish is vibrant and welcoming new members, and we're very happy to show this is the case here at Sacred Heart,” he said.

Marian alumni honored at Holy Cross College

NOTRE DAME — When Holy Cross College holds its annual honors convocation March 26, four students will be singled out to receive special honors for outstanding performance. Two, Neumann Jones and Brian Burt, are graduates of Marian High School in Mishawaka.



NEUMANN JONES



BRIAN BURT

Jones will be awarded the 2010 St. Thomas Aquinas Award for Academic Excellence. This honor is bestowed on the student who most clearly exhibits a clear record of high achievement, a serious approach to scholarly endeavors, a sincere sense of intellectual curiosity and an authentic appreciation for the liberal arts. "Neumann, a senior theology major, is the kind of student who enlightens everyone in the class, including the professor. He is a deep and compassionate thinker who brings thoughts and questions to a discussion that make everyone pause and reexamine their own positions," said Professor Mike Griffin.

Burt will be awarded the 2010 St. Joseph Service Award as the student who most clearly exhibits a sincere dedication to serving others. After completing Professor Michael Griffin's Service Learning Experience this past fall, Burt has gone on to help teach the Service Learning Experience this semester and will be taking a group of Holy Cross students to Lancaster, Kent., over spring break to work with Habitat for Humanity. Outside of the classroom, Burt completed an internship at the local Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Mishawaka, which resells new and gently-used building materials, appliances and furniture to the general public at discounted prices with all proceeds going to fund Habitat homes. Upon completing his internship, Burt continues to work part-time at the ReStore as an administrative assistant and volunteer coordinator. Burt is also serving as the Habitat for Humanity representative for this year's 2010 Rock the House student build, which is bringing together students from seven area high schools to build a new home in Mishawaka.

These students will receive their awards publicly at the Academic Honors Convocation being held March 26 at 7 p.m. in the Driscoll Auditorium.

Saint Joseph's High School Students receive honors for excellence

SOUTH BEND — Two seniors at Saint Joseph's High School have been recognized nationally for their academic excellence.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

BOWLS OF KINDNESS ASSISTS OUR FATHER'S HOUSE



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART SCHOOL, WARSAW

As part of a community service project, the families and students at Sacred Heart School and Parish supported the "Bowls of Kindness" program. During the month of February, Sacred Heart students collected 200 boxes of cereal, approximately 2,400 servings, which will be donated to Our Father's House to help provide food for the less fortunate.

Pictured with some of the boxes of cereal are, from left, Blake Bolland, Karissa Meyers, Principal James Faroh, Elizabeth Stone, Jordan Love, Wini Barnett, Mackenzie Sokol, Anna Sullivan, Bailey Ness and Drew Manwaring.



SEAN FLANAGAN



CHARLES LOGUE

Sean Flanagan, son of Timothy and Jeanne Flanagan, has been named a finalist in the 2010 competition for National Merit Scholarships.

One of 16,000 semifinalists named in September, he has met all requirements to advance to finalist standing. He will be considered for a Merit Scholarship to be offered in 2010. The selection of approximately 8,200 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of more than 15,000 finalists has been in progress. During the month of March, NMSC will begin mailing scholarship offers to winners.

Flanagan's outstanding achievements are not restricted to the SAT competition. He is a member of one of two Mock Trial teams that com-

peted in state competition on March 6-7. He is a member of the Quiz Bowl, a team that will also be competing at the state level on March 13. In athletics, he is a key member of the Saint Joseph's High School golf team, a dedication that unfortunately will not allow him the time to be a member of the Fed Challenge team. This talented graduating senior will be attending Notre Dame this fall.

Charles Logue, son of Keith and Julie Logue, has been named a candidate in the 2010 Presidential Scholar Program.

He is one of only 3,000 chosen from the nearly 3.2 million students expected to graduate from United States high schools this year.

"Inclusion in the Presidential Scholars Program, now in its 46th year, is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating seniors. Scholars are selected on the basis of students' essays, self-assessments, descriptions of activities, school recommendations, and school transcripts. A distinguished panel of educators will review these submissions and select 500 semifinalists in early April.

"The Commission on Presidential Scholars, a group of some 32 eminent citizens appointed by the president, will make final selection of the scholars. They will select one young man and one young woman from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. student living abroad; 15 students-at-large; and up to 20 students from the creative and performing arts. The U.S. Department of Education will announce the scholars in May.

Logue, also, devotes time outside of the classroom to excellence as well. He, too, is on one of the Mock Trial teams that competed at state. He also is a member of the state-bound Quiz Bowl team and in addition is a member of the Fed Challenge team that will be competing later this month in Indianapolis. Athletics play a role in Logue's high school career as well. He was a member of the cross country team this fall, a team which experienced outstanding success. Logue was named an Academic All-State Honorable Mention at the conclusion of the season. Logue has not yet made a final decision on

college but West Point and the University of Michigan are two of the possible choices.

Creighton Model FertilityCare and NaProTECHNOLOGY session

GRANGER — St. Pius X Parish in Granger will host a Creighton Model FertilityCare and NaProTECHNOLOGY open house on Sunday, March 21, in the Parish Education Center, Room 208.

The session will include the following:

- 1:30 p.m. — Doctors' and Medical Professionals' Information Session. Dr. Patrick Holly, M.D., CNFPMC, will present an overview of the Creighton Model FertilityCare System and NaProTECHNOLOGY from a physician's perspective. He will share his journey as a pro-life physician. This session is free of charge and will last approximately two hours.

- 4 p.m. — Creighton Model Natural Family Planning Introductory Session. Mary Ramsey, PA-C, will explain the scientific foundations and methodology of the Creighton Model. She will also explain how a woman tracks her cycle with the model and will discuss the model's applicability to various reproductive issues. This session is open to couples interested in learning the method for natural family planning purposes and for women interested in learning how to monitor their gynecological health. There is a \$10 fee for this session, which will last approximately 75 minutes.

To register for one or both sessions, please contact Suzy Younger at syounger@hannahstears.org or (574) 243-3991.

St. Mary Church, Huntington, to host mission

HUNTINGTON — St. Mary Church in Huntington will host a parish mission, March 14-17, with the theme, "Here I Am Lord."

Evening sessions begin at 7 p.m. and include the following themes and speakers:

- March 14, "Vocations" with Msgr. Bernie Galic;
- March 15, "Faith" with Mary Glowaski;
- March 16, "Reconciliation" with Father Dave Ruppert.

Reconciliation will be available with multiple priests.

- March 17, "Eucharist" with Bishop John M. D'Arcy, who will celebrate Mass. A St. Patrick's Day reception will follow the Mass in Assumption Hall.

Morning sessions will be held at 8:45 a.m. on Monday, and after the 8 a.m. Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday with Jennifer Kohrman, associate director of the Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization, and held in Assumption Hall.

The parish is located at 903 N. Jefferson St., in Huntington.

My Day in a Nicaraguan Garbage Dump

An Eyewitness Report by Rachael Joyner

The following is an excerpt from the field report of Rachael Joyner, a writer for Cross International Catholic Outreach. During a recent trip to Nicaragua she experienced the harsh realities facing hundreds of families struggling to survive the horrifying conditions of a city garbage dump...

I didn't know which was worse: the smell of burning tires and decomposing trash or seeing a 3-year-old, with no shoes and a dirty face, digging through that trash. My stomach sank as I held back tears. I had only been in Chinandega's garbage dump for a

overflowing cemetery, and a contaminated river where the city's sewage is dumped. The nickname is not an exaggeration.

The first thing that hit me as I walked through the dump was the overwhelming smell and the smoke, a kind of thick haze that engulfs everything. It stung my eyes and, with each breath, burnt my throat.

It reminded me of Dante's description of the Inferno in his book the Divine Comedy. There were people everywhere digging through mounds of garbage and little children rifling through bag after bag of trash. I watched one little boy, who couldn't have been older than



Rachael Joyner (photo at left) waits with children beside a dump truck full of trash. When it empties its load, the scavengers will go to work, searching for food and useful items.



few hours and I was desperate to leave.

I had seen developing-world poverty before in Haiti and east Africa, but it paled in comparison to what I saw in this 20-acre garbage dump in northern Nicaragua. Maybe it was the hopeless look in their eyes, or the immediacy of their poverty that sent me reeling. It's hard to get much lower than living in a garbage dump, and more than 300 families in Chinandega have been doing it for a decade. Most are refugees whose homes were destroyed during Hurricane Mitch in 1998. Left without jobs, houses, or help, these families turned to the dump for survival.

They live in dilapidated shacks made from scraps of cardboard, wood, and tin collected from the dump, which offer little protection during the rainy season. Their days are spent scavenging the dump for plastic bottles, aluminum cans, bits of steel and glass, and pieces of paper to sell to recycling companies so they can feed their families. Some of the children attend school, but most work alongside their parents in the dump.

The area next to the dump where these families live is called El Limonal, but people in Chinandega have another name for it: the Triangle of Death. It gained this nickname because the triangular piece of land where they live is surrounded by the dump, an

four, pull a rotting banana peel from a bag and chew on it. He had probably not eaten yet that day because his family was too poor to buy food, and now he was turning to garbage to ward off his hunger.

It was hardest seeing the children in the dump. Most of them had no shoes. Their clothes were tattered, and a thick layer of dirt covered their bodies. When I first got to the dump, a crowd of people were gathered around a young boy, who was maybe 8 or 10. He had a hole in his foot the size of an orange. Though he was shaking from the pain, he didn't make a sound. Like many in the dump, he didn't have shoes and made the mistake of stepping in a pile of trash that was still burning underneath. The heat burnt the skin right off of his foot, leaving the large, oozing sore we were all staring at. Finally, his father carried him home to "put some cream" on his foot. (They were too poor to go to the clinic.) I spent the rest of the trip wondering if that boy would lose his foot or spend the next six months dealing with an infection that could have been prevented with something as simple as a pair of shoes.

Health hazards such as these abound in the dump, and children are especially susceptible. As the families pick through the garbage, they inhale toxic fumes from routine waste

burning, which cause respiratory problems, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and pneumonia. Parasites from the garbage cause intestinal problems and bleeding. Bugs burrow into the families' skin, causing rashes and sores. Though most of these are treatable ailments, the majority of families are too poor to go to a clinic or buy medicine, so they suffer for years and some die.

That's when I realized the desperation of these families' situations. As one woman put it, "I work in the dump because I have no other options. I live in a house made of cardboard because it is all I have." These people have nothing. I hardly lasted four hours in the dump, and these families have been living here for years.

The desperation of the families and the graphic images of the dump are what led John Bland, founder and executive director of Amigos for Christ, to quit his job in the U.S. and devote his life to helping them.

"I had never seen such hopelessness until I came here," said Bland, a devout Catholic whose Nicaragua-based organization has been ministering for nearly a decade to the poor

families living and working in Chinandega's garbage dump. "These people desperately needed help. And I thought, why not me?"

Since its founding, Amigos has helped hundreds of poor Nicaraguans start a new life in communities outside of the dump. In addition to a sturdy new house, these poor families receive health care, education for their children, and vocational training and micro-credit loans to begin new jobs — all the things these families need to rebuild their own lives. Bland also mobilized the local Catholic Church, who now works closely with Amigos to tend to the spiritual needs of the people.

As Bland led me through the dump that day, he explained that none of this life-changing work would be possible without the financial support of organizations such as Cross International Catholic Outreach and its generous Catholic donors in the U.S.

"We could not do this work without Cross International Catholic Outreach. We need help with the resources to accomplish the work and that's one of Cross Catholic's strengths. Working together is tremendous... because something very positive that glorifies our awesome God comes out of it."

As we discussed Amigo's newest project, building homes for 50 families from the dump, Bland was overjoyed that Cross Catholic's donors were willing to support him in his life-changing work. I felt a lift from the conversation too. It made that terrible day bearable.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to Cross International Catholic Outreach and its work with Catholic ministries overseas, use either the enclosed postage-paid brochure or send donations to: Cross International Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00647, 490 White Pond Drive, PO Box 63, Akron, OH 44309-0063.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Rescuing the Poor in Uncertain Times

American Catholics are embracing God's economy as they help the poor in Latin America

Sandra Maria, 54, goes to work each day even though she knows it is slowly killing her.

Maria, a mother of five and a grandmother, spends each day scavenging in a city garbage dump in northern Nicaragua for recyclables, which she later sells for money to buy food. The work is hard — toxic fumes rising up from the mounds of putrid garbage sting her eyes and burn her throat as hoards of mosquitoes buzz around her body — but not having food for her family is harder.

"The smoke is killing us and we bathe in dirty water," says Maria, who lives in the shanty town inside the garbage dump with her family. "We would do anything to get away from the dump, but right now it is the only way for us to make money to survive."

**...the pay is meager —
the equivalent of between \$2
and \$10 U.S. dollars a week.**

Maria's family is one of hundreds who scrape by a living each day in Chinandega's 20-acre garbage dump. In many Latin American countries, the poor flock to city garbage dumps because it is often the only steady work they can find and they can earn at least enough to guarantee their children a meal. Still, the pay is meager — the equivalent of between \$2 and \$10 U.S. dollars a week.

The dire situation in Chinandega is just one example of the intense poverty plaguing Latin America. A millennium study by the World Bank found that nearly 40 percent of the 569 million people living in Latin America live below the poverty line. Haiti, Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Guatemala are often cited among the poorest countries in the world. The fact that families are turning to garbage dumps for survival, is an indication of how serious the situation has become.

"Garbage dumps and dirty streets are terrible playgrounds for children to be growing up in," says Jim Cavnar, president of Cross International Catholic Outreach, whose ministry supports several aid programs across Latin America for families struggling to survive intense poverty. "If we don't do something to break the vicious cycle of poverty these children are trapped in, they are doomed to become adults — still living in the same deadly environment."

Despite the dismal statistics and fear over the future of an uncertain economy, dozens of local outreach ministries run by strong Catholic missionaries are tapping into God's economy to help the poor in Latin America. And, already, they've seen great returns as lives are being restored.

One such life is Maria Elena. The mother of four used to work in the horrific 42-acre garbage dump in Managua, Nicaragua. She barely made enough money to feed her children, let alone send them to school. They often came to work with her in the dump, which she hated because it made them sick.

Elena is now part of a jewelry-making program run by a local Catholic ministry where she earns enough money making necklaces and bracelets from recycled material to comfortably support her family— even send



Sandra Maria (right) is one of many dump scavengers who have been helped by Cross. She fears for the children who work on the smoky, dangerous site and prays they'll have a better future.

her children to school.

"This program has been a great help," she says. "I don't know what we would have done without it."

The simple program that changed Elena's life is one of several projects in Latin America supported by Cross Catholic. Thanks to contributions provided by its U.S. donors, Cross Catholic is able to partner with Catholic ministries in the field who are running great programs but don't have the funds to sustain them. Support from American Catholics keeps these important projects up and running.

"We're amazed by the unwavering compassion and generosity of these donors. Even at a time when people are hurting here in the U.S. because of the economy, they are still giving to help the poor around the world," says Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic. "They show great faith, and we are seeing the positive returns of that faith in the lives of the poor."

Those positive returns are especially visible in the fight against world hunger. For example, monthly financial support from Cross International Catholic Outreach allows Las Mercedes Nutrition Center in Honduras to feed more than a hundred poor, malnourished children who they find abandoned in garbage dumps and in the streets. Cross Catholic also feeds thousands of poor children through the support of school feeding programs and food shipments to countries such as Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia.

"It is amazing what God can do when you trust him," said John Bland, executive director of Amigos for Christ, a Nicaraguan ministry founded to minister to the people living and working in Chinandega's city garbage dump in the northwestern part of the country.

With help from Cross Catholic, his ministry plans to build 50 homes for families living in the garbage dump — families such as Sandra Maria's, who are wondering if they'll be able to collect enough plastic bottles tomorrow so they can buy food.

"The poor have unbelievable faith, as do these Catholic ministries serving in the field, helping them each day," Cavnar says. "We count it a privilege to help them and, in doing so, live out our faith."

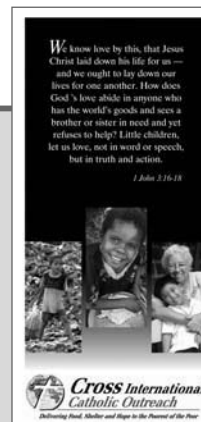
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or send donations to: Cross International Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00647, 490 White Pond Drive, PO Box 63, Akron, OH 44309-0063.

How to Help:

Your help is needed for Cross International Catholic Outreach to bring Christ's mercy to the poorest of the poor. Use the enclosed postage-paid brochure to mail your gift or send it to Cross International Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00647, 490 White Pond Drive, PO Box 63, Akron, OH 44309-0063.



Quiet and silent — Prayers for unity

BY MSGR. J. WILLIAM LESTER
AND FATHER TOM SHOEMAKER

In this Year for Priests, we asked both a retired and an active priest to share with us their perspectives on priestly unity. Msgr. Lester died Feb. 20 and had submitted the reflection prior to his illness.

Opening/Closing song: "Pan de Vida" (Gather Comprehensive, No. 848); "The Church's One Foundation" (No. 661)

Opening prayer:

Prayer for Priests

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:

May his (St. John Mary Vianney's) example lead all priests to offer that witness of unity with their bishop, with one another and with the lay faithful, which today, as ever, is so necessary.

Commentary from Msgr. J. William Lester, Vicar for Retired Clergy

It is quiet, it is silent, and it is what the rubric calls "inaudible." It is the prayer that the priest says in that moment when he pauses before he receives the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, a sacramental moment when he receives of the very Sacrifice that he has affected through the offerings of the Mass, their consecration, and now their reception.

That silent prayer, short but full of intense adoration ends, in the following way: "Keep me faithful to Your teaching, and never let me be parted from You." Priests from all over the world are saying that beautiful prayer, and never could each one be united with the other priests of the world in a more meaningful way.

The unity of the priesthood is first the unity of all priests with Jesus Christ, Savior and Redeemer. From this unity flow all other relationships that exist so beautifully between priests everywhere. We are one with each other because we are one in Jesus Christ, at the altar, and in the precious moments of life that God gives each one of us to fulfill.



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Keep me faithful to Your teaching ...

It is the Lord who gives us the command to preach the Gospel to every nation. It is remarkable that any human being could have such a direct and challenging commission. Given first to the Apostles, this commission is still alive and working in the hearts of the members of the Church of Christ. Peter was to be the head of the Apostles. Today his direct successor is Pope Benedict XVI. He is supported by the apostolic succession of all those who have received the fullness of the priesthood, the bishops, who are united with the Holy Father in expressing the teachings of Christ throughout the world. It is the unity of the magisterium that gives validation to the teachings of Christ by all the priests, especially to the teachings of the priests who are united to the bishop in the fullness of his priesthood. He shares the unity of the priesthood with all priests who serve under, with or in company with him. It is a great unity that binds us together in fidelity to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

... and never let me be parted from You.

The priest moves in many directions in his daily duties. He may find himself in many diverse situations, but he always strives to have Jesus with him. To carry the Gospel into the world is no easy task, and it can occupy many diverse sides of the life and personality of the priest.

You will find a priest almost anywhere and doing anything. He first of all must be seen as a man of prayer, and one who brings the Mass and sacraments to his people. This is his crowning glory and most important facet of his life. Never does he want to be parted from this. But he also might be a teacher, a psychologist, a physician, a golfer or he may love to shoot baskets — if he is from Indiana. But in all things, he is to be united with Jesus Christ. He finds his unity with all priests in the unity he has with Jesus Christ.

"Ecce quam bonum, et quam jucundum, habitare fratres in unum." ("Behold how good, how happy, to dwell, brothers in unity.") May this be the glory of our priesthood: To dwell in unity with Jesus Christ and all our brother priests.

Commentary from Father Tom Shoemaker, active priest, pastor, St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne:

Pope Benedict XVI, in declaring this "Year for Priests," drew upon the inspiration of St. Jean Vianney. He prayed, "May his example lead all priests to offer that witness of unity with their bishop, with one another and with the lay faithful."

We have had unusual opportunities this year in our diocese to reflect upon our unity with the bishop, our shepherd. Our relationship with our bishop has been

highlighted in Sunday homilies and at every level of catechesis as we have experienced the retirement of Bishop John M. D'Arcy and the installation of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. We now look forward to Bishop Rhoades' first visit to the parish and to the chrism Mass when priests will clearly repeat our promise of obedience to the new bishop.

Our priests have worked for unity among themselves during this special year through days of continuing education and prayer focusing on St. Jean Vianney and the priesthood. In our gatherings and social times together, and especially as we laid hands and welcomed the two young men just ordained to the priesthood, we have strengthened our unity in the priesthood.

Efforts for unity with priests and laity are the easiest to identify. We live together in our parishes. We work together in teaching, in caring for the poor, and in providing ministries in our parishes. And most important, we join together daily in the Eucharist. It is here that the Church truly is one. Christ Jesus makes us so.

Reflection questions

- What is our understanding of unity in the Church today?
- What can we do to support the ministry and unity of the ordained priesthood?
- How can we witness to Church unity in our daily lives?

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:
adapted from the Web site:
www.catholic.org/prayers

Spiritual pilgrimage with the stations

BY KAY COZAD

Today's Catholic continues its Lenten reflection by offering the seventh and eighth Stations of the Cross as our faith journey continues.

The opening prayer is:

"We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You, because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world."

After reading a meditation explaining each step of Christ's passion the following traditional prayers are recited: Our Father, Hail Mary and the Glory Be

The seventh station: Jesus falls the second time

Under the weight of the heavy cross Jesus, weakened by the acts of His persecutors and the arduous journey toward Calvary, falls for a second time. It is under the weight of our continuous failings that he struggles. But not for long. He suffers to bring us salvation. In what area of your life do you continually struggle or fail? Pray for Jesus' resolve and divine strength to rise again, and again.

Prayer: My Jesus, Your suffer-



ing resonates in my heart and pierces my soul. I pray that You will imbue me with Your heavenly strength and resolve to face my continuous failings and choose Your way instead. Keep me from sin and bring me to the joy of heaven. Amen.

The eighth station: Jesus meets the daughters of Jerusalem

As Jesus traverses the path to Calvary, he meets the women who weep for his suffering. His response to their grief — do not weep for Me, but for yourselves and your children — tells us that he understands that they have not grasped the mystery of salvation unfolding before them. He calls them to grieve for their own sins as they turn and follow Him. What do you grieve in life that Jesus can help you with?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I weep today for my sins and sufferings of this world. Help me by Your divine grace to be deeply moved by Your ultimate act of love, to repent of my sins and follow You. Only then will my tears be dried and my life in You restored. Amen.

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Ethical and religious directives drive hospital mission

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Bioethical issues, during the course of choosing appropriate medical care, challenge the desire to respect life from conception to natural death. Healthcare workers and administrators across the globe are diligent in their quest to address these issues.

One local healthcare administrator, Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sister Carole Langhauser, addresses those challenges daily. Sister Langhauser has been in the healthcare business for 30 years, 20 years an oncology nurse and for the past seven years vice president of missions integration for St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne. She says the hospital continually faces highly sensitive matters involving beginning and end-of-life issues.

In an effort to uphold the mission of the hospital once run by

the Poor Handmaids, but in the past 10 years run at times by three different corporations, Sister Langhauser has recently completed a healthcare ethics certification program and feels it has strengthened her focus and resolve.

"I am responsible for Catholic mission ... upholding the ethical and religious directives at St. Joseph," she says, adding, "This ethics course helped me better articulate those directives, though they may not always be the popular decision."

The national Web-based distance learning bioethics program, hosted by the National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) in Pennsylvania, is a yearlong course of study on the ethical and religious directives of the Catholic Church. According to the NCBC program pamphlet the hope of promoting this program to Church leaders, healthcare workers, biomedical researchers, university faculty, those in life sciences,



SISTER CAROLE LANGHAUSER

in the elderly, became fodder for a research paper that clarified much of the issue for her. She has since been invited to lecture on the topic of her paper to hospital staff, the diocesan deacon class and Saint Anne Home.

Sister says she is continually interested in practical application and is putting this education to good use. "The challenge is to look at the policy at the hospital," says Sister Langhauser who reports that she has made changes in the hospital's policy as well as at Saint Anne Home and at the nursing home of her mother house. She is also aware that not all who are served by these facilities are Catholic. "These are all Catholic institutions, but not all residents and patients are Catholic. I work to help them understand what we stand for," she says. If the ethics are contrary to the belief of the patient, she arranges for appropriate transfer of care.

"It's about helping people understand what the Church teaches," she adds.

There is a pastoral side to the ethics and religious directives of the Church as well. And Sister Langhauser understands that each case is unique and requires individual attention. "I learned about advanced directives. I am a proponent of a healthcare representative, when you can't speak for yourself," she says. "We help people make decisions."

The support she receives from the NCBC consultants is invaluable says the sister, who reports that there are no clear directives on some issues healthcare workers face today. And, she says, the directives sometimes change. "I have colleagues across the country to ask questions. It's a great resource," she says of the NCBC. Coincidentally, Rome recently released a new and definitive directive on hydration she reports.

ethics committee members and others is to better qualify advisors to "apply the Catholic moral tradition to challenging contemporary issues in health care.

Sister Langhauser's association with Saint Anne Home as board member and then Bishop John M. D'Arcy's interest in this specific education sent her to the program, which consisted of initial and culminating intensive one- and two-day seminars in a specifically chosen city, readings, on-line assignments involving practical case studies and conference call discussions.

"We discussed how ethical principles apply in different situations," says Sister Langhauser, referring to questions surrounding such issues as organ donation, conjoined twin separation, artificial conception and euthanasia. A longtime interest of the sister's, artificial nutrition and hydration

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New options offer healthy alternative to contraception, IVF

BY DIANE FREEBY

NEW HAVEN — Treating women's fertility as a health issue, and not a disease to be "fixed" is one of the messages FertilityCare Centers of America, Inc., (FCCA) hopes to share during the upcoming Worldwide FertilityCare Week, March 21-27.

FCCA is a nonprofit organization that has been established to promote the Creighton Model and the new reproductive science of NaProTechnology. The centers affiliated with FCCA provide professional instruction, teaching women to be aware of and understand the information provided by their bodies at various times of each month. NaProTechnology uses the biomarkers of the Creighton Model to recognize health and disease. Tracking these biomarkers provides valid information for the woman and her physician.

According to FCCA, this system not only teaches couples about a woman's fertility, it provides a natural system for planning and avoiding pregnancy while viewing children as gifts from God. It also assists the couples in learning how to mutually value, respect and understand their combined fertility.

The Creighton Model was developed by Dr. Thomas Hilgers in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Instead of prescribing the Pill to women seeking to postpone pregnancy, Hilgers developed a medically-approved method of using external observations to indicate what's going on inside the body.

He trained others in this method, providing teachers who could take the Creighton Method to the people and explain how to chart. In 1985 he founded The Pope Paul VI Institute in Omaha, Neb., where he compiled all his scientific data. Hilgers has now taught on every continent and is able to take the Creighton method offsite to teach others, who will teach others.

Theresa Schortgen is one such teacher in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. She left her career in nursing 20 years ago to raise her five children. Having experienced two second-trimester miscarriages, Schortgen says she was "most interested" when she learned about the Creighton model.

"By using a system of charts and stamps to indicate different parts of the cycle, we can pinpoint a woman's ovulation," explains Schortgen. "A physician can then do blood testing to determine progesterone and estrogen levels. This helps with several things besides achieving or avoiding pregnancy. It is also a PMS indicator and can help with other health concerns."

Schortgen says Hilgers knew there was a correlation between a woman's health and her fertility. The Creighton Method is helpful in dealing with menopausal issues as well. "Even single women can chart," continues Schortgen. "They may have irregular cycles, and doctors know this and they're beginning to see the correlation. Dr. Hilgers doesn't have enough scientific evidence yet, but women who have charted for years and developed cancer later on in life, he's going back and looking at

their charts ... what can we see here to use as a preventative measure, because we know there's got to be something. Women who have a lot of estrogen, there's a stronger correlation to all of our cancers, right? And when a woman has cancer, what do they do? They put her on a medication to bring down the estrogen levels. And cancer hasn't ever been shown to grow on any progesterone cells, so in Creighton he increases the progesterone levels with progesterone."

Schortgen says Hilgers does not use a lot of estrogen in his treatments. She says they work with the progesterone because it is safe and highly effective. "We have many women who've had reductions of PMS," explains Schortgen. "After using progesterone, (those symptoms) are completely gone. So we've been able to look at PMS in an intellectual way as opposed to chuckling and laughing about PMS."

"The progesterone he uses is bio-identical," she continues, "made in a pharmacy and compounded naturally. He doesn't use artificial (progesterone) like you would find in the Pill. Those are not identical to the structure of a woman's progesterone cell structure."

Schortgen, who teaches in the Fort Wayne area, explains the Creighton process. She says a woman first sees a teacher to learn how to chart her signs of fertility. Once she charts for two months and is comfortable, she sees the physician. He looks at the charts and is able to schedule a blood test to determine the woman's hor-

mone levels.

"We know progesterone level rises after ovulation," says Schortgen. "Doctors look for this across the board. Dr. Hilgers has developed a different way of looking at it. Progesterone levels should be at a certain level at certain times afterward. He knows how long those levels should stay up and when they should fall."

Dr. Patrick Holly, M.D., is a Creighton Model Medical Consultant in the Fort Wayne area. Schortgen says he treats many Creighton clients, and based on the progesterone readings, is able to quickly identify threat of miscarriage and intervene.

The FCCA Web page, www.fertilitycare.org, offers more information on the process as well as where couples can find teachers and physicians in their area. The site also offers information on speaking engagements during the upcoming week. Schortgen says there is significance in the timing of Worldwide FertilityCare Week.

"It's built around the feast of the Annunciation," she explains, "because it raises our awareness to the theological beauty of a woman's fertility."

Lisa Everett contributed to this story. To register for the Diocesan Marriage and Family Conference go to cce.nd.edu/attend.shtml or call the Notre Dame Conference Center at (574) 631-6691.

Worldwide FertilityCare Week

FORT WAYNE AREA CREIGHTON MODEL TEACHERS:
LIARA HOLLY (260) 414-4801
JACKIE OBERHAUSEN (260) 414-1634
THERESA SCHORTGEN (260) 494-6444

FORT WAYNE CREIGHTON MODEL PHYSICIAN:
PATRICK M. HOLLY, M.D., CNFPMC
PHONE: (260) 486-6197

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS IN THE FORT WAYNE AREA FOR WORLDWIDE FERTILITY CARE WEEK:

- ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, FORT WAYNE, SATURDAY, MARCH 20, FROM 9:30-10:30 A.M. IN THE MOTHER TERESA ROOM
- ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, NEW HAVEN, MONDAY, MARCH 22, AT 7 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER
- IPPW, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, FROM 8 A.M. TO 3 P.M. IN THE WALB STUDENT UNION MAIN LEVEL HEALTH FAIR
- IPPW FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 12-1 P.M. IN G21 WALB STUDENT UNION BASEMENT LEVEL
- ST. JUDE, FORT WAYNE, SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 9-10 A.M. ROOM C IN THE PARISH OFFICE

SOUTH BEND AREA CREIGHTON MODEL TEACHERS:

MARY RAMSEY (269) 687-0200
TERRY STEINMETZ (574) 309-1572
DANNIEL CLINE (574) 335-2445

SOUTH BEND CREIGHTON MODEL PHYSICIANS:

DR. BRAD FERRARI
(269) 687-0200, EXT. 1644
DR. CHARLIE GROVES
(219) 326-5060

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH BEND AREA FOR WORLDWIDE FERTILITY CARE WEEK:

THE DIOCESAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY CONFERENCE AT NOTRE DAME ON SATURDAY, MARCH 20, WILL FEATURE A PRESENTATION BY DR. BRAD FERRARI AND MARY RAMSEY, P.A. ENTITLED "NAPROTECHNOLOGY: NEW HOPE FOR COUPLES WITH INFERTILITY."



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EDITORIAL

Cohabitation associated with increased chance of divorce study finds

While the Church is frequently criticized in secularist quarters as being behind the times, secular studies keep showing that the teachings of the Church are really what make good sense. One such area for which the Church receives a good deal of abuse and criticism is that of sexuality. Ironically, what we find over and over again is the fact that if everyone were to suddenly begin practicing what the Church teaches in this area, not only would we be a healthier nation, but a happier one as well.

Case in point — at the end of February, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a study entitled, *Marriage and Cohabitation in the United States*. Building off prior research that has consistently shown a positive association between marriage and the health and happiness of adults and their children, the CDC study looked at the effects of cohabitation on marriage. The results showed that the effect is both significant and negative.

For example, in a predictive comparison between men who cohabit with their wives before they are engaged and those men who did not cohabit at all, only 53 percent of the cohabiters' marriages are predicted to survive past 10 years as compared to 69 percent of those who did not. The statistics for the women are similar. This amounts to roughly a 50 percent higher divorce rate for couples who have lived together before marriage.

Interestingly, the disparity in the numbers increases over the years. For example, for the cohabiters' marriages, the probability of survival for one year is 94 percent while the probability for three years is 78 percent. For the non-cohabiters, it is 95 percent and 85 percent. In other words, at the one year mark, the chance of divorce is almost identical. Two years later, however, there is a gap of 7 percent which increases to 13 percent at the 10-year mark.

The study looked at other factors that are associated with stable marriages, such as a good education and a strong religiosity. Again, the study found that with more education and higher religiosity, the cohabitation rates are lower and the marriage-only rates are higher. Over all, the education level is a strong predictor of the longevity of a marriage. For example, about 4 out of 5 marriages of college graduates are predicted to survive past 10 years, while only about 3 out of 5 of those who are high school grads or drop outs are predicted to survive.

Religiosity is a particularly strong predictor regarding the likelihood of cohabitation. Looking at women between the ages of 15 and 44 years, 57 percent of those who answered that religion was very important to them had never cohabited compared to only 37 percent of those who answered that religion was not important to them.

An analysis of the statistics

According to Dr. David Popenoe, co-director of the National Marriage Project, "To a large extent, cohabitation is an offshoot of the sexual revolution that began in the 1960s, a revolution which essentially gave premarital sex a social stamp of approval. Even more importantly, it was a time when relatively reliable birth control for women first became available, followed soon by the legalization of abortion. These revolutionary changes greatly diminished the age-old problem of unwanted pregnancy for unmarried women.

"With women now socially permitted to have sex before marriage, far more women became sexually available to men and men no longer had to marry to regularize their sexual lives. Men reacted by pulling back from marriage and from having children, expanding their now notorious 'inability to commit.' This gradually took the form not just of having regular sex outside of marriage but of actually living with one's sexual partner in non-marital cohabitation."

Popenoe also analyzes the reasons behind the increased divorce rate: "One is that it is mostly due to selectivity; that is, those people who are willing to cohabit are the same people who already are more divorce prone. ... A second reason involves ... attitudes and behaviors developed through cohabitation. For example, cohabitation may generate the attitude that relationships are mainly for the purpose of testing compatibility, an attitude poisonous to long-term marriages. A third reason is that cohabiting couples ... may drift through inertia into inappropriate marriages, only to break up farther down the line."

Today's Catholic editorial board consists of 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

Msgr. Lester offered peace

About 12 years I was going through a very difficult time in my life and went to talk to someone at the diocesan offices. Msgr. Lester came into the room with a warm smile and asked about myself. I told him of the stressors. He listened intently then said, "There is a heavy fog out there and nothing is clear right now, but the mist will subside and you will be able to see your path again." Then he asked if he could bless me. He placed his hands on my head and a warm assuring peace flowed over me. I have often felt that peace again when I have needed it.

Roseann Bloomfield
Fort Wayne

Landrigan couple remembers Msgr. Lester

It was September of 1945. I was working the safety patrol division out of St. Mary's Grade School in Huntington. A new priest had recently been assigned to the parish. My name is Landrigan.

Suddenly a man dressed in black, shot out of the narrow walkway between the garage and the school building, bounced down three steps in two jumps, dodged the large parish smokestack before entering the playground proper. That was the beginning of a life-long relationship that sometimes found Father and Pat "working" the 6 a.m. weekday Mass or Susan and Pat joining Monsignor at Comiskey Park, visiting at a restaurant or in pleasant conversation elsewhere.

A most recent moment came in a phone conversation with Susan during his last week. Monsignor took her call only moments after his doctor told him that he did not have cancer. With his usual enthusiasm he said "Susan! Now you can tell everybody that I do not have cancer!"

Monsignor had a great sense of humor and an unusual gift for problem solving. Perhaps his greatest gift was his loyalty to the Church and ... to those thousands who knew him.

Pat and Susan Landrigan
Fort Wayne

Former student reflects on Dr. Walton's impact

I was among those who were deeply saddened to receive word of the death of Dr. Gail Walton on Feb. 24. I only know a small fraction of the students who had worked with

Gail during her many years as director of music at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the campus of Notre Dame, but in the wake of her passing, all have expressed remarkable sentiments of gratitude. She was a trusted mentor, who helped instill lifelong passions for choral music. Some tell me they are indebted to her for their entire professional careers in Church music, and still others affirm that Gail played a key role in their decisions to enter the Catholic Church, by her example of faith and by her devotion to beauty and reverence in sacred music.

For my own part, I will be eternally grateful to Gail for providing me an opportunity to appreciate the grandeur and breadth of the Church's living liturgical tradition. When I first arrived as a student at Notre Dame, I had never before experienced time-honored hymnody, the use of the pipe organ, choral masterpieces, or Gregorian chant at Mass. She fostered a repertoire and culture of prayer that broadened my perspective and shaped my love for the liturgy. I was also blessed to get to know Gail better in recent years. On a personal level, Gail helped my wife, a Liturgical Choir alumna, and me to prepare our wedding music at the basilica. And at a professional level, I found Gail always open to service of the Church, both within and beyond the campus of Notre Dame.

One memory about Gail stands out for me in particular. On a Sunday every spring, a beautiful Eucharistic procession occurs on the campus of Notre Dame. Altars are set up across campus for Benediction of the Blessed

Sacrament, accompanied by prayers and singing. The final site is always under the Golden Dome, and for several years, the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir has provided exquisite choral music for this closing period of prayer. Even though the choir had already sung at the 10 a.m. Mass in the basilica, and in spite of the fact that the weather was sometimes uncooperative, Gail would gladly accept this invitation and have the choir robed and ready as the procession arrived, eager to help provide fitting worship to Jesus Christ with vigor and joy.

The last few weeks has seen the University of Notre Dame suffer the loss of two great figures in her Catholic heritage. First, the death of Dr. Ralph McInerny, and now the passing of Dr. Walton. The former devoted his prolific academic career to the integrity of the Catholic intellectual and literary tradition. Gail's influence came in subtle form, through an exemplary sacred music program that demonstrated her commitment to the evangelizing power of the Church's artistic treasury. In liturgical studies, we are taught that the manner in which we pray lays the foundation for what we believe. Gail Walton may not have realized during her earthly life how catechetical her work was, but I suspect it has helped many to encounter the Divine in a profound way.

May her legacy live on, and may she rest in peace amidst the communion of saints and the choirs of angels.

Brian MacMichael
Office of Worship,
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



Patrick

c. 389-461
March 17

Born in Britain, Patrick was carried off by raiders and enslaved in Ireland. He became prayerful during six solitary years as a herdsman. After escaping, he made his way to Gaul, on the continent, where he trained as a priest. In a dream he was called to evangelize Ireland, and in about 432 returned as a bishop. For nearly 30 years he was the apostle to the Irish, bringing an organized church into existence in a pagan land. Toward the end of his life he made a 40-day retreat in Mayo that gave rise to the famous ongoing Croagh Patrick pilgrimages.

 CNS Saints

Ralph McInerny and Notre Dame

In late February, Professor Marjorie Garber of Harvard came to the University of Notre Dame as the Provost's Distinguished Lecturer for 2009-2010. Among other engagements, she spoke to a class on "Breaking the Code: Transvestism and Gay Identity," the subject of chapter six of her book, "Vested Interests: Transvestism and Cultural Anxiety." Ralph McInerny, an Olympic-class punster who taught at Notre Dame for 54 years before his death on Jan. 29, might have appreciated the sly title of Professor Garber's book; he almost certainly would have regarded her topic as an example of everything that had gone wrong at the university to which he had dedicated his professional life.

Ralph McInerny was arguably the most distinguished scholar ever to work at Notre Dame. His scholarly publications outstrip those of other Notre Dame philosophers by orders of magnitude — and that's before we get to his popular fiction, his magazine work, and his encouraging of generations of younger Catholic academics. Yet a university that does not hesitate to boast of its accomplishments as measured by the *U.S. News and World Report* ratings seemed curiously reticent about celebrating the life and accomplishments of Ralph McInerny. The university Web site posted a nicely written obituary three days after his death, but there was little sense in the university's official recognition of its loss that a gigantic figure had left the scene.

One cannot help suspect that this has something to do with the fact that Ralph thought Notre Dame had gone off the rails in its dogged and relentlessly self-promoting attempts to measure itself against what it likes to term "peer schools," such as Dartmouth and

Yale. What Ralph understood, and what the man who brought him to Notre Dame, the legendary Father Theodore Hesburgh, has never seemed to understand, is that that's the wrong plumb-line by which to measure a Catholic university's accomplishment. Or indeed any university's accomplishment, given the intellectual chaos, political correctness, decadence and madcap trendiness that has afflicted those "peer schools" since the late '60s.

Ralph McInerny knew, and could demonstrate with acute philosophical rigor, that there are truths built into the world and into us: truths we can know by exercising the arts of reason; truths that, known, lay certain moral obligations on us, personally and in our civic lives. With the rarest of exceptions, they don't know that, and in fact they deny that, at the "peer schools" to which Notre Dame is addicted to comparing itself. And therein lay the tragedy of Notre Dame and Catholic institutions of higher education of a similar cast of mind, as Ralph saw it: they had sold their intellectual and moral birthright — the true excellence that comes from an immersion in the Great Tradition of western higher learning — for a mess of pottage.

I've long thought that all of this had something to do with the misreading of a 1955 essay by Father John Tracy Ellis, "American Catholics and the Intellectual Life," which justifiably criticized the shabby condition of too much of Catholic higher education in the United States in those days. Father Hesburgh and others influenced by one reading of Ellis's critique decided that the thing to do was for Notre Dame to become Harvard, so to speak. Ralph McInerny thought that this didn't



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

make much sense at a time when those "peer schools" were awash in pragmatism and utilitarianism. Rather, he believed (and I think this was the more accurate reading of Ellis) that Notre Dame and other premier Catholic universities should play to strength, emphasizing a demanding liberal arts education while bringing the best of the mid-20th century Catholic philosophical, theological and literary renaissance to bear in the U.S. Doing that, Catholic universities would model a form of higher learning that was truth-centered, character-building and life-inspiring.

There is indeed some of that going on at Our Lady's University today, thanks to students, younger faculty and some reform-minded members of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. Those true reformers lost a happy warrior for their noble cause with the death of Ralph McInerny. Perhaps someday the university's board and administration will understand that.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for March 14, 2010

Luke 15: 1-3,11-32

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C: two sons and one loving father. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SINNERS	DRAWING NEAR	SCRIBES
EATS	A MAN	PROPERTY
SQUANDERED	FAMINE	CITIZENS
SWINE	THE PODS	HIRED
HUNGER	HEAVEN	EMBRACED
LOST	FOUND	FIELD
MUSIC	DANCING	SAFE AND SOUND

LOST / FOUND

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

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KNIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Indiana and the nation. Knights of Columbus councils and Fourth Degree Assemblies are asked to volunteer in transportation, distribution of personal items, "Pet Therapy," vocational rehabilita-

tion, arts and crafts, patient visitations, organizing parties and celebrations as well as escorting patients to sporting events and picnics. The list is almost endless. Our veterans have given more than most people will ever have the privilege of giving. Your freedom and mine has always been the result of those men and women who have sacrificed so much. It is time to give back with an extended hand of love and thanks.

Office of prophet

Jesus was a son of Israel. He is therefore best understood against the backdrop of the Old Testament. And when he established the Church, it was as a "new Israel." We can therefore understand his ministry, and the Church's ministry, in light of the Scriptures. There we see how God cared for his people through three offices — the prophet, the priest and the king.

Christ renews and fulfills these three offices in the Church. He acts as prophet, priest and king himself. And he shares these three functions with his Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says in paragraph 1546, "The faithful exercise their baptismal priesthood through their participation, each according to his own vocation, in Christ's mission as priest, prophet and king."

So in one way, every baptized

Christian is a prophet, priest and king according to their own vocation. But these three offices apply in a special way to the ordained ministers of the Church. Each is called a "munus" (plural is "munera") which means a function, or office or ministry. They are offices that the ordained minister performs for the good of the Church, to build it up and strengthen it.

In this Year for Priests, we want to look at these three offices in the ordained ministry. We will begin with the prophetic office here, and next time treat the priestly function, and then the shepherding office.

What is a prophet? A casual and careless understanding might think of a prophet only as someone who predicts the future. But the Old Testament prophets did not gaze into crystal balls. Their job



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The Year for Priests

was to speak God's word to a particular time, in a particular place. And while this might include what would happen if Israel did not repent, the emphasis was less on foretelling the future and more on speaking forth the Word of God.

The priest fulfills the prophetic office of his ministry insofar as he speaks the Word of God to his people. To do this, he must be intimately familiar with God's Word as it is contained in revelation —

both Scripture and the doctrine of the Church. As one document on the formation of priests puts it: "He needs to approach the word with a docile and prayerful heart so that it may deeply penetrate his thoughts and feelings and bring about a new outlook in him 'the mind of Christ.'"

Another document on the formation of priests puts it this way: "The priest is first of all a minister of the word of God. He is conse-

crated and sent forth to proclaim the Good News of the kingdom to all, calling every person to the obedience of faith and leading believers to an ever increasing knowledge of and communion in the mystery of God, as revealed and communicated to us in Christ."

The priest must also be able to apply that Word to a particular situation. That requires reading the signs of the times, and knowing his people well. Someone has suggested that every homily must be preached with the Bible in one hand, and a newspaper in the other, in order to bring the word of God to our circumstances.

Sometimes speaking this prophetic word takes courage, sometimes it takes compassion, because sometimes it is a word of judgment, and sometimes it is a word of hope.

Sports

The battle of the two St. Josephs' teams

BY CHUCK FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — Everyone knew St. Joseph would win the big ICCL girls basketball game this weekend. The question was which St. Joseph.

Division leaders St. Joseph-Mishawaka and St. Joseph-South Bend went toe-to-toe Saturday, with the Eagles of South Bend rallying in the fourth quarter for a 30-24 triumph. The win raises St. Joseph's (SB) perfect record to 10-0.

"The game of basketball ebbs and flows," stated Eagles coach Brain Weaver. "We just had to dig in and play a little harder. Good teams take things away from you. We just had to figure out a way to try to counter what they were doing."

What the Mishawaka girls were doing worked like a charm for three quarters. Coach Tom Schultheis designed a triangle-and-two defense that helped stymie opportunities for South Bend guards Michelle Weaver and Madeline Raster.

"Molly Ogren kept us in the game with her defense," explained Schultheis. "When she fouled out, I was forced to switch defensive matchups, and that's when St. Joe was able to surge ahead."

Weaver led the charge in the fourth quarter. The savvy guard scored eight of her 12 points and dished out two assists in the stanza to highlight the comeback.

"After playing basketball for so many years, parts of the game have gotten easier for Michelle," says her father and coach. "Her biggest strength is that she sees the floor very well, and takes advantage of this."

Monte Parker gave the winners a presence inside, scoring eight points and snatching plenty of rebounds.

"This deep in the season, certain people are starting to step up," said Weaver. "Monte did so this game, and we were able to get her the ball."

Allison Ketcham led the Mishawaka squad with 13 points, including a three-point play that gave the Wildcats a four-point lead heading to the fourth quarter.

"St. Joe-Mishawaka is a good team, and they made us have to play better," noted Weaver. "We expected this from them. We try to practice with this type of intensity, but it is hard to replicate until you get in a game situation."

As for the Wildcats, the weekend was not a total loss. Friday night, they claimed the Martin DePorres Division title with a 37-14 triumph over St. Monica/St. Jude. Tagin Schultheis led the way with 22 points, including four three-pointers.

St. Pius took second in the division, knocking off St. Monica/St. Jude the next day, 23-21.

In the John Bosco Division, there is a five-way tie for second place. Holy Cross and Corpus Christi wrapped up their regular seasons with weekend sweeps. Delaney Durbin topped Holy Cross in scoring in wins over St. Thomas and Queen of Peace. Rachel Cole combined for 22 points in Corpus Christi's triumphs over Christ the King (Colors) and St. Bavo.

Christ the King also stayed in the second-place knot with wins over St. Anthony and St. Michael.

For all the weekend results, check out the girls' basketball section at www.icclsports.org.

BISHOP DWENGER STUDENT ATHLETES SIGN COLLEGE LETTERS OF INTENT The following Bishop Dwenger High School students have signed letters of intent: Senior Adam Merriman signed his national letter of intent to continue his football career with the University of Saint Francis on Feb. 16; Bishop Dwenger quarterback Wade Markley signed his national letter of intent to continue his football career with Butler University on March 4; and Bishop Dwenger receiver and defensive back Landon Feichter will continue his football career with Purdue University in West Lafayette, as a preferred walk-on.

St. Vincent claims Gold League CYO title

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The winning tradition continued as Catholic Youth League (CYO) hoops powerhouse, St. Vincent, took yet another Gold League title at St. Charles Hession Center, on Saturday, Feb. 27, marks the fourth time in the past five years that eighth-grade teams from St. Vincent have claimed the large school title.

But more impressively, this particular eighth-grade team has gone undefeated in league play and won the title all four years of their CYO careers. When the boys were in fifth and sixth grades, their opponent in the championship game was St. Jude. And a year ago, when competing for the 2009 White League (seventh grade) medals, the Panthers downed St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth, 45-24.

As the number one seed in the 2010 tournament, St. Vincent received the bye and went on to beat St. Charles in the semi-finals before facing St. Joe/St. Elizabeth once again in the championship. The final score was 45-30.

After beating St. Joe/St. Elizabeth handily by 29 during the regular season, a surprised Coach Mark Eifert explained, "They (St. Joe/St. Elizabeth) showed up to play."

The scoreboard was tied at nine after one quarter. St. Vincent led by just five at the half as St. Joe/St. Elizabeth gave an incredible effort. "It was a close first half," added Eifert.

In the championship game, St. Vincent's Lucas Capito and his deadly three led all scorers with 16 while St. Joe/St. Elizabeth was carried by their spark plug, Nic Morken, with 11.

"St. Vincent is an unbeliev-



PROVIDED BY ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL

The St. Vincent boys basketball team won the Gold League title and beat the St. Joseph-South Bend ICCL champs to claim a diocesan championship.

able, very talented team. We knew we were coming in the underdogs. Although we came up short, it was great to score 30 points on them," a St. Joe/St. Elizabeth parent summarized. He added, "Both teams, the fans and all coaches really operated under the Christian principles the CYO stands for. It was a great championship game atmosphere."

The Panthers finished with a 22-4 record this season and represented the CYO in the diocesan showdown Feb. 28. In the diocesan tournament, the Panthers beat St. Joseph-South Bend, the Inter-City Catholic League champions, 48-23.

The team's roster included Ian Arcellana, Capito, Drake Eifert, Grady Eifert, Griffin Feichter, Michael Fiacable, Jake Leonard, Michael Reecer, Ryan Watercutter and Branden Wildley. The coaching staff includes Todd

Martin, Eifert and Dave Lyons.

The Dwenger-bound Panthers have an explosive offense led by Fiacable who averages 15 points. The quarterback also contributes 10 rebounds per game on a regular basis.

Detailing the team's depth, Martin explains, "All of the team members can put up numbers like this in any given game."

However, it is the team's outstanding defense that really sets them apart. Capable of holding teams to single digits, Martin admits, "This team is probably the best defensive team I have ever coached in my 11 years with the St. Vincent seventh-and-eighth-grade program."

Martin concluded, "The season has been great. This is a great group of kids. They played hard and listened to the coaches, which in turn created wins."

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ST. CHARLES TAKES GIRLS GOLD LEAGUE



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The St. Charles Cardinals are the 2010 Girls Gold League CYO champs. Members include Susanna Beier, Sierra Fisher, Tory Houk, Nicole Maxwell, Jordan Schneider, Natalie Siegel, Abby Sordelet, Taler Sordelet, Katie Yeager and coaches Kurt Patterson, Dan Sordelet and Jeff Maxwell.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL CITY CHAMPS



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Warsaw's Sacred Heart Lady Vikings, the school's girls' basketball team was undefeated this year through the regular season and the Warsaw Elementary Tournament, making them 10-0 for the season, as well as city champs and city tournament champs. This follows the undefeated season that their volleyball team had in the fall.

WHITE LEAGUE CHAMPS



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

This photo shows the 2010 CYO White League Champs, the St. Jude Eagles of Fort Wayne.

Mishawaka and Elkhart teams take ICCL fifth, sixth grade titles

BY GREG SCHULTHEIS

MISHAWAKA — In the last six seasons there have been 12 A and B titles in boys fifth- and sixth-grade basketball in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL). St. Joseph of Mishawaka has won six of those 12 titles and has an amazing 152-15 record over the last eight years.

Coach Dennis Chandler who has led the program over this stretch showed up for the championship game in his usual finals apparel of suit, tie and tennis shoes. The most current title came on Feb. 20 when they defeated Holy Cross from South Bend coached by Chad Gentry for the A league title in a thrilling 28-27 victory in the finals held at St. Monica.

Jacob Whitfield led the Wildcats back from a 7 point second half deficit with 10 points in the championship game. But it was Joey Kerner's three-point play with under a minute to play that clinched the win. Kerner finished with 7 points and Nick Thurin tossed in 6 points for St. Joseph. Holy Cross was led by Brandon Chappel with 12 points and Mark Madden who scored 11 points. The dynamic duo combined for 23 of the 27 Holy Cross points.

To get to the championship game, St. Joseph had to beat the undefeated and regular-season champion, St. Michael from Plymouth. In that game St. Joseph was led by Whitfield with 14 points, Sam Eggleston with 7 points and 6 points from Joe Ravotto.

St. Michael was led by the strong play of Nick Felke who scored 13 points. Holy Cross reached the finals with a 29-19 win over St. Pius from Granger in the semifinals. Brandon Chappel and Connor Gentry led Holy Cross with 14 points each while Michael Koebel was a force inside for St. Pius with a game high 18 points.

In the A league consolation game, St. Pius raced out to an 18-1 first half lead. St. Michael came back in the second half and was unstoppable. Jack Barron led the team back from the outside with four long three-point field goals and Sam Stone pounded inside as both players finished with 14 points. Nick Felke scored eight points for St. Michael. Michael Koebel again led St. Pius with 11 points, while Pat Sandor and Brian Stesiak fired in 6 points each.

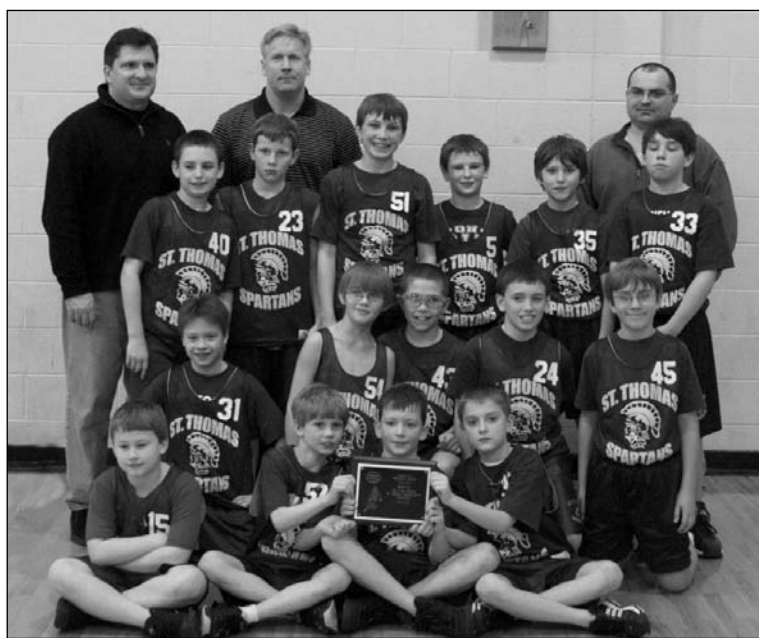
In the B league championship, St. Thomas from Elkhart, coached by Tim Barnard, completed their undefeated run through the fifth-grade league with a 32-27 victory over St. Joseph, South Bend, Gold, coached by Brian Ratigan.

St. Thomas was led by the bal-



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH, MISHAWAKA

St. Joseph, Mishawaka, won the sixth-grade ICCL boys' A-league basketball championship.



PROVIDED BY ST. THOMAS, ELKHART

St. Thomas, Elkhart, won the fifth-grade ICCL boys' B-league basketball championship. The team consists of front row, from left, Anthony Bollero, Jack Deputy, Daniel Schafer and Robert Meyers; second row, John Yaney, Max Bontrager, Zane Zmudzinski, Charlie Gerencer and Noah Wilsey; third row, Zach Groulx, Matt Barnard, Gunnar Sadowey, Brett Wilson, Scott Smith and Shawn Cameron and coaches, Rob Meyers, Tim Barnard and Tom Wilson.

anced scoring of Brett Wilson with 10 points while Daniel Schafer, Matthew Barnard and Gunner Sadoway who each scored 6 points in the championship game. Sorin Horvath led St. Joseph South Bend Gold with a game high 13 points and Luke Barrett supported the cause with 6 points.

The Spartans from St. Thomas posted an overall 22-0 record and won the regular season as well as both holiday tournament titles and go into next season as the team to beat in the A league as they attempt to continue their win streak.

St. Thomas reached the championship game with a solid 34-14 win over Queen of Peace from Mishawaka behind the strong play of Gunner Sadoway with 13 points and Matthew Barnard who scored 8 points.

St. Joseph, South Bend, Gold

reached the finals with a dominant 36-19 win over St. Pius from Granger. Luke Barrett scored 9 points, Sorin Horvath 8 points and Corey Incandela and Andy Powers 7 points each to lead St. Joseph, South Bend Gold. Patrick Pilowski scored a game high 10 points for St. Pius.

In the B league consolation game St. Pius jumped out to an early lead and maintained their control over the game in the 32-14 win over Queen of Peace. Brian Gurskey played strong in the post and scored a game high 14 points and Patrick Pilowski scored 6 points to lead St. Pius.

J.B. Williams came off the bench in the second quarter and got Queen of Peace back in the game by driving inside for 8 points in the quarter and Dakota Williams scored 6 more points to pace Queen of Peace.

Lady Knights bid for state championship falls short in overtime

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The Lady Knights' girls' basketball team went on to play for a sixth state-record Indiana state championship, but fell just short to the No. 2 rated, Austin Eagles (26-2) in an overtime Class 2-A thriller, 70-65.

The celebrated-Knights' program was victorious in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2006 with runner-up honors in 2004 and now 2010. Serving as assistant coach for 22 years, Denny Renier, took his team where no one imagined they might end up this season — before a packed house in their home town, in a big time venue, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, vying for a state trophy.

In his rookie debut at the helm, Renier's Knights opened with injuries and a roster of young talent, but managed a 6-0 start which earned them a No. 1 ranking. Falling out of the top 10 after losing three of their last four regular-season games and more

injuries, no one expected the stellar post-season run with huge regional wins over Oak Hill and Wabash. Even as they surveyed the lethal offense of their final competition, some may have doubted if the Knights could run with the high-powered Austin Eagles who put up 73 points a game.

But run, and shine, they did. With the Luers Loonies in rare form chanting, "We Are Fort Wayne," Bishop Luers led Austin, 14-10, after a quarter of play and trailed by just three at the half, 26-29.

The junior guard, Brierra Young, opened the third period with a pair of treys while Kristy Gerardot, Brooke Ridley, Miracle Woods, Hilary Watts and McKenzie Wyss continued to crash the boards pulling down 15 rebounds in quarter three alone to prove the Knights could hold their ground in the paint.

With four minutes left in the regulation, outstanding bench play from Wyss' "and-one" brought the Knights within three, 51-54. Then Watts' back to back three's in the



JONI KUHN

Bishop Luers' Lady Knights pose for a team photo after taking the runner-up state title on March 6. The Knights lost to the No. 2-rated Austin Eagles, 70-65, in overtime at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum for the Class 2-A state championship. The celebrated-Knights' program was victorious in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2006 with runner-up honors in 2004 and now 2010.



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final minutes gave Luers a 57-56 advantage. Clutch free throws by Young capped off the final scoring in regulation when the scoreboard read 59-59. After winning the fourth quarter 19-10, the Knights were outscored 11-6 in the extra minutes, but never looked back.

"I couldn't be any prouder of these girls and how they fought and fought all season long. It was a magical season — just like our player's name, a Miracle," summarized Renier.

The Knights finished up 18-8 and had three players in double digits. Woods led Luers with 17 and 12 rebounds, Ridley added 15 points and Young chipped in 12.

At a pep rally on Friday, dignitaries included retired Bishop John M. D'Arcy, who offered the opening prayer; and Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry, who made two proclamations — one honoring the 36th annual Bishop Luers Swing Choir Invitational, and another honoring the girls' basketball team — and Catholic Schools Superintendent Dr. Mark Myers, who offered encouragement to the team and the show choir.

Bishop D'Arcy remembered a devoted Bishop Luers High School sports fan, Msgr. J. William Lester, and asked all to keep him in their prayers. Msgr. Lester died Feb. 20.

At the Friday rally, the Bishop Luers Minstrels performed their routine for the school's invitational, the oldest swing choir invitational in the nation, which was also held Saturday and included swing choir groups coming into Fort Wayne from as far away as Richmond, Va.

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MISC. HAPPENINGS

St. Patrick's day family ceilidh

South Bend — St. Patrick Parish, 308 South Scott St. will host a family party on St. Patrick's Day beginning with Mass at 9 a.m. followed by coffee and doughnuts and the St. Patrick's Day parade. Sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians admission is free. Tickets are available for a traditional dinner of corned beef and cabbage and beverage. Cash bar available for beer, wine and soft drinks. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$4 for children and available at the door, or the St. Patrick rectory (574) 232-5839. Child meal includes hot dog, chips and drink. Live Irish music and dancers.

Dyngus Day party

Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will have a Dyngus Day party Monday, April 5, from 4-9 p.m. at St. Pius X Church, 52553 Fir Rd. Music by Will Smaka Polka Band. Tickets are \$6 adults, \$2 high school students and grade school children free. Food and beer will be available for purchase.

Day of Reflection

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

Queen of Angels spaghetti dinner

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Boy Scout Troop 20 will have a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Saturday, March 20, from 5-7 p.m. in the Activity Center. Tickets are \$7 for adults, seniors (60+) and K-eighth-grade students for \$5, pre-school free, and family for \$35. Great food, great fun!

Smoker planned

South Bend — The Married Mens Club of St. Casimir Parish will have a Pot-O-Gold/Smoker Sunday, March 14, at the parish

located at the corner of Webster and Dunham Streets from noon to 6 p.m. A \$15 admission includes a spaghetti dinner served until 2 p.m. as well as refreshments. Tickets are available at the door. You must be 21.

Mary Hilger will draw with chalk

Fort Wayne — On April 2, Good Friday, Mary Hilger will create a chalk drawing of the crucifixion at 6 p.m. at Queen of Angels Parish. John Hilger will dramatize the Crucifixion and Stations of the Cross will follow at 7 p.m.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, March 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Carry-out available.

Corporate Communion planned

South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572, will celebrate a Corporate Communion Sunday, March 14, at the 8 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church on Hill Street. Breakfast will follow at LaPeeps on Michigan Street.

Rummage sale

Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish will have a rummage sale Friday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. After 3 p.m. bag sale for \$3. On Saturday, March 27, all you can put in a bag for \$1.50 from 9-11:30 a.m.

Fatima movie to be shown

Fort Wayne — The World Apostolate of Fatima will host a showing of "The 13th Day," a movie based on Sister Lucia's memoirs and independent eye-witnesses, Friday, March 12, at Sacred Heart School basement. Southside Seniors will have lunch. Bring a meatless dish. The film starts at 12:30 p.m. Admission is free. The movie will also be shown Thursday, March 18, at St. Paul Chapel in Clear Lake. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie at 7 p.m.

Prayer support group

Fort Wayne — A St. Monica prayer and support group for the families and friends of fallen

away Catholics will pray for their conversion and change of heart on the third Saturdays of each month starting in March. Meet at St. Jude Parish center, room B after 9:15 Mass. For information call Angela at (260) 482-3331.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Paul Bueter will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel on Tuesday, March 16, at 7 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Father Bueter is a retired priest and resides in Fort Wayne.

FISH FRIES

Fish fry

LaGrange — The Knights of Columbus Council 13962 will have a fish fry Friday, March 12, at the St. Joseph Parish hall. Adults are \$7 and children 12 and under are \$3.50.

Fish fry

Mishawaka — St. Bavo Parish, 524 W. 8th St., will have a fish fry Friday, March 19, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for K-eighth grade and preschoolers free. Beer available for purchase. Dine in/carry out.

Knights plan fish fry

Granger — The Knights Council 4263 will have a fish fry Friday, March 19, from 4-7 p.m. in the St. Pius X gymnasium. Adults \$7.50, children 6-11 \$3.50 and children under 6 free.

Fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 553 will have a fish fry Friday, March 19, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Knights hall, 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$3 for children under 12 and children under 5 free.

Knights of Columbus host fish fry

Plymouth — The Knights of Columbus Council 1975 will have a fish dinner on Friday, March 26, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 901 E. Jefferson from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults, \$3 for children 5-10 and children under 4 are free. The fish will be prepared by Tyner Oddfellows. Drive-through service is also available at the south door. Proceeds will benefit local charitable organizations.

REST IN PEACE

Columbia City

Rita Chapman, 91,
St. Paul of the Cross

Culver

Anna M. Knepper, 73,
St. Mary of the Lake

Elkhart

Adrian Vela Herrera,
44, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne

Larry A. Amstutz, 71,
St. Peter

Noelen A. Westrick, 87,
St. John the Baptist

Rosemary T. Felger,
Saint Anne Home
Chapel

Carol Sue Forbes,
St. Vincent de Paul

Mary V. Gerhard, 84,
St. Joseph

Granger

Donald R. Blumberg,
79, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Edward G. Costa, 88,
St. Monica

Plymouth

John B. Stukenborg,
72, St. Michael

South Bend

Dorothy L. Durski, 78,
St. Adalbert

Timothy J. Hudnell, 26,
Christ the King

Jeanne Piech, 84,
St. Patrick

Mildred T. Klosowski,
St. Anthony de Padua

Leslie Jo Dudeck, 43,
Our Lady of Hungary

John E. Finneran, 84,
St. Jude

Alfred J. Smith, 83,
St. Patrick

Julianne H. Belunas, 98,
St. Matthew Cathedral

Daniel C. Hickey, 46,
St. Matthew Cathedral

James R. Martinowski, 82,
St. Matthew Cathedral

Elizabeth Chrobot, 65,
St. Patrick

Syracuse

Rudolph John Cesco,
79, St. Martin de Porres

Wabash

Wilma Crist, 65,
St. Bernard

Walkerton

Robert A. Malkowski,
78, St. Patrick

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MARCH

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19 St. Aloysius Church	14623 Bluffton Road	Fort Wayne
26 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	10700 Aboite Center Road	Fort Wayne

Notice of ANNUAL CLEANUP at Catholic Cemetery

The Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne will conduct their ANNUAL CLEANUP of decorations from
March 15 thru March 26.

Please do NOT place any decorations during this entire time. If you wish to save your decoration, please have it removed **BEFORE** March 15 or call the Catholic Cemetery Office, 426-2044, by March 12, and we will hold it for you no more than 30 days. Decorations may be placed **AFTER** March 26.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Visit www.diocesefwsb.org
for a complete calendar of events in the diocese.

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Bend, and St. Charles, Fort Wayne.

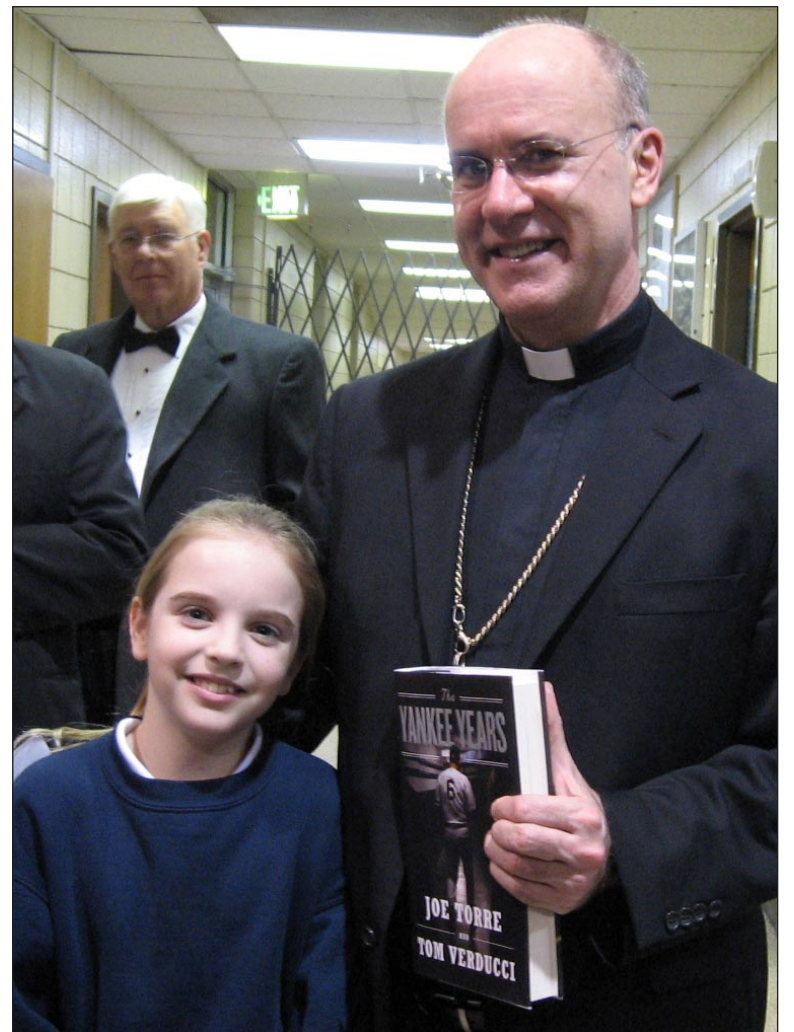
And according to a statement by Msgr. David J. Malloy of the Office of the General Secretary the distribution of money will support emergency needs and later assist with reconstruction efforts. "... the collections will be used 'to support the efforts of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services ... as they respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter and medical care, as well as to the long-term need to rebuild after widespread destruction, and to the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the church in Haiti.'" While humanitarian efforts are currently paramount, assistance in the rebuilding of Church structures and programs will eventually be needed.

Other efforts of interest include one local youth group from Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington who responded to the tragedy by praying for victims while they discussed their responsibility in the support effort. The

students, divided into two groups, responding to a challenge to raise \$500 each within the week, gathered \$2,333. Their pastor, Father Ron Rieder matched their donation and the group sent a check for \$4,667 to Catholic Relief Services. Youth director Jerid Miller said, "It was a fantastic lesson for all because it showed how a small community of young Catholics could make a difference in the face of overwhelming tragedy. It also demonstrated clearly what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. It showed that when a member of the body suffers we suffer with them no matter how far away they may be. The youth of Ss. Peter and Paul plan to continue to discuss the Catholic response to tragedy and seek ways to make a difference at home and abroad."

Bishop Rhoades expressed his deep gratitude to the faithful of the diocese. He said: "The money collected in our diocese for Haitian Relief was tremendous. I thank all our people for their wonderful generosity towards our suffering brothers and sisters in Haiti. It is a sign of our Christian solidarity with the people of that impoverished country who have suffered so much. Let us continue to pray for the people of Haiti during this season of Lent."

YANKEE FAN PRESENTS BOOK TO BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES



MARK WEBER

Emma Ward, a St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, fourth-grade student, presents "The Yankee Years" to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at a reception that followed the closing Mass of the parish mission last week.