



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Coonan brothers formed by Christ

Ordination to transitional diaconate is April 25 at Pontifical College Josephinum

BY KAY COZAD



TIM JOHNSON

Matthew Coonan and Terrence Coonan, Jr., are shown at the Fort Wayne Chrism Mass on March 30. The Fort Wayne brothers will be ordained by Bishop John M. D'Arcy to the transitional diaconate on Sunday, April 25, at St. Turibius Chapel, Pontifical College Josephinum, in Columbus, Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The two young men who will be ordained into the transitional diaconate this month at the Pontifical College Josephinum are not only brothers in Christ but blood brothers as well. Seminarians Matthew Coonan and Terrence Coonan Jr. are the middle brothers of Terry and Terri Coonan's family of eight children.

The brothers are natives of Fort Wayne and along with their entire family have been lifelong parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, where they attended elementary school. Both men are graduates of Bishop Dwenger High School. And just as they recall a close-knit childhood relationship, they have also found a common calling to the priesthood.

But the callings came to each man in very different ways. As youngsters the boys participated in sports with the neighborhood kids as well as in school — basketball, soccer and cross country.

Their faith formation began in the home, they say, with their parents' devotion to their life of faith and involvement in parish community life. "The biggest thing they gave us kids is their witness of true Christian love. They teach us what love is with everyone they encounter. They are caring, kind people," says Matt.

The strong Catholic education they received had a positive impact on the brothers as well as their involvement in their parish. Both boys were altar servers and were involved in the parish youth group. Matt says his participation in the Antioch and Life Teen programs helped develop a deeper understanding of the importance of the sacraments as well as the faith community as support. "My faith flourished during those years," he says.

Terrence Jr., or "Tink" as he is better known, adds

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Happy birthday Holy Father

Pope Benedict celebrates 83rd birthday

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Spelling genius

Margaret Peterson heads to national bee

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Bishop Dwenger's Fred Tone to retire

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — A Bishop Dwenger icon, Principal Fred Tone, has announced his retirement at the end of this school year.

Although the decision did not come easily, Tone and his wife Sandy, who also recently retired, plan to spend time with their five grandchildren — three live in Virginia — "and get more involved in their lives."

Tone says his wife has been very involved in Bishop Dwenger with him — that means 42 years and over 4,000 events by his estimates. "She's been awesome," he says.

Tone makes it a point to get to know the names of each of the Bishop Dwenger students. With 1,050 students, making it one of the largest Catholic high schools in the state of Indiana, that is a lot of names to learn.

During eighth-grade registration in January and February, as Tone was helping, it hit him: "There is never going to be a good time to retire."

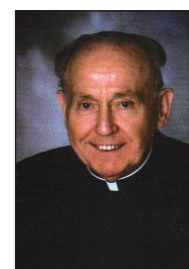
"I love my job. I love these kids," he told *Today's Catholic*. His own sons, John and Jason, are Bishop Dwenger graduates. But the job requires nights and weekends. "I can't do this job part-time," he said.

Forty-two years ago, the young Indiana

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YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER



FATHER DANIEL R. LEEUW

In the official Diocesan Directory, Father Daniel Leeuw has that contradictory term, "retired priest" behind his name. Far from

it; with 53 years of priesthood on the record and 81 years on the planet, he hastens between appointments.

YEAR OF, PAGE 5

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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P.O. Box 11169
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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

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

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Kathy Denice

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Kathy Voirol
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen (Fort Wayne area)

(260) 456-2824

Jeanette Simon (South Bend area)

(574) 234-0687

Web site: www.todaycatholicnews.org

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Confirmations offer opportunity for new bishop to visit parishes



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Confirmations

The busy Confirmation season is now in full swing for both me and Bishop D'Arcy. This past week, I enjoyed celebrating Confirmation Masses at three parishes of the diocese that I had not previously visited: Most Precious Blood and St. Jude parishes in Fort Wayne and St. Pius X parish in Granger. Actually, I celebrated two Confirmation Masses at St. Pius because of the large number of young people to be confirmed, over 160 candidates. The Confirmations are a wonderful opportunity for me as your new bishop to visit many, if not most, of the parishes of our diocese.

After the Confirmation Mass at St. Jude's, one of the adults present said to me that he was very struck by the ceremony and said it got him thinking about his own need to reflect on the graces he received when he was confirmed many years ago. That is something important for all of us in our Christian lives: To recognize the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we have received and to open our hearts each day to those gifts. One of the questions I usually ask the Confirmation candidates is "what are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?" I also talk to them briefly about those gifts. Actually, a homily could be given on each of the seven gifts! The Spirit's gifts of wisdom, knowledge, understanding, counsel, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord sustain our moral lives.

Another important effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as faithful witnesses of the Lord Jesus. This is what I usually focus on in my Confirmation homilies. This effect reminds all of us of our responsibility as agents of evangelization. God's love inspires us to live our faith and to share it with others. At times, it also requires us to defend our

faith when it is attacked. During the 50 days of the Easter season, the first reading at Mass is from the Acts of the Apostles. It is good to reflect on the missionary dynamism of the first Christians. The active presence of the Holy Spirit, who is the protagonist of the Church's mission, is evident in the vitality of the early Church. That same Spirit is with the Church today, inspiring us to confess Christ's name boldly and never to be ashamed of the Cross of Christ!

During this season of Confirmations, may we all be renewed in our life in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, in our mission to live our faith to the full, and in our communion with Christ and His Church!

Catholic Charities

This past week, I met for several hours with the Board of Catholic Charities of our diocese at Villa of the Woods, next to Bishop Luers High School, in Fort Wayne. The purpose of the meeting was strategic planning for the future. It was an excellent opportunity to reflect deeply on the mission of Catholic Charities within the mission of the Church in our diocese. The Church's charitable activity is an essential part of her mission. I encourage everyone's support of Catholic Charities and its many programs and services on behalf of "the least of our brothers and sisters."

Though there are some challenges and struggles, especially due to cutbacks in state funding, we are committed to moving forward in our endeavors to serve the poor and needy in our communities. Sadly, it will be necessary to close Children's Cottage in Fort Wayne due to insufficient financial resources. But we must not be deterred in our charitable efforts; rather, using our limited resources wisely and working diligently to secure needed funding, we must move forward with new resolve. We must also be attentive to new circumstances and changing needs in the communities of our diocese where the services of Catholic Charities are most needed.

Many thanks to the devoted members of the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities for their generous and devoted service!

Campus Ministry at the University of Saint Francis

I enjoyed breakfast with the campus min-

istry team at the University of Saint Francis this past Thursday. I was happy to listen to several students active in campus ministry share with me their growth in faith through campus ministry. I learned about their retreats, service trips, liturgical life, social activities and spiritual and theological formation. At the University of Saint Francis and throughout our diocese, I continue to be edified by the enthusiasm and commitment of our young people to their Catholic faith. They show me that the Church is indeed alive and that there is much hope for the future! I thank Janet Patterson, the director of campus ministry at the University of Saint Francis, and all who serve with her in this important apostolate.

Knights of Columbus at Notre Dame

This is an historic week for the Knights of Columbus council at the University of Notre Dame. One hundred years ago, on April 22, 1910, the first college council of the Knights of Columbus in the world began at Notre Dame. I was privileged to celebrate the centennial Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart this past Saturday with the young Knights of the Notre Dame Council, along with several alumni members, as well as officials of the Supreme and State Councils. After the Mass, we gathered for a dinner celebration, during which there were various distinguished speakers, including Father Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, and Mr. Virgil Dechant, past Supreme Knight.

The Knights of Columbus are a great blessing to the Church throughout the world, in our own nation, and here in our diocese. I thank all our Knights for their dedicated service to the Church and encourage young men to consider joining this excellent order. The dedication of the Knights of Columbus to charitable service, to the promotion of priestly and religious vocations, to the pro-life cause, and to the building up of our parishes, schools and other institutions is indeed praiseworthy. Thank you, Brother Knights, and congratulations to our young Knights at Notre Dame! Happy 100th Anniversary!

Well, it is getting late and I must go to reflect on the readings for Mass tomorrow at Bishop Dwenger High School. May God bless you!

St. Peter's Basilica offers absolution in Chinese, 13 other languages

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Confessors in St. Peter's Basilica can offer absolution in 14 languages, including Chinese.

There are 14 Conventual Franciscans from 10 different nations who live in the Vatican and hear confessions full time in the basilica, said the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*.

Each Franciscan hears confession for up to five hours a day, but for no longer than three hours at a time, for a total of 24 hours a week, it said.

The members of the college of confessors at St. Peter's come from Italy, Malta, Poland, Germany, Spain, Romania, Croatia, Brazil, the

United States and Taiwan. Father Nevin Hammon, a native of Syracuse, N.Y., and a member of the U.S. Conventual Franciscans' Immaculate Heart Province, has been a confessor at St. Peter's since 1998.

The priests can offer confession in Italian, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Romanian, Polish, Croatian, Slovenian, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Maltese, and Chinese.

Under the direction of Franciscan Father Gianfranco Grieco, a former staff member of *L'Osservatore Romano*, a new quarterly magazine was launched in April that talks about the college of confessors at St. Peter's and its activities, said the paper.

The sacrament of Reconciliation is available to visitors every day during the basilica's nor-

mal opening hours.

Thirteen of the confessionals are from the 17th century and are carved and sculpted from walnut; a modern confessional was added in 2008, the paper said.

In an interview with the Vatican newspaper last year, Italian Franciscan Father Rocco Rizzo, rector of the college of confessors at St. Peter's, said each of the priests hears confessions from about 8,500 to 9,000 faithful a year, with the majority of penitents coming from Italy, then from English-speaking countries and Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Pope Clement XIV, who had been a member of the Conventual Franciscans, entrusted the ministry of Reconciliation in St. Peter's Basilica to the order in 1774.

Pope urges Malta to hold fast to its Christian roots, values

BY CAROL GLATZ

VALLETTA, Malta (CNS) — On a 27-hour visit to Malta, Pope Benedict XVI met with sex abuse victims, encouraged Maltese Catholics to keep the faith and walked in the footsteps of St. Paul.

In the midst of a worldwide storm over how the Church has handled clerical sex abuse, the pope met privately with local sex abuse victims April 18, assuring them the Church was doing everything in its power to bring perpetrators to justice and to prevent further abuse of young people.

The victims said they were pleased with the encounter and one said he felt “freed of a great weight” and was reconnected with his faith.

The shadow of sex abuse cases didn't dampen the local population's outpouring of enthusiasm nor did it obscure what the pope said was his main mission on the Mediterranean island: to reconfirm the faith of one of the most Catholic countries in the world and encourage the Maltese to fully live out their Christian identity and values.

Vans filled with youths waving giant Vatican flags coursed through the streets, humble stone homes hung banners and pictures of the pope from their balconies, and tens of thousands of faithful and the curious lined city streets and squares to cheer and get a glimpse of the pope.

Celebrating the 1,950th anniversary of St. Paul's arrival in Malta, the pope was able to hold the Apostle up as an example or inspiration in his talks to politicians, Catholics, young people and even journalists.

In remarks to the Vatican press corps aboard the papal flight from Rome to Malta, the pope said St. Paul shows how life's tragedies can become an opportunity to do good.

Just as St. Paul's shipwreck on the island became the seed that planted Christianity in Malta, so too “life's shipwrecks can be part of God's plan for us and they may also be useful for new beginnings in our lives,” he said.

In his homily during Mass in Granaries Square April 18, the pope said St. Paul urged his companions to confront the stormy seas by placing their complete trust in God. To save their troubled craft, they had to cast all their supplies overboard and pray God would protect them from harm, the pope said.

People today also must shed their excess cargo — that is, superfluous possessions, vain accomplishments and dependence on technology as a cure-all — because the real key to happiness and human fulfillment is one's relationship with God, he said. With God “we can do all things:



CNS PHOTO/ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Boys in Valletta hold up flags commemorating the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Malta April 17. The pope's two-day trip to the island included a visit to St. Paul's Grotto, an outdoor Mass, a gathering with young people and a private meeting with victims of clerical sexual abuse.

without him we can do nothing.”

The pope even evoked St. Paul's arrival by sailing across Malta's Grand Harbor before his meeting with young people April 18.

He rode together with a group of teens aboard a large white catamaran named “San Pawl.” Navigating the choppy waters, his boat was flanked by every kind of sea craft imaginable from military ships and million-dollar yachts to traditional wooden boats and rubber dinghies.

On stage before the nearly 40,000 people stretched along the fortified waterfront, the pope used the example and teachings of St. Paul to respond to young people who spoke of their experiences and questions about faith.

The pope said, “God rejects no one. And the Church rejects no one.”

God knows people intimately — all their strengths and weaknesses — and yet he loves his children so much that he challenges people to purify themselves of their sins and faults, he said.

“When he challenges us because something in our lives is displeasing to him, he is not rejecting us, but he is asking us to change and become more perfect,” he said.

One challenge facing Malta is the influx of illegal immigrants who end up on its shores on their way to other European countries. The country has been criticized by human rights advocates for its forced detention policies and the sometimes abysmal conditions of its detention centers.

The pope told young people that it is their duty as Christians to care for the vulnerable and “be attentive to the needs of immigrants and asylum seekers.”

But in a number of talks, the pope said the problem could not be solved by Malta alone.

In his farewell speech at the Luqa airport, the pope told President George Abela and other government leaders to strive to continue to welcome the world's “strangers” as the ancient Maltese welcomed St. Paul. With the help of other European states and international organizations, Malta will act to aid “those who arrive here and to ensure that their rights be respected.”

The pope praised the way Malta has been able to build a nation founded on Christian values and praised the country's defense of the unborn and of the traditional family based on marriage between a man and a woman.

Abortion and divorce are illegal in Malta, and the pope asked President Abela in his welcoming address that the nation “continue to stand up for the indissolubility of marriage” and the “true nature of the family.”

As part of his spiritual journey commemorating St. Paul, Pope Benedict prayed in Rabat at the grotto where tradition holds the apostle lived for the three months he was stranded in Malta. The pope greeted some 250 Maltese missionaries in St. Paul's Church and called on his audience to “live out your faith ever more fully” at home, work and in society.

The world needs credible Christian witness especially given the many threats facing human life, traditional marriage and the “moral truths which remain the foundation of authentic freedom and genuine progress,” he said.

Thousands of children packed into St. George's Square in Valletta April 17 to sing the pope a belated “Happy Birthday” in English, German, Italian and Maltese. The pope smiled, waved and blessed the children when he appeared on the balcony of the presidential palace. The pope turned 83 April 16.

PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES



- Tuesday, April 27: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Thomas Church, Elkhart
- Wednesday, April 28: 11:30 a.m. — Mass and Luncheon honoring Sister Jane Carew, Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, April 28: 6 p.m. — Knights of Columbus Annual Religious Appreciation Dinner, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, April 29: 10:30 a.m. — Diocesan department head meeting, Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne
- Friday, April 30: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Gaspar Church, Rome City
- Saturday, May 1: 9:30 a.m. — Baccalaureate Mass of the University of Saint Francis at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 1: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend

Ordination class of 2010 completed college, held jobs

WASHINGTON—The vast majority (92 percent) of men being ordained to the priesthood report some kind of full-time work experience prior to entering the seminary, most often in education. Three in five (60 percent) ordinands completed college before pursuing the priesthood, with one in five (20 percent) also receiving a graduate degree. One in three (34 percent) entered the seminary while in college.

The median age of ordinands is 33. The youngest member of the Class of 2010 is 25; 11 men are being ordained at the age of 65 or older. On average, men were 18 when they first considered their vocation.

This analysis is part of The Class of 2010: Survey of Ordinands to the Priesthood, an annual national survey of men being ordained priests, conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), a Georgetown University-based research center. The entire report can be found at www.usccb.org/vocations/classof2010, as well as on the new www.ForYourVocation.org which is set to launch on April 25. The survey was commissioned by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

“One important trend evident in this study is the importance of life-long formation and engagement in the Catholic faith,” said Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. He noted that, along with their education and work experience, half to three-quarters of the Class of 2010 report they served as an altar serv-

er, lector, Eucharistic minister or other parish ministry.

“Most ordinands have been Catholic since birth,” said Cardinal O'Malley, “Four in five report that both their parents are Catholic. Almost eight in 10 were encouraged to consider the priesthood by a priest. This speaks to the essential role the whole Church has to play in fostering vocations.”

The survey had a response rate of approximately 77 percent of the 440 potential ordinands reported by theologates, houses of formation, dioceses, and religious institutes. They included 291 men being ordained for dioceses and 48 for religious orders, such as the Jesuits, Dominicans and Franciscans.

In other findings, CARA reported:

- Close to two in five (37 percent) have a relative who is a priest or religious.
- Two thirds report regularly praying the rosary (67 percent) and participating in Eucharistic Adoration (65 percent) before entering seminary.
- More than half of ordinands (55 percent) report having more than two siblings, while one-quarter (24 percent) report having five or more siblings. Two in five (38 percent) are the oldest child in their family.
- Nearly one-third (31 percent) of the ordination class of 2010 was born outside the United States, the largest numbers coming from Mexico, Colombia, the Philippines, Poland and Vietnam. Between 20 and 30 percent of ordinands to the diocesan priesthood for each of the last 10 years were born outside the United States.

Archdiocese to create two new charter schools

INDIANAPOLIS — The Archdiocese of Indianapolis recently received approval to create two charter schools in Indianapolis — a move that will make it the first Catholic diocese in the United States that has committed to overseeing a school involved in this educational approach.

The approval on April 5 by the City-County Council of Indianapolis and Marion County also ensures that the archdiocese will continue its wide-ranging commitment to educating children in economically challenged, urban areas of Indianapolis, according to *The Criterion*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

When the 2010-11 school year opens in August, St. Anthony Catholic School and St. Andrew and St. Rita Catholic Academy will become charter schools. While they will still be managed by the archdiocese, they will have to change their names and

they will no longer be able to promote the Catholic faith during school hours.

The two schools are currently part of the six schools that form the Mother Theodore Catholic Academies — a consortium of schools created by the archdiocese to focus on educating students in urban areas of Indianapolis.

The other four schools in the consortium — Central Catholic School, Holy Angels School, Holy Cross Central School and St. Philip Neri School — will continue as Catholic schools.

“Many urban Catholic schools are closing across the nation, and we did not want to leave the students or communities we currently serve,” said Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general of the archdiocese. “Through this transformation, an urgent and unmet need within urban Indianapolis will be filled.”

Economic realities forced the archdiocese to consider the char-

ter school approach. On one level, the Mother Theodore Catholic Academies have been operating in a deficit every year, according to archdiocesan officials. On a second level, Church officials say, recent difficult economic times have made it hard for families at these schools to pay the tuition.

In the charter school arrangement, the archdiocese will receive about \$7,500 per student from the State of Indiana. In August, the archdiocese hopes to have 185 students from kindergarten to grade seven at the site of the St. Andrew and St. Rita Catholic Academy. At the St. Anthony Catholic School location, there will be room for 141 students from kindergarten to grade six. The two charter schools will be free to attend.

Fundraising dollars that were previously used at those two schools will be shifted to the other four Mother Theodore Catholic Academies schools.

NOTRE DAME EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION



DIANE FREEBY

Holy Cross Priest Father Kevin Russeau carries the Blessed Sacrament to the second of four altars on the campus of Notre Dame April 18. About 200 people enjoyed the brilliant sunshine and prayerfully participated in the 6th Annual Notre Dame Eucharistic Procession, which began after Mass, outside the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Student groups from Holy Cross College, Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame prepared the altars and provided liturgical music and reflections. At each stop, the faithful paused to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with Scripture and prayer before moving on to the next altar. Father Peter Rocca, also a Holy Cross priest and rector of the basilica, concluded the Procession with Benediction on the steps of the administration building. The Knights of Columbus provided a free lunch afterward, serving up their famed steak sandwiches and cool drinks to the crowd. For more photos visit www.diocesefwsb.org

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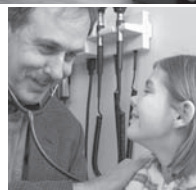
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U.S. foundation members deliver birthday cake to pope

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI received a cake on his 83rd birthday from the U.S.-based Papal Foundation, which also presented him with a list of the projects they have funded in his name this year.

The 120-member group — including Cardinals Justin Rigali of Philadelphia and Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington — sang “Happy Birthday” to the pope as they presented him with the fresh strawberry and kiwi custard cake. Written on top was the message, “Happy Birthday, Holy Father.”

There were no candles to blow out, so the pope responded to the song by giving the group his blessing.

In his formal speech to foundation members, the pope spoke about the joy of the Easter season, which is built on knowing that “evil never has the last word, that love is stronger than death, and that our future and the future of all humanity lies in the hands of a faithful and provident God.”

The Papal Foundation was established in 1990 and, in the name of the pope, has given about \$60 million in grants for the building of churches, seminaries, schools, hospitals and other projects for the care of the poor around the world.

James V. Coffey, foundation vice president, said this year the foundation distributed 95 grants and 60 scholarships worth a total of \$6.2 million. The scholarships help priests and nuns studying at the pontifical universities in Rome.

The members also gave the pope a copy of the book, “Peter’s Partners,” which marks the 20th anniversary of the Papal Foundation.

The “practical witness of holiness and charity” by Catholics around the world allows the church to continue to proclaim the message of hope, he said.

“The Papal Foundation has advanced this mission in a particular way by supporting a broad spectrum of charities close to the heart of the successor of Peter,” the pope said.

Pope Benedict asked the foundation members and staff “to pray for the needs of the universal church and to implore a renewed outpouring of the Spirit’s gifts of holiness, unity and missionary zeal upon the whole people of God.”

‘Daring to Love’ to be presented to diocesan youth by Jason Evert

BY JOHN SIKORSKI

Jason Evert will be returning to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for the first time in four years, to present to several thousand teens in all four diocesan high schools, as well as to public audiences in both Fort Wayne and South Bend. The Offices of Family Life and Youth Ministry, and the Catholic high schools are honored to cosponsor the events, with the hope of reaching as many teenagers as possible.

“Daring to love” can be tough — but the message of true self-giving and joyful love has been brought successfully to hundreds of thousands of teens throughout the world by Evert, who has made it his life work to promote true and authentic love. Evert possesses undergraduate degrees in theology and counseling, and a master’s degree in theology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

After working for three years as a chastity speaker on his own, he teamed up with Crystalina Padilla,

herself a chastity speaker trained by the Challenge Task Force on Chastity. Soon, the couple fell in love, and continued to speak together, first as an engaged couple for a year, and then as a married couple after their wedding in June of 2003.

Jason and Crystalina continue their work as staff apologists for California-based Catholic Answers, and are frequent guests on both radio and television programs. Jason has authored or co-authored several books, including “Pure Love,” “Pure Manhood,” “If You Really Loved Me” and “Theology of the Body for Teens.” He and Crystalina have recently hosted “The Pure Life,” and “Theology of the Body for Teens,” a pair of popular series on EWTN. In an engaging seminar, “Romance without Regret,” the Everts challenge teens to true love through stories, humor and hard science to convince teens that it is possible to experience the joys of true love and romance, while valuing the gift of human sexuality and respecting the dignity of the person.

Two diocesan events will be

free and open to any diocesan teenagers and youth. On May 4, Evert will speak at 7 p.m. at the Pfeil Center at Holy Cross College in South Bend. He will offer the same public seminar on May 5 at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne.

All teenagers (and their parents) are invited to attend Evert’s down-to-earth, convincing and honest presentation of God’s plan for a happy and holy life, filled with true human love. As Pope Benedict has pointed out, “Everybody feels the longing to love and to be loved.” Youth understand this truth, and are always searching for the answer to the question of authentic love.

For more information on Jason Evert’s upcoming seminars, please contact the Office of Youth Ministry (260) 422-4611 or the Office of Family Life (574) 234-0687; or to view and print a promotional poster, go to www.diocesefwsb.org/diocesan-offices/youth-ministry-office.

YEAR of our PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Perhaps his eagerness to grasp the next task is just a lifetime habit. At age 14 he learned the meatcutters’ trade at a neighborhood grocery store on Runnion Avenue in Fort Wayne. At 17, he was a meat department manager in a Kroger store, but he hung up his apron for good to fulfill his boyhood dream — that of becoming a priest.

The desire for priesthood began at Most Precious Blood Parish in Fort Wayne at a time when the school had 500 students, 22 sisters and three priests.

Daniel Leeuw was the assigned altar server of associate pastor Father Marcellus Foltz, whose devotion and holiness impressed young Daniel to the point where he said, “I want to be a priest like him.”

After graduation from Central Catholic High School in Fort Wayne and the University of Dayton, he spent four years at Saint Meinrad, where he studied theology and also taught American history in the minor seminary and religion in the Village School of Saint Meinrad, and acquired his state teacher’s license and principal’s license.

Father Leeuw was ordained in 1957 by Bishop Leo Pursley and was assigned to St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend, as an associate pastor and as a teacher and guidance director at Saint Joseph’s High School.

Bishop Pursley then sent Father Daniel to Notre Dame where he received his master’s degree in counseling and secondary education, another principalship, and began a teaching career which would last for 28 years.

He was principal at Huntington Catholic High School, followed by a 13-year period at St. Joseph School of Nursing and also was on the fac-

ulties of Ancilla College and Saint Francis College.

During one of his years as associate pastor at St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, he taught at three different places; St. John’s Grade School, St. Joseph School of Nursing and Saint Francis College.

“Saying Mass makes my day,” says Father Leeuw. In 53 years of priesthood, he has not missed saying Mass except when he had heart surgery.

For the past 19 years, he has been chaplain at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Fort Wayne. He says Mass there on Mondays at noon and on Saturday evenings. He visits patients in the hospital and is also the third member of a HBPC (Home Bound Primary Care) team that includes a nurse and a social worker. In this position he visits veterans in their homes, regardless of whether they have a religion or no religion. On these visits he encounters depression, other psychological disorders and various personal problems. Through these visits over the years, Father has brought three veterans into the Church.

Father Leeuw has led four pilgrimages to Europe, three to them to the Vatican and for the past 38 years has made a personal pilgrimage and one week retreat at the Trappist monastery at Gethsemene in Kentucky. His weekly schedule includes a Saturday evening Mass at Canterbury Green, which has a large following, and every other week, he says the Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Fort Wayne.

Looking back, he can recall pouring the waters of Baptism on two baby boys; one received the name of Jason (Freiburger) and the other David (Ruppert). Father Dan Leeuw now, on occasion, has the opportunity to celebrate Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with them as priests.

Father Leeuw retired? He’s just getting started!

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Pope names new Miami archbishop, new bishop for Springfield

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., 59, as archbishop of Miami and accepted the resignation of Archbishop John C. Favalora, 74, who has headed the archdiocese since 1994. The pope also named Chicago Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki, 57, as bishop of Springfield, Ill. The changes were announced April 20 in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, papal nuncio to the United States.

Jesus' words to troubled disciples can guide us today, archbishop says

HOUSTON (CNS) — Jesus' words to his "very troubled and confused disciples" before his passion and death offer guidance today at "a perilous and critical point in the life of the Church," Archbishop John R. Quinn told participants in the National Federation of Priests' Councils convention April 13. The retired archbishop of San Francisco spoke about "Christ present in the darkness" during the annual NFPC meeting April 12-15 in Houston. Saying that "the great works of God have been accomplished in darkness," Archbishop Quinn cited chapters 14-17 of the Gospel of John as containing the words that should guide priests and the Church today. Jesus "begins by giving them a forthright commandment: 'You are not to let your hearts be troubled,'" the archbishop said. "This is not an exhortation. It is a command." Jesus tells his disciples that "in the trouble and the crisis they confront, where disaster seems inevitable and there is no solution, with the Father and the Spirit he will be with them," Archbishop Quinn said. "This is how the Bible teaches us to persevere in darkness and in trial."

Nuclear disarmament talk gets serious in international arena

WASHINGTON (CNS) — On the nuclear disarmament front, it sounds like the 1980s all over again. Widespread discussion about nuclear disarmament has been in the news since April 2009, nearly 30 years after the U.S. bishops first adopted their pastoral letter on peace in the nuclear era, "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response." The bishops and the Vatican have reiterated their calls to the world to end the dependence on nuclear weapons in war strategies time and again since the 1983 pastoral, but with little notice because the apparent threats seemed to diminish with the fall of the Soviet Union and growing partnerships

CARDINAL DZIWISZ WALKS IN FUNERAL PROCESSION



CNS PHOTO/MICHAL LEPECKI, AGENCIA GAZETA VIA REUTERS

Polish Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, right, walks with other clergymen in front of the gun carriages carrying the coffins containing the bodies of Polish President Lech Kaczynski and his wife, Maria, during a funeral procession in Krakow, Poland, April 18. Poland's president, his wife and other government officials were among the 96 people killed in a plane crash near Smolensk, Russia, April 10.

with China. As Maryann Cusimano Love, associate professor of international relations at The Catholic University of America, told Catholic News Service, "most people have the mistaken idea that these (weapons) went away with the Cold War." Recognizing that nuclear weapons still pose a significant global threat, the United States has embarked on a new effort to reduce strategic nuclear arsenals in the hope of making the world safer from mass destruction. The most recent effort is being fueled by President Barack Obama, who in an April 5, 2009, speech in Prague, Czech Republic, offered his vision of a world free of nuclear weapons and subsequently set a course toward that goal.

Pope tells Brazilian bishops Eucharist proves God intervenes in world

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When the focus of the liturgy is on the people gathered in the Church and not the Lord, it plays into the modern temptation to believe God is incapable of intervening in the world, Pope Benedict XVI told bishops from Brazil. An exclusive focus on community reflects "a mindset unable to accept the possibility of a real divine interven-

tion in this world to help mankind," the pope said April 15 as he met with bishops from Brazil's Amazon region. Pope Benedict focused his remarks on the Eucharist and on the Mass as Brazilian Catholics prepare to celebrate a national Eucharistic congress in late April. The bishops, who were making their "ad limina" visits to Rome to report on the status of their dioceses, told the pope they were blessed by abundant vocations to the priesthood and religious life, but the people in their dioceses were suffering because of unbridled exploitation of the Amazon's forests, minerals and water resources. Bishop Jesus Cizaurre Berdonces of Cameta, president of the regional bishops' conference, told the Vatican newspaper that the bishops support "a sustainable development that takes into account human and social promotion and respect for the environment." "In the Amazon, nature is rich and our people who live in the forest seldom suffer from hunger," he told the newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, April 15. But when the government and multinational companies come in "destroying family agriculture and the forests," people are forced to move to the cities where unemployment, poverty and drug abuse are common, he said.

Crosier priest, parish worker stabbed at Phoenix church

PHOENIX (CNS) — Crosier Father Tim Conlon, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, and a parish worker named Annie Conway were stabbed the morning of April 15 outside the south Phoenix church. Both were taken to Maricopa County Medical Center, where they were listed in stable condition. Later that day police arrested Carlos Miguel Manriquez, 50, on suspicion of stabbing the priest and Conway. He was being held on \$500,000 bond and news reports said he could face charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. "Our deep concern and prayers are with the parish worker and our confrere," said Crosier Father Tom Carkhuff, prior provincial of the order's U.S. province. "This is very sad news when these people or anyone becomes a victim of any violence. Be assured that we also pray for the person who attacked the parish worker and Father Conlon." Prior to his appointment as pastor, Father Conlon was vicar for Hispanic affairs for the Diocese of Phoenix. He serves as the national director of the Crosier Campaign, which is raising funds to build a new campus for the Phoenix Crosiers. Father Conlon joined the Crosier Fathers and Brothers 40

years ago and was ordained a priest in 1979. He has served in college, hospital, retreat and parish ministries in Nebraska, New York and Arizona. He has been assigned to Phoenix since 2000.

Bishops take actions against nuns, CHA over stand on health reform

WASHINGTON (CNS) — At least two U.S. bishops have taken actions to indicate their disapproval of the support some women's religious communities and the Catholic Health Association gave to the final version of health care reform legislation. Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt of Greensburg, Pa., has directed diocesan offices, parishes and the diocesan newspaper not to promote the "vocation awareness program of any religious community" that was a signatory to a letter urging members of the House of Representatives to pass the health reform bill. In Providence, R.I., Bishop Thomas J. Tobin asked the Catholic Health Association to remove the diocesan-sponsored St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island from its membership rolls, saying that CHA leadership had "misled the public and caused serious scandal" by supporting health reform legislation that the bishops opposed. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was against the measure because its provisions on abortion funding and conscience protections were morally unacceptable. When the bill passed, the bishops reiterated their decades-long support for providing access to health care for all but expressed regret that healthcare reform came with the possibility of expanded abortion funding and urged vigilance that an executive order by President Barack Obama would, as promised, ensure no federal funds will be spent on abortion. Some Catholic groups reacted with enthusiasm to the passage of health reform and Obama's executive order, and others said the order would have no effect on abortion funding.

Archbishop Borders, retired archbishop of Baltimore, dies at 96

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Archbishop William D. Borders, who retired in 1989 as the 13th archbishop of Baltimore, died April 19 at Mercy Ridge Retirement Community in the Baltimore suburb of Timonium. He was 96 and had been battling colon cancer. He was the fourth-oldest living Catholic bishop in the United States at the time of his death. Renowned for his commitment to collegiality, social justice and a pastoral approach to leadership, Archbishop Borders led the archdiocese from 1974 to 1989. He continued to reside in Baltimore throughout his retirement, maintaining an active priestly ministry well into the last year of his life.

Catholic high school students inducted into Home School Honor Society

FORT WAYNE — Five Catholic homeschooled high school students were formally inducted into the Rho Epsilon Chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha, the National Home School Honor Society, on April 10 in Fort Wayne. Along with nine other area homeschoolers, they were honored with a certificate from the national office, and the 2010 graduates were presented with gold honor cords.

To be eligible for induction, these home schooled students earned at least a 3.5/4.0 grade point average; scored in the 90th percentile of a nationally standardized test administered by testers other than the parents; and completed at least 25 hours of community service, including 10 hours of exceptional family service.

The students are Leah R. Mailand, St. Joseph, Hessen-Cassel, senior; John A. Morman, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, senior; Katlyn R. Stein, St. Therese, Fort Wayne, senior; Ellen D. Shannon, Sacred Heart, Fort Wayne, junior; and Joseph K. Morman, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, freshman.

John Morman, son of James and Jeri Morman, will continue his education this fall at Purdue University's College of Science, studying computer science. He is the recipient of Purdue University's President's Scholarship.

Leah Mailand, daughter of Mitch and Sherri Mailand, has been accepted into Indiana University's Hutton Honors College, where she has been awarded the Indiana University Excellence Scholarship. A National Merit Finalist, Mailand will major in elementary education.

Katlyn Stein, daughter of Timothy and Sarah Stein, has been accepted by the University of St. Francis and has been offered their Presidential Scholarship.

A graduation Mass for Catholic homeschoolers will be held at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, on Friday, June 5, at 1:30 p.m. A graduation ceremony will follow at 3:30 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis's North Auditorium, where Father George Gabet will address the graduates.

The adult sponsors of the Rho Epsilon Chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha are Ronald and Marilyn Shannon of Fort Wayne (ronshannon@verizon.net; (260) 489-1856), and James and Jeri Morman of Monroeville.

John Tippmann, Sr. honored as humanitarian

FORT WAYNE — The American Red Cross of Northeast Indiana will honor John Tippmann, Sr. at its third annual Humanitarian of

AROUND THE DIOCESE

PRECIOUS BLOOD JOINS WITH USF ON BALLOON LAUNCH



THOMAS YEE

Most Precious Blood (MPB) fifth-grade students assist teacher Karen Lohmuller as she fills a weather balloon with helium along side Dr. Teri Beam, professor of biology at University of Saint Francis, lower right, at Hamilton Park in Fort Wayne on April 15. The balloon, equipped with a GPS tracking system was expected to rise to the edge of the stratosphere at 100,000 feet to study weather related issues as well as how seeds and cockroaches fare in space. The balloon was tracked and expected to land somewhere around VanWert, Ohio. The project was funded by a collaborative grant effort between Most Precious Blood School and USF. MPB fifth-grader Stephanie Hanic, said of the effort, "It's so cool that it can go into actual space."

the Year luncheon at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne on Thursday, April 29, at 12 p.m. The event recognizes a local person whose efforts and accomplishments have made the community a better place to live and work.

Tippmann is a local Catholic who has been instrumental in helping with efforts not only in the diocese, but other organizations such as Redeemer Radio, Matthew 25, Vincent House, St. Joseph Community Foundation and more.

For information or reservations, please visit www.rod-crossofnei.org or contact Lynda Houk at (260) 484-9336 ext. 226.

Bishop Luers announces 2010 Lilly Scholarship recipient

FORT WAYNE — Corinne Lambert, a Bishop Luers High School senior, was awarded the Lilly Scholarship. The Lilly Scholarship Award covers tuition and fees to an accredited four-year Indiana college or university, plus an annual book stipend. Lambert

is planning to attend Indiana University.

Bishop Luers holds LuersKnight, preview night

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School's 30th annual dinner and auction will be held Friday, April 23 in the gymnasium. This year's theme is "A Moonlit Knight in Paris."

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Entertainment will be provided by the Jazz Band and the Bishop Luers Minstrels.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., and the Bishop's Scholarship Auction will follow.

Cost is \$140 per person. Cocktail attire is encouraged, but the black tie is optional. Tickets are still available. For additional information, contact Kathy Skelly at (260) 456-1261.

This event is Bishop Luers' largest fundraiser. The cost to educate one child at Bishop Luers is \$5,683 including fees. A Catholic student's tuition is \$5,050 includ-

ing fees. A portion of the money raised at LuersKnight helps make up this \$633 difference, which equates to a total of \$338,000 per year. The other percentage is utilized for technology, student desks, needs-based tuition assistance, Smart Boards and teacher retreats.

The 2010 LuersKnight Preview Knight will be held Thursday, April 22, 7 to 9 p.m. in the Bishop Luers gymnasium. Hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and soft drinks will be served. Entrance will be through the gym doors facing the football field. Cost is \$5 per person.

There will be an auction booth exclusively for Preview Knight, displaying specially selected items to be auctioned off and taken home Thursday evening. Persons desiring to bid will be assigned a bid number and will write their bid number on the bid card.

LuersKnight raffle tickets are available for \$100. The drawing will be on April 26 for prizes totaling \$10,000.

There will be a live raffle throughout out the evening for an outdoor fire pit with Luers

"Spirits" (assorted beers). Tickets may be purchased for \$10.

Catholic Charities to close Children's Cottage

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Charities, of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc., announced April 16 it will close its Children's Cottage Day Care Center in Fort Wayne as of May 14, 2010.

"We made the very difficult decision to close Children's Cottage only after a thorough study of the many factors involved, including monetary program support for the center and the cost of necessary capital improvements," said Catholic Charities Executive Director Debbie Schmidt. "In the end, the board of directors determined that our organization does not have the necessary financial resources needed to continue to provide the high level of care we've been offering at the center. We deeply regret having to make this announcement; Children's Cottage has a long history going back more than 20 years," Schmidt added.

Catholic Charities notified parents last Friday of the closing and is referring them to the Child Care Resource and Referral at Early Childhood Alliance. "We're notifying parents so they'll have ample time to find new sources of quality day care for their children," Schmidt said. "We also hope members of the Cottage staff will be successful in locating new employment at other facilities in the area."

Located at 2820 Reed St., Children's Cottage has provided quality day care for children ages 6 months through 12 years from families with low or moderate incomes. Fees have been determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into account a family's income and the number of family members. The center also has utilized nutritious breakfast, lunch and snack programs offered by the federal government for childcare facilities.

In recent years, Children's Cottage has employed the progressive High/Scope curriculum designed for age-appropriate development and active learning.

Saint Mary's College hosts Encuentro Camp

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College invites future first-generation college students to a week-long residential camp, July 11-16. Students will live in the residence halls and take classes taught by college professors. This camp is for female high school students who will be sophomores, juniors or seniors in fall 2010, who have a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Application must be submitted by May 1. For more information on this camp and others, go to <http://www3.saintmarys.edu/camps>.

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For a brochure, information, reservations, and letter from Monsignor Knueven with his phone number, call 7 days a week:

YMT Vacations 1-800-736-7300

Bishop Rhoades celebrates Little Flower Holy Hour

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades welcomed the crowd of approximately 100 at the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel (formerly MacDougal Chapel) for the St. Therese of the Little Flower Holy Hour on Tuesday, April 6. The Holy Hour of Eucharistic adoration was started 15 years ago by a group that had returned from a Marian pilgrimage.

Bishop Rhoades began the hour asking those present to pray for Tom Eckrich, who was seriously ill.

Eckrich was not only instrumental in starting the Holy Hour to pray for priests and vocations, but also in bringing many others to pray for vocations, especially to the priesthood, as well as asking others to begin Eucharistic Holy Hours in parishes throughout the diocese.

After the Holy Hour Bishop Rhoades asked the congregation to "meet the face of Jesus through the school of Mary."

Catholics have wonderful means of prayer — the rosary (including the luminous mysteries ... or the mysteries of light) and the holy sacrifice of the Mass, with Christ's true presence in the

Holy Eucharist. These are treasures of the Catholic faith, which convey God's infinite love. Bishop Rhoades went on to explain why there was success in vocations to the priesthood in his previous diocese of Harrisburg, Pa. It was the prayer offered by the lay faithful in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Priesthood is a gift in which they give their lives.

Bishop Rhoades referred to the media attacks on Pope Benedict XVI in response to the European sexual abuse scandal. The devil wants us to be discouraged, he said, but we must respond with ever more fervent prayer that young men will embrace the priesthood as a gift to which they give their lives in pursuit of holiness and service to the Church. One such prayer was said at the Holy Hour: "God Our Father, please send us holy priests, all for the Sacred and Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, all for the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, in union with St. Joseph."

Bishop Rhoades reminded those present that John Paul II spoke of the new springtime of the Church, but just as we go

through Lent before Easter, we must undergo the winter of purification in order to get to this springtime. He also reminded the congregation that priests are human, needing renewal and reform. Nonetheless, even though there has been some shame and embarrassment, we should not lose hope. The solution is not to institute a married priesthood, but to pray for their God-given vocation of celibacy, holiness and perseverance. Laity and priests alike are encouraged to take time to pray in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, that we might bear our crosses with profound hope in the new springtime and Christ's promise to the Church.

The Holy Hour continues on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel next to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Since the Holy Hour on April 6, Eckrich died. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Paul Chapel in Clear Lake.

Lori Winters contributed to this article

Lourdes Dinner Dance set for May 1

BY LISA EVERETT

SOUTH BEND — The Santa Maria Council of the Knights of Columbus in downtown South Bend will host its 45th Annual Lourdes Charity Dinner Dance on Saturday, May 1. The purpose of this annual event is to raise money to send an individual suffering from illness or injury on an all-expense paid pilgrimage to Lourdes, the world-renowned French shrine where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Bernadette over a century and a half ago. Ranging in age from small children to the elderly, these pilgrims have experienced not only the healing power of the Lourdes baths but also the spiritual fruits of this holy place, which attracts over five millions visitors annually.

Last year's beneficiary was Michael Dworecki, a special education teacher at Riley High School who has taught with the South Bend School Corporation for 35 years. Dworecki had wanted to go to Lourdes for some time, but when he was diagnosed with colon cancer, which had spread to his liver and lungs, he submitted an application to the Lourdes selection committee and was chosen to receive the council's sponsorship. So last October, Dworecki made the pilgrimage, accompanied

by his two adult daughters, Annie, a photo journalist, and Julie, an aerobics instructor, both of whom are experienced travelers.

After spending a few days in Paris taking in the sights, the trio journeyed to Lourdes, and Dworecki says that the healing he experienced while there was both spiritual and emotional, including a stronger sense of God's presence.

"A lot of people there had a lot of fervor, and just seeing the candlelight procession in the evenings was wonderful, as was going to the grotto itself," he said.

Dworecki has undergone chemotherapy since last June, and doctors say that the cancer in his lungs is gone and the cancer in his colon has all but disappeared, although he still has some spots on his liver.

His advice to those suffering from illness or injury who are considering making a pilgrimage to Lourdes? "Don't expect a cure, but go with the intention that your

pain will be lessened and that you will be able to cope with it better."

Dworecki will be sharing his story and a slide show of his pilgrimage at this year's dinner dance. The evening begins with a wine and cheese social and silent auction from 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by a dinner catered by

Fiddler's Hearth.

Afterwards there will be dancing to the music of Mike Vaszari and his band. The cost of the dinner dance is \$30 per person, \$60 per couple.

Reservations can be made by calling chairpersons John and Judy Lehner at (574) 234-4580 by April 26 and sending a check made out to

"Lourdes Charity Committee" to Brian Masterson at 2106 E. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend, IN 46617. Those who are not able to attend but who would like to make a donation to the Lourdes fund may also send checks payable to "Lourdes Charity Committee" to the above address.

"Don't expect a cure, but go with the intention that your pain will be lessened and that you will be able to cope with it better."

MICHAEL DWORECKI

It's onward to National Spelling Bee for Margaret Peterson

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

"You can win this, Margaret!" were the thoughts of Jonathan Isaac as Margaret Peterson spelled the word "cribbage" during the last minutes of the South Bend Tribune Regional Spelling Bee. Jonathan, a homeschool student who won last year's regional spelling bee, snapped several pictures of fellow homeschool student and St. Pius parishioner as she, the youngest regional winner, advanced to the National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C.

Ten-year-old Margaret began spelling words like cat, pat, and mat at the age of two. She and her sister Caroline participated in spelling competitions at a young age. "When I was in kindergarten and Caroline was in second grade, we competed in a library spelling bee. I was really excited about it and a couple of years later I participated in a local spelling bee," says Margaret.

To prepare for the upcoming National Spelling Bee, fourth-grader Margaret is studying suffixes, prefixes and combined word forms. Since first grade she has copied Greek and Latin root words and their derivatives onto note cards as part of her regular school work, and their definitions help her in spelling competitions.

Kate Peterson, Margaret's mother, notes studying root words came in handy during the regional spelling bee. "Even in the final round she knew the root for bird — 'ornithos.' The second place speller got the word 'ornithoscopy,' which means bird watching, and Margaret knew immediately that the girl had misspelled it because she knew the root for bird. Margaret had missed the word she was asked to spell before, so she knew she would have another chance to go for the championship."

In addition to her normal spelling word studies, Margaret found Internet spelling Web sites and the pamphlet and consolidated word lists that the National Spelling Bee recommends to be useful. Between the regional and national spelling bee she practices on average from a half hour to an hour daily.

At the beginning of the regional spelling bee, Margaret was apprehensive. "When I got to the microphone I was worried I would get a word I wouldn't know and miss the first one. I looked at Mommy for confidence and smiled when I knew a word."

As it was getting closer to the end of the competition she became a little more excited and less nervous. "I did have a goal to be in the top five. So when there were only five kids up there, I knew I had achieved my goal. Then I decided my goal was to be in the top two. When I was in the top two, I thought I want to win this thing!"

The most difficult words for Margaret were those she couldn't



PHOTOS BY JONATHAN ISAAC

Margaret Peterson, a homeschooled Catholic girl from St. Pius X Parish in Granger, won the South Bend Tribune Regional Spelling Bee and will move on to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., June 4-6.



Margaret Peterson is shown with the South Bend Tribune Regional Spelling Bee Award.

ner, and she could hardly eat any of it because she was nervous. My only advice to her was before you go up to spell each time, just say a little prayer that you will do your best and the Holy Spirit will be with you and you will be calm. Don't pray that you will win but just pray that you will be calm. And she said okay."

Her mother's counsel paid dividends when Margaret was asked to spell the words "monstrance"

and "plenary."

"When 'monstrance' and 'plenary' came up, I thought either she threw in some extra prayers or somebody up above heard her prayers. When she was asked to spell the word 'monstrance,' Waylon (Margaret's father) got tears in his eyes because he knew she knew that word," Kate remembers.

The word "plenary" was more challenging Margaret recalls. "I

didn't know whether to put two 'n's' or one so I asked for an alternate pronunciation and he said 'ple-nary' so I knew it was with one."

The competition process at the National Spelling Bee is very complex Kate explains, "At the National Spelling Bee there are about 250 kids who go, and they all take a written test. It is 50 words and they count 25 of them. You don't know which one counts and which one doesn't. For every one of the 25 words that they actually score, you get one point. And then they have two different rounds where they spell on stage, but in each of those rounds they only spell one word. So the written test is one day, and the next day she goes on the stage with her group of about 135 spellers."

She continues, "If Margaret spells her word right it is worth three points and she goes back in the afternoon and spells one word. If she spells that word right she gets another three points. There is a total possible of 31 points. They find out who the top scorers are and they only take 50 kids to the next level."

Margaret is excited about the challenge of the competition whether or not she advances to the finals. "I'm looking forward to the experience at the National Spelling Bee. It is a whole week there, and there is a lot of free time to see the city."

The National Spelling Bee will be held June 4-6 in Washington D.C.



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decipher because of their pronunciation. "I was unsure of what vowel to put in when the host said the word 'parapet.' I didn't know whether to put an i, e or a. So I asked for another pronunciation and he said 'par-a-pet' and I knew it was an e."

Kate recalls the day of the regional spelling bee (the competition took place that evening). "I made her favorite meal for din-

How are you being called?



THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Many years ago, the Sisters of Mercy used the question "Do you have a call waiting?" as a theme for a marketing campaign to recruit members for their religious congregation. I think it is a good title for this column during January when the Church in the United States celebrates vocation awareness.

The fact of the matter is that each of us has a "call waiting" that only we can answer. One of the major tasks of young adulthood is to discover God's call in our lives. It is not as easy as answering a phone call from God. (He doesn't use a cell phone). It takes hard work. We must make time for prayer, reflection and serious discernment.

In my campus and young adult ministry and also when I did vocation ministry for my community, the Sisters of the Holy Cross, I was often asked how a person discovers God's will and plan for his or her life.

First and foremost, it is important to

remember that God calls everyone. Each of us received the most important call of all when we were Baptized. In that primary sacrament of our faith, we became members of Christ's body, the Church. Every baptized person is called to help build the reign of God in this world. It is not just the role of religious brothers and sisters or those who are ordained. Through the Sacrament of Baptism we all share in the priesthood of Jesus Christ and are given the mission to reveal God's love to the whole world. Our challenge is to discern how God wants us to do this.

The majority of the Baptized live their Christian call as married people, but some are called by God to live the single, ordained or consecrated life as a religious brother, sister or priest. Most people discover their call by listening to the deepest desire of their hearts. Some have a strong feeling within that they are called to share life with one special person and to raise a family in the Sacrament of Marriage. Others have a passion to give their entire lives to the Lord through prayer, community and service to the people of God.

It is important to listen to the many ways God calls us. We do this by taking time for quiet, reflective prayer and by seriously considering what others say to us about our lives. One needs to take seriously questions or statements like, "Did you ever think of being a priest, a sister, a brother?" or "You would make a wonder-

ful mother or father." When I was in high school one of my teachers, a Sister of the Holy Cross, asked me what my plans were after graduation and said she thought I should consider religious life. At first it was a shock but then I began to seriously reflect upon that possibility, and here I am many years later.

Discernment of God's will is not easy because we are usually choosing between two or more good options. It would be much easier if one were good and the other bad. For instance, valuing marriage and loving children doesn't automatically eliminate the possibility of religious life or priesthood. The ministers of God's Church must be warm and loving as was Jesus.

A good way to start is, after praying about the pros and cons of each option, to listen to the way you are drawn. Tune in to what feels right and gives you a feeling of peace. I remember one of my professors, a wonderful priest I had in graduate school at Boston College. He taught that the deepest desire of our hearts is usually God's will for our lives.

Recently I watched a DVD about community life and the presenter said it another way. She said the key to discovering one's vocation in life is to discern which lifestyle would be the best for me to become happy, healthy and holy. To be happy really means having inner joy and loving my life (most of the time). A healthy life is one that enables me to use



YOUNG ADULT PERSPECTIVES

my gifts and grow into the person God wants me to be. A holy life is one that gives God central place in my life. I have a desire to grow in relationship with Him.

Let us pray that we will strive to be holy, happy and healthy witnesses of God's unquenchable love as we renew or strive to discover God's particular call for our lives.

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

Toss or save? A Catholic take on spring cleaning

Whether spring cleaners decide to toss it or save it may be determined by whether they tune into "American Pickers" or "Hoarders," two reality TV shows that issue opposite edicts on excess accumulation.

I started with the History Channel's "American Pickers," a likable Iowan duo who cruise backroads in search of antiques buried in barns and basements. "What most people see as junk," the host explains, "we see as dollar signs."

When he scored a dusty old bike for \$1,000, he squealed, "My pickin' prayers have been answered."

I got sucked right in. When the pickers discovered a Remington typewriter, I blurted out, "I'd like one of those!" It's

not as if I'm nostalgic; I've never used one. And what would I do with it? Set it beside my laptop? Display it in a turn-back-the-clock, just-for-show office?

Soon after I flipped to A&E's "Hoarders," which films packrats whose lives and piles of stuff are on the brink of collapse. There's Shirley the cat collector who protests to the police, and Patty and Bill, who lost their kids to their unmanageable mess.

That sent me straight to my closet, armed with a 39-gallon garbage bag.

I knew it was time.

I removed my jewelry, pulled up my hair, and turned to the "What Women Want" soundtrack. It began with a trumpet blast and Sammy Davis Jr.'s warning, "When an irresistible force such as you meets an old immovable

object like me you can bet just as sure as you live somethin's gotta give."

In my case many things gave: pleather belts, corduroy blazers, tweed skirts. Horizontal stripes, diagonal stripes and vertical stripes. Tops that were juvenile and tops that were matronly. Pants that were too small and pants that were too big.

I was tickled by the empty hangers and sense of order that emerged.

That's not to say I didn't save a few sentimental items. The letter jacket I'll never again wear in public. The black shirt I wore the day I got engaged. And the sparkly silver sweater I planned to wear the day I got engaged.

I like to make a distinction that I hope is a fair one: I'm not a hoarder, but I am a documenter.

So I do save the kind of stuff that tends to collect dust beneath staircases. Movie ticket stubs. Birthday cards. Name badges from conferences and conventions. The kind of stuff that could go in a scrapbook — if I decided to take up scrapbooking one day.

I figure the Holy Father would understand. When he moved into the papal apartment, his collection of 20,000 books followed him. "For me it's like being surrounded by friends, now that there are books on the shelf," he said.

Toss or save?

It's a crossroads many of us stand at this spring as we prepare the house and soul for warmer weather and lighter accouterments.

To toss, in many ways, is to be relieved, to feel light and unfettered. But to save can mean being grounded, glued to tokens of a rich, well-lived life.

The Easter miracle illustrates



TWENTY SOMETHING BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

both.

We are freed from the earthly shackles of sin, just as Jesus was unbound by the tomb. Yet we are fastened to that moment, so deeply rooted that we pick and press all the flowers that have blossomed from those seeds.

In Easter we celebrate history and novelty, responsibility and possibility.

Our closets may be full, but so are our hearts.

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



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Bishop Rhoades speaks of priesthood, vocations at Chrism Mass

The following is Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' homily concerning the priesthood and vocations from the Chrism Masses in South Bend on March 29 and in Fort Wayne on March 30:

What a joy and blessing it is for me to celebrate this first Chrism Mass as your bishop, to experience the wonderful communion of my brothers in the same priesthood and ministry of Christ, and also to gather with so many of the deacons, religious and lay faithful of our diocese here present in prayerful support of our priests who at this Mass renew their commitment to priestly service.

We are truly blessed by the presence of our beloved Bishop Emeritus who is concelebrating this Chrism Mass. Thank you so much, Bishop D'Arcy, for your presence and for your continuing devoted ministry here in our diocese. (In South Bend: I wish also to thank Father David Tyson, the provincial superior of the Holy Cross Fathers, and all the Holy Cross Fathers and Holy Cross Brothers, and all the religious sisters here present).

Last week, during a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, I addressed our priests on the mystery of the Holy Eucharist in the life and ministry of priests. And now our concelebration at this Chrism Mass is a beautiful manifestation of our fraternal unity and deep communion as priests of Jesus Christ as we celebrate together the Eucharistic sacrifice.

Pope Benedict proclaimed this Year for Priests in order "to deepen the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for the sake of a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world." It has been a year of grace for us priests, thanks especially to the amazing support and prayers of so many of you, deacons, religious and lay faithful. I think this Year for Priests is a wonderful time also to focus on the promotion of the discernment of priestly vocations. That is what I wish to preach about in this homily this evening.

As many of you know, one of my highest priorities as your new bishop is promoting priestly vocations. This should in no way be perceived as a neglect of the great need for an increase of vocations to the consecrated life, which is also a high priority and very close to my heart. Nor should it be perceived as a lack of attention to the great dignity and beauty of the vocation of marriage, the promotion of which is also one of my highest priorities.

But the Chrism Mass is particularly focused on the gift of the ministerial priesthood, and thus I am focusing this evening on the priestly vocation. I am convinced in the bottom of my heart that God is calling many young men throughout our diocese to the ministerial priesthood, to become



PROVIDED BY JOE ROMIE

At the Mass of Chrism at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades leads the priests in renewing their priestly promises. He asked priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and lay faithful to have a renewed appreciation for the priesthood as a gift to the Church, which needs to be safeguarded and loved. "This is necessary if we hope to have an increase in priestly vocations," Bishop Rhoades said in his homily.

living icons of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, the Head and Shepherd of the Church.

I am very grateful for the presence here at this Chrism Mass of our seminarians. I want them to know that we support them, that we pray for them, and that we are proud of them. We thank them for answering the call of the Lord.

Without priests, the Church would not be able to fulfill her mission. Without priests, there would be no Eucharist, since by the will of Christ the Eucharistic mystery cannot be celebrated in any community except by an ordained priest. In this Year for Priests, it is particularly important for us to think about this and to consider that the promotion of priestly vocations is a duty of us all. For example, parents have a very special responsibility in this regard, especially by inculcating in the home an awareness of piety and prayer and of love for the Church and the priesthood.

Priests themselves have an essential role in promoting vocations. I ask our priests this evening as they renew their priestly promises also to consider their responsibility in this regard. In fact, the priest's faithful living of his priestly promises is a powerful means to promoting the priestly vocations.

I say to all the priests present here this evening: it is our very life, our unconditional dedication to God's flock, our witness of loving service to the Lord and to His Church ... our fraternal unity and zeal for the evangelization of the world: These are the first and most convincing factors in the growth of vocations. I know from my experience as a seminary rec-

tor that this is true. And statistics time and time again show that it's the example of good and holy priests which influenced young men to pursue a priestly vocation.

The theme for this year's World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which will be celebrated on April 25, Good Shepherd Sunday, is "Witness Awakens Vocations." This is a very appropriate theme for this Year for Priests. The personal and communal witness of our priests, of those who have already answered the Lord's call to the priesthood, can awaken in others a desire to respond generously to God's call. In his message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Benedict writes about three aspects of the life of a priest which are essential for an effective priestly witness.

First is friendship with Christ. The Holy Father says that "prayer is the first form of witness which awakens vocations." This is something that needs continual renewal in our lives, which are often filled with so many busy activities. Above all, priests need to be "men of God," to belong to Him, to make space in their lives to hear His Word ever anew and to abide in His love. Friendship with Christ is fundamental to priestly life and ministry. It is truly a form of witness which awakens vocations.

The second aspect of the priestly life which the Holy Father highlights is "the complete gift of oneself to God." Pope Benedict says that "the story of every vocation is almost always intertwined with the testimony of a priest who joyfully lives the gift of himself to his brothers and sis-

ters for the sake of the Kingdom of God."

My favorite image of priestly life and ministry is that of Jesus washing the feet of the Apostles at the Last Supper. We are reminded of this amazing scene on Holy Thursday at the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Jesus "rises from the table, lays aside his garments, takes a towel, girds himself with it and stoops to wash the feet of the Apostles." This action "expresses the sense of service and gift manifested in Jesus' entire existence, in obedience to the will of the Father."

It is the priest's giving of himself completely to God, and to those whom the Lord entrusts to him in his pastoral ministry, which can and does inspire young men to consider that God might be calling them to this way of life.

The third aspect of the priestly life which the Holy Father highlights is "a life of communion." The priest is to be "a man of communion." This means being "open to all, capable of gathering into one the pilgrim flock which the goodness of the Lord has entrusted to him."

In a talk to a group of priests in Italy, Pope Benedict said that "if young people see priests who appear distant and sad, they will hardly feel encouraged to follow their example. They will remain hesitant if they are led to think that this is the life of a priest. Instead, they need to see the example of a communion of life which can reveal to them the beauty of being a priest. Only then will a young man say, 'Yes, this could be my future; I can live like this.'"

In a few minutes, our priests will renew their priestly promises. As we do so, I invite our priests to be mindful that our faithful living of these promises, our witness of prayer, self-giving love and service, and joyful communion of life indeed awakens vocations. We are reflecting a lot this year on the holy Cure of Ars, St. John Vianney. How did he teach his parishioners? Primarily by the witness of his life! We can only imagine the number of priestly vocations he inspired by his example!

All of us, priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and lay faithful need to have a renewed appreciation for the priesthood as a gift to the Church which needs to be safeguarded and loved. This is necessary if we hope to have an increase in priestly vocations.

In the synagogue at Nazareth, our Lord proclaimed that the Spirit of the Lord was upon Him, anointed Him, and sent Him forth to announce the Gospel. My brother priests, when we were ordained, the Spirit of the Lord came upon us, anointed us, consecrated us, and sent us forth to announce the Gospel, to sanctify through the sacraments, and to shepherd God's people in love. My brothers and sisters, fellow disciples of the Lord Jesus, the Spirit of the Lord is upon all of you, upon the entire people of God, through our Baptism and Confirmation, calling all of us to the work of the new evangelization, and calling all of us to holiness. My brothers and sisters in consecrated life, the Spirit of the Lord is upon you who have made vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Your many charisms have been bestowed on you by the Holy Spirit. Your consecrated life is a beautiful gift to the Church, an example for all of us, priests and laity, of greater fidelity to the Gospel.

In this Year for Priests, on behalf of all the people of our diocese, I wish to thank our priests for their devoted ministry, for their pastoral charity, and for their untiring service of God's people throughout our diocese.

Let us together lift up the vocation to the priesthood here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Please join me in the pressing pastoral task of the new evangelization which requires more priests, new evangelizers, who with the cooperation of our deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and lay faithful, will help to invigorate the Church and extend Christ's kingdom. The Spirit of the Lord is upon us. Let us open our hearts to His grace. And may the Blessed Virgin Mary, with her example and intercession, watch over us and the growth of priestly holiness and priestly vocations in the Church.

Most Reverend
Kevin C. Rhoades

Franciscan Apostolate settles in for service

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The Franciscan Brothers Minor are settling in nicely in a Fort Wayne neighborhood that once supported St. Andrew's Parish, before its closing in June of 2003. The group of eight men, led by Franciscan Father David Engo, now resides in the old rectory of St. Andrew Parish — now known as Our Lady of Angels Friary — and intends to renovate the church building, currently in disrepair, for future chapel services, public Mass and meetings.

The Franciscan community was newly founded in November of 2009 in Mount Carmel, Pa., by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, then bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg, where they served the community in several areas. Because the community has promised to remain under Bishop Rhoades' guidance and care, it followed him to Fort Wayne in late March.

Of the community Bishop Rhoades says, "I was happy to approve the request of Father David Engo to begin a religious community, called the Franciscan Brothers Minor, under my auspices. I believe that the Franciscan way of life is a great gift to the Church and a witness to all of us of the following of Christ and the living of His Gospel. I pray that the brothers' life of prayer and mission of evangelization will bear much good fruit in our diocese."



PHOTOS BY KAY COZAD

Franciscan Father Dave Engo, right, supervises two postulants who are clearing ground for a garden near their new friary.

Father Dave says after narrowing down several locations in Fort Wayne, he received a call from Bishop Rhoades announcing that the site of St. Andrew Parish would be their new home. "The transition has been great," says Father Dave, adding that the people of the area have welcomed the group with open arms.

A New York native, Father Dave joined the Franciscan Brothers at age 19, after having

what he considers a "reversion of faith," and was ordained in 1997. After several years of ministry to the youth and elderly of his area, he says, "I had a deep desire to live a good life according to the original rule of St. Francis." Following his proposal to Bishop Rhoades, he was given full permission to establish the now flourishing community.

The eight men who form the community are postulants in their

first year of discerning the Franciscan life. They each follow the rules of prayer, penitence, poverty and service. "We live the principles of St. Francis and apply it to present day," says Father Dave.

As postulants the traditional coarse brown wool tunic is worn throughout the year. The Franciscan Brothers generally walk barefoot, unless their work demands sandals or boots.

The second year the men enter the novitiate when they prepare to profess their vows. During this year they wear a hooded woolen

habit with an unknotted cord, symbolizing the cross and their bond to Christ. It is here that they are given new religious names. Following profession of temporary vows and three years of study and prayer, the brothers will profess final vows and become professed friars.

The austere life style chosen by these men consists of hand-crafted tables and benches constructed by one of the postulants who used donated unfinished wood and food donated by the community. The rooms of the friary are sparsely decorated with only crucifixes, pictures of the Blessed Mother and statues of saints. "We live a life of penance for sins and conversion of souls," Father Dave says.

Because the members of the apostolate do not work traditional jobs or fund raise, they earn no money as they serve the community. They rely, says Father Dave, on God's Providence and the generosity of the community. It is not unusual for a neighbor to appear at the friary door with three dozen eggs for the brothers. Father Dave says they trust that God will provide and any food donations that are in excess of their weekly needs goes to the hungry of the community.

"We are a witness of the life of poverty and show the poor they can trust in God," says Father Dave.

The brothers, who range in age from 19 to 40-ish, all have a role to play in the community. Father Dave considers himself the guardian, general minister and servant, equal to the brothers when he is not celebrating the sacraments. Brother Gregory,



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Franciscan Father Dave Engo accepts three dozen eggas as a food donation from a friendly neighbor.

"He leads, I follow" ~ Venerable Mother Maria Theresia



Franciscan Father Dave Engo stands near a Mary Grotto outside the Franciscan apostolate's new friary at the former St. Andrew Parish rectory.

who holds a degree in philosophy and politics is the porter who answers the door. Brother Michael has a gift with the elderly and the disabled and he along with Brian, Father Dave's blood brother, who holds a philosophy degree, are sacristans. Brother Ryan holds a degree in English and is the community's cook. Brother Eric, former punk rocker and convert to the faith is the tailor who sews the woolen tunics. Brother Anthony has vocational school skills and is the maintenance man for the community. Brother Daniel is a gardener and guitarist and Brian Patrick, the newest postulant, has a degree in social work and is acclimating to the community.

Amidst the spartan life, the driving force for these men is prayer. "This is a life of prayer," says Father Dave, adding, "Our first priority is our prayer life." The strict adherence to prayer is based on the life of St. Francis and includes praying the Divine Office seven times each day, two daily Eucharistic Holy Hours and communal rosary after night prayers. Prayer, he says, is where the Franciscan Brothers ministry begins.

But that's not all that fills the brothers' day. There is time for communal meals with Gospel and meditation readings, conversation and recreation and of course, music. The brothers' backyard football games have already drawn youth in the neighborhood to this unique evangelical group. "We want to bring

back the Catholic identity to the neighborhood," says Father Dave.

As they become familiar with the area the brothers are mapping out their ministry plans. Bible study at the St. Andrew Center, a two-year rehabilitation program for men, door-to-door evangelization, parish missions, Confirmation and youth retreats. The brothers are open to any request for service in the area and Father Dave offers his assistance to any parish in need of a Mass celebration or help with confessions.

"This community is a fraternity of brothers living together in brotherhood, serving each other with great humility, according to the Spirit," explains Father Dave. The community is open to new members and vocations visits are mounting by word of mouth.

Of the Fort Wayne area Father Dave confirms, "It is open and wonderful. We have welcoming neighbors. We walk everywhere, so we can witness to people you normally pass by (in cars)."

The community is called the Franciscan Brothers Minor to depict their lesser stature, says Father Dave. "We do humble work. We don't run hospitals, parishes, soup kitchens — but we serve at these places. It's healing with people one-on-one — we are the servant of servants."

For more information on the Franciscan Brothers Minor visit www.franciscanbrothersminor.com

Bishop-emeritus looks back, reflects on 'retirement'

BY BISHOP-EMERITUS
JOHN M. D'ARCY

Tim Johnson, our editor, kindly asked if I would share a few words in order to observe May 1, 25 years to the day of my installation as the eighth bishop of this diocese.

My thoughts are of thanksgiving to God for the gift of presiding over this beloved See for a quarter of a century.

Everything that has been accomplished is the fruit of the grace, won for us at great cost by Christ Our Savior.

I give thanks to all those with whom it was my privilege to serve. Demanding years, surely, involving serious decisions. Decisions not always understood, but guided by the Holy Spirit. Overall, my reflections are ones of joy and gratitude. What a joy and privilege to have served as pastor of this historic See.

People ask, "How are you doing?" I always say I am "adjusting," and that is true. During Lent, I gave several parish missions and heard many confessions. In a few weeks I will preach a retreat to the bishops of Michigan and Ohio. I will give a retreat for sisters in June and two retreats are set for priests in the months ahead.

So it is somewhat like the life I had as an auxiliary bishop with emphasis on things at the heart of



the priestly vocation: Hearing Confessions, preaching, retreats and Days of Prayer, and taking part in parish missions. A busy life, and very beautiful, and close to the reasons we became priests. Spiritual formation: The area in which I was trained. So, still busy but a less frenzied pace and a chance to walk more than in the past.

Do you miss it?

This is another question that comes. Of course, I miss it. Does a man miss his wife when she is no longer with him? The ancient idea of a bishop is that he is married to his diocese. You carry it in your heart for all these years, sharing the ministry with the priests, consulting parish laity and religious. You are giving up a relationship which is a service of love. But the love continues and you serve the Church and the diocese by prayer, and the ministry of preaching and teaching, and the sacramental ministry of giving Confirmation and celebrating the Eucharist. (I have 19 Confirmations this spring.) I

feel this new life growing. I can attend to my number one goal after retirement: More prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and good spiritual reading. All of which helps one's homilies and helps one also in the confessional. The more attuned any priest or bishop is to Christ in prayer and reading, the more effective he will be.

Other goals

I have made a little progress on the computer. The effort to learn Spanish is not fully launched, but plans are being made.

I am very encouraged, as we all are, by our hard working, very able, and pastorally devoted Bishop Rhoades, who is surely giving his whole heart and soul to this diocese.

Now, wouldn't you be disappointed if I did not speak of a certain baseball team. Alas, it seems like it will be the "summer of our discontent" for the Red Sox. So far they have not contacted me to pitch batting practice. I am ready if they call.

I remember May 1, 25 years ago with joy and gratitude. My dear mother was present with my three sisters and their families. I give thanks to God for His grace, which helped us face the decisions and challenges that awaited. I pray for you all every day and extend to you my gratitude and love.

Sr. Kathy Haas, PHJC
khaas@poorhandmaids.org
www.poorhandmaids.org

Bro. Bob Overland, FS
boverland@poorhandmaids.org
www.fiatspiritus.org

Gayle Fiwek
gfiwek@poorhandmaids.org
www.poorhandmaids.org/associate

COONAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that the brothers were blessed to have good priests at the parish as well. "Our parents had the priests to dinner," says Tink. "They were happy and seemed fulfilled. ... I saw joyful priests serve with their own unique gifts."

Following graduation from high school Matt began his college career at Indiana University-Purdue University (IPFW) culminating in a bachelor's degree in marketing in 2003. He continued to volunteer as an adult youth leader in his parish's active youth ministry even though he had no discernment for the priesthood.

"I knew I wanted to serve the Church. But I thought it would be in youth ministry and that I would be married. I didn't consider the priesthood," says Matt.

Following graduation from college, while he worked in sales at a printing company, Matt finally heard the call.

During a youth retreat he became cognizant of the role of the priest in the success of the youth retreat. "I saw the importance of the role of the priest in preaching, catechizing and administering the sacraments," he says, adding that he was in awe of the role. And though he confesses that he didn't spend much time prior to this in prayer for his vocation, during the Easter season that year, he "realized the priesthood was a real option."

"On Holy Thursday, I knew it! It just clicked — game over!" Matt says of his calling.

The calling was so clear and



KAY COZAD

Matthew Coonan, left, poses with brother, Tink, at their childhood home.

certain Matt quit his job, began the interviewing process of entering the seminary and worked for a year at Our Lady of Good Hope establishing a youth group there.

Tink recalls the time his faith formation began in earnest.

"I started taking my faith seriously in eighth grade," he says. Attending retreats, joining friends in the faith community and receiving the sacrament of Confirmation with his brother Matt as sponsor were powerful events for him.

"I had a strong community of peers to pray and grow in faith with. That was extremely important," he says. Tink attended University of Dayton for two years following his graduation from Bishop Dwenger, where he also was involved in several peer ministry venues. The opportunity to be more involved in leadership roles where he "brought peers

to the faith," led him to discernment and prayer for his vocation.

"I was unsettled in my major of computer engineering. I devoted all my free time to the ministry. Computers didn't fit," Tink says. But prayer and quiet discernment gave Tink the grace to be open to God's will for him. So at 20 years of age, the young man met with the diocesan vocations director.

And as Divine Providence would have it both brothers were accepted to enter the seminary in 2005.

For Tink being in the seminary is "awesome." It is a time, he says, of being away with Jesus before being sent out. Matt agrees saying it is a "time of immense growth spiritually, intellectually and relationally, especially with the Lord." He speaks of the fraternity at the seminary and the "amazing quality of men" there as well as the support they both have been given in

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP-EMERITUS JOHN M. D'ARCY

Concerning the Coonan brothers to be ordained to the diaconate this week

It is a joy and privilege to ordain Matt and Terry (Tink) Coonan to the diaconate. It can be said that their vocation was nourished and stirred up under God's grace in the family and in the parish, with help also from Bishop Dwenger High School.

Their grandparents, so well known in the Fort Wayne area, Dolly and Terry (the coach), prayed that a son from their large family might become a priest. God answered in His own time and in his own way. Two grandsons ordained deacons on the same day. Their own blessed home under Terri and Terry was a place of faith.

One also must ponder the influence of St. Vincent's Parish. Three devoted priests and one devoted youth leader. I refer to Fathers John Kuzmich, Mark Gurtner and Joseph Gaughan. Their effectiveness with young people and the joy in which they have live out their priestly vocation has been instrumental in bringing the Coonans and others to the seminary. Currently, five of our seminarians are from St. Vincent's.

The leadership of many in the youth program at St. Vincent's was also of great influence. I think especially of Cindy Black, currently director of our diocesan Office of Youth Ministry. The emphasis placed by her on a full and cohesive youth ministry with a strong priestly presence and emphasis on prayer and catechesis has been fruitful.

I think also of Bishop Dwenger High School and its strong department of catechesis.

God always wishes and seeks our collaboration in the great works of faith and the Church depends on families and parishes for the great work of fostering vocations to the priesthood. In the ordination of these two brothers, there is an example for families and parishes.

their acceptance of their vocation call.

Both brothers have studied and will earn degrees in philosophy and theology in the six year seminary program. They each are finishing their fifth year. Tink was able to transfer credits from University of Dayton and feels it was important that he not have to start over with his studies. Currently each has opportunities to serve in parishes, schools, prisons and hospitals in the Ohio area.

And as the brothers grow stronger in prayer, formation and service, they also find time to recreate with their fellow seminarians, enjoying activities they love — playing basketball, cards, football and attending movies. Tink continues to play his guitar, while Matt uses his culinary talents and even roasts his own coffee.

When asked for a response to an inquiry on vocations, Tink says, "Talk to a priest about it. He's

someone they can trust."

Matt adds, "I would put prayer first. And don't be afraid to talk to seminarians about it."

As for their shared ordination to the diaconate this month and subsequent ordination into the priesthood in 2011, they say it is a humbling experience and being brothers makes the ordination more exciting. But they both stress that a call to a vocation is a uniquely individual experience. As they credit their family faith life and service experience, Catholic education, parish involvement and good priestly role models, they also know that God calls each individual to share his or her own unique gifts and talents in extraordinary ways.

The two seminarian brothers will be ordained into the diaconate by Bishop John M. D'Arcy in St. Turibius Chapel at Pontifical College Josephinum on Sunday, April 25.

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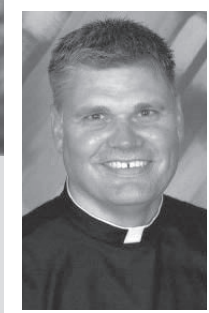
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Congratulations to Fort Wayne's own Deacon Vince Wirtner, III, C.P.P.S., of St. Joseph Parish. Vince is a Missionary of the Precious Blood who will be ordained June 12, 2010.

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Professor John Cavadini thanks Bishop D'Arcy for his service

The following talk was delivered by Professor John Cavadini on Jan. 3 at a Mass that honored Bishop John M. D'Arcy for his nearly 25 years as bishop at the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Dear Bishop D'Arcy,

I write this letter as a letter of thanks and gratitude formally on behalf of the parishioners of St. Matthew Cathedral Parish but also, I am sure, representing the Catholic faithful in our diocese.

They say, and it is true, that the office of bishop is a teaching office, and that the bishop is by charism of the office, a teacher. As anyone knows, a mark of the greatness of a teacher is the success he has had in teaching, and the more difficult the subject, the more it requires conversion of heart in order to learn, the greater the success of the one who has imparted truth under these circumstances.

I, for one, before I came to this diocese 20 years ago, did not know that the Boston Red Sox were the greatest and most beloved baseball team in North America. I had all these years thought it was the Yankees. How is that for the depths of unconverted ignorance? Luckily I was able to read Bishop D'Arcy's column in *Today's Catholic* for the last 20 years and now, if I'm not yet fully converted — for that is reserved for the last judgment — I can now at least bear hearing the Red Sox mentioned, and at least I know, intellectually speaking, the truth about the relative innate excellence about baseball teams.

It's funny, though — I actually now do really care about how the Red Sox are doing, because I know you care. Though I have no natural love for the Red Sox, I have actually learned to love them and to hope they win because I know that you love them and hope they win. So I now have a "supernatural" love for the Red Sox, that is, one infused from outside of me by a higher power and one that I am not capable of attaining to on my own powers.

But it is actually true — and I bet I speak for everyone here — that I now find myself keeping track of whether the Red Sox are winning or not because I have learned to see them through your eyes, and through your hopes and love, and now, for the life of me, I absolutely cannot hope that they would ever lose, despite my natural propensities as a Connecticut Yankee.

Isn't it interesting how we can learn to love something when we see that thing through the eyes of someone we admire and love. That is the power of the true teacher, the one who is not the "hireling" who cares only about his wages or his image or his career, but who is "the good shepherd," the one who teaches in love, by love and at the service of love. And so he is able to teach the one thing that is all but impos-



PROVIDED BY NANCY CAVADINI

Bishop John M. D'Arcy is shown with Professor John Cavadini at a presentation of the certificate that announced the Notre Dame Department of Theology chair was named a Knight of St. Gregory. Bishop D'Arcy celebrates his 25th anniversary of installation as bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on May 1.

sible to teach, because it requires conversion, and that is love itself.

So I ask myself, "What have you learned, John?" Besides the Red Sox, what have you learned to love better than you had before? (And remember, I think I am speaking not only on my own behalf, but for the "many" of the Gospel.) I have to answer, the Church. They say, and again truly, that the bishop is "married" to the Church, and how could he not be, since his office comes directly from Christ, the Bridegroom, the Spouse of his Beloved, the Church, and that is why the office of bishop is an "officium amoris," an office of Love.

But if the bishop is married to the Church, it is not to an abstract idea, a concept suitable for the extended pontifications of theologians with too much time on their hands, but to the local Church, not the prestigious Church of the imagination, but the Church here in good old South Bend, the Church of 10,000 Confirmations and Confirmation homilies, not to mention pictures afterwards; the Church of that silent, somewhat dreary and often dark highway 30 from South Bend to Fort Wayne, unfortunately with a speed limit; the Church where funds must be raised and where the living presence of the Holy Spirit does not mean that He obviates by direct inspiration of knowledge the job of providing for good education in schools and in parish catechetical programs, or where His promptings to the priestly life can be expected to bear fruit without

hear about it in his preaching? And didn't we read about these things, not just in the abstract, but because Bishop D'Arcy was involved, directly, in all of them?

How many thousands of us, literally thousands of us, have pictures of Bishop D'Arcy and one or other of our kids after Confirmation? How many of us have met him at those soup kitchens he mentions in the column, at the parish dedications, at the consultations he set up for various important decisions, at the press conferences, at the continuing education events?

Bishop, you led us through all of these events, some joyful, some sad, and some just boring and routine. You led us through a period of serious scandal in the Church. We could have turned away. But we saw more, because we saw the Church through your eyes and your actions, we saw the Church through your love, we strained to see farther into the mystery of the Church, into the Church as a mystery, born of the total self-gift of Christ on the Cross, and so, parish councils and all, the object of his foolish love — but the foolishness of God is wiser than men. Through your loving and faithful witness, we looked farther and saw more, because it was not just the abstract idea of the Church that was the beneficiary of your loving attention, it was us, the real Church of flesh and blood, of saint and sinner, of speeding tickets accepted and sometimes forgiven, of "joy and hope," and of bitterness and even worse, boredom.

We learned to see farther into this mystery of the Church because we were the beneficiaries of your love for us, the members of Christ's Body, in all the moments of our lives, and so you gave us the greatest gift — you gave us ourselves, as loved, to ourselves, and we became aware,

more deeply, of the mystery of our own lives as members of Christ's Body.

You made us feel that Christ really did die, in love and out of love, for us, here in South Bend, on the banks of the St. Joseph River, far from Washington, Rome and Fenway Park. It is an amazing thing to feel loved and cherished, as anyone who is married can tell you. You can learn a lot that way. For one thing, one can learn to love back, one can learn to love, without contempt or self-righteousness, all the members of suffering and troubled humanity in this fallen, but still beautiful, world of ours — including even the Yankees, as your column has itself sometimes conceded, as part, of course, of the *Officium Amoris* extended even to enemies (or at least opponents). We can agree with St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, just read, that we have indeed "heard of the stewardship of God's grace," in and through your ministry.

For these great gifts of loving and of teaching through loving, freely given and extended without reserve, we say, Thank you, and, we love you too.

With love and gratitude, on behalf of the lay faithful of the diocese,

John C. Cavadini

Professor John Cavadini is chairman of the University of Notre Dame Theology Department and director of the university's Institute for Church Life. Cavadini has been appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to the the International Theological Commission. He is also a Knight of St. Gregory.



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Walk with Us

From law to theology to a late vocation

BY BROTHER ROBERT SYLVESTER, CSC

NOTRE DAME — For the majority of my adult life I was an attorney in Washington, D.C. As a lawyer I had three incarnations: a counsel on foreign policy in the U.S. Congress, a lawyer in a mid-sized private firm and a solo practitioner representing the poor, including abused and neglected children, in family, health and personal matters. I spent most of my professional life in the latter area.

Like most lawyers I had good work — work serving others. The problems people presented were interesting and posed engaging intellectual challenges. I had the privilege, as lawyers do, of being invited into the private lives of other people. I was reasonably well rewarded for my work. Having come from poverty and public housing, my work allowed me to live in a comfortable home in an affluent area. I had no significant debt, good friends and

colleagues. I enjoyed professional success and favorable notoriety with a profile in the *New York Times*, positive stories of my work in local newspapers and books, and television appearances. However after 20-plus years, I left this work and comfort to study theology at the University of Notre Dame. Why?

The answer is simple: The problems I saw in my practice, among my neighbors and colleagues, in the professions and the culture at-large were fundamentally spiritual. I was particularly taken by this: The affluent and prosperous were often unhappy and their lives showed it in a multitude of aberrant behaviors. When not chained to work or indulged in self-distracting activities, they looked for meaning and purpose and suffered its absence.

It was hard to deny the cause of the discontent: Our culture had separated itself from faith, pushed God to the periphery, but a quaint superstition. As a Christian and a Catholic I felt



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BROTHER ROBERT SYLVESTER, CSC

Brother Robert Sylvester with the Scottish Highlands in the background.

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obliged to try to do something about this — so goodbye law, hello theology.

Puzzled by this phenomenon, my theological studies focused on the separation of faith from culture in contemporary secular society and the problems this separation imposes on highly-educated Catholics and others, including those in the professions.

My studies made clear that we had become ensnared by secular culture. We were captured by the external, neglected our interior life and ignored our emotional well being. We were fearful and self-absorbed. We sought to control all outcomes, and eliminate all risk inherent in life. We were foolishly self-reliant. In a service economy, we failed to experience the joy of servanthood. We were unable to locate the Divine much less place God at the center of our life.

Unexpectedly in the course of my studies, I began to be asked if I had thought of becoming a priest. The repeated inquiry made me think. It became clear that I was being called to offer my skills and experience to God in religious life, and I entered my training in my late 50s.

I am often asked why I am not a priest. I always take that as a compliment and my response is

always the same: Some are called to be sacramental ministers and others are called to a ministry of social transformation working on problems in the world, where those who hunger and thirst reside.

As Providence would have it, I am presently working on a problem not adequately addressed.

I am the director of the Initiative on Spirituality in the Professions at the Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame. This is a new and innovative ministry that grew out of my transition from law to theology. In it we offer spiritual care presence to the Washington legal community. One can envision this as a chaplaincy to lawyers. It is an ecumenical ministry designed to offer spiritual companionship and direction, education and palliative care, aid to managers of legal enterprises and access to the local religious and pastoral counseling community for those who seek it.

In beginning a new ministry, I am much like a missionary in a new land. My work is part care, part education and part evangelization. Like the Christ and the disciples, I am building anew, while benefiting from those who have come before me. Your prayers and support are welcome.

Brother Robert Sylvester made his first vows as a Brother of Holy Cross, Midwest Province, of the Congregation of Holy Cross, on Aug. 4, 2007. Brother Robert lives in Columba Hall, the residence for Holy Cross Brothers on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. He is the director of the Initiative on Spirituality in the Professions at the Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame.

A choice for love

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — Sister of the Holy Cross Sharlet Ann Wagner never dreamed what would happen if she said yes to God's call to religious life. She compares her life to the words of a song by popular country-western singer Garth Brooks called "The Dance." Brooks sings, "I'm glad I didn't know the way it all would go. Our lives are better left to chance. I could have missed the pain, but I'd have had to miss the dance."

Sister Sharlet says, "I'm sure Garth Brooks wasn't thinking about a bunch of nuns when he wrote that song, but when I first heard it, it spoke strongly to me of religious life and my life in Holy Cross. While I wouldn't agree with the singer that our lives are the product of chance, I resonate with the sentiment of "The Dance."

This dance of her religious life has consisted of both difficult and beautiful, joyous times but she says, "I would not trade the 'dance' that religious life is for me in order to avoid the difficulties."

She finds it difficult to adequately put into words why she became a sister. It was a persistent attraction that began in her

junior year at the University of Texas in Austin. She was a journalism major. Her life plan was to become a successful journalist and then settle down and raise a family. But her growing attraction to religious life threw her neat, thought-out plan into confusion. God had another idea.

She had never mentioned this before so she worried how her family and friends would react. Would they think she had lost her mind? Despite these fears, she says, "There was a pulling inside of me that I can only vaguely express." She points out that one cannot put that feeling into words because the answer "has to come from the heart, and not from the head. ..." For Sister Sharlet, becoming a sister was "a choice for love."

After doing some "secret" research about religious communities, she finally got up enough nerve to talk to a Holy Cross sister who worked at the Catholic Center on campus. She only wanted her to answer one question, "How do I know that God is calling me to religious life?" The sister didn't give her a list of criteria as she had expected.

"Her answer surprised me," says Sister Sharlet, "She talked and listened, and finally said, 'Sometimes you can't know something is right for you until



Sister Sharlet gives her input at a congregation meeting.

PHOTOS BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

you have tried it. You just have to go ahead and do it."

She decided that evening that she wanted to do it. She chose the "dance" of religious life. This choice opened to her a variety of experiences she could never have imagined. Her college plans to have a successful career in journalism gave way to caring for crack and AIDS babies in inner-city Chicago, teaching high school English in Utah and working in a rural health clinic in Uganda, East Africa.

Following her return to the United States from Uganda, she began discerning the next steps in her life of ministry. As she reflected on her ministry experiences, she felt a pull towards justice issues and had a desire to address some that she had witnessed. Thus, her congregation gave her permission to study law. Three years later she graduated from law school and began a project providing legal services to immigrants imprisoned by the U.S. Immigration and



Sister Sharlet consults with one of her clients concerning her immigration status.

Naturalization Service. As a sister, she hopes to bring "a sense of compassion and love" to those to whom she offers legal services.

Sister Sharlet practiced immigration law in Los Angeles, Calif. and Salt Lake City, Utah for several years. Last summer, she was elected to the leadership team of her congregation where she chooses love and uses the gifts God has given her as she continues the dance.

To learn more about Sister Sharlet Ann Wagner go to www.cscsisters.org/vocation/sister/Pages/dance.aspx

CALLED TO SERVE



Fathers Fernando Jimenez and Jacob Runyon prostrate themselves in the sanctuary of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on their ordination day, October 31, 2009

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are the proof,
and, at the same time,
the condition of the
vitality of the Church...
Every vocation to
the priestly ministry
is an extraordinary
gift of God's love."*

-Pope John Paul II

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EDITORIAL

World Day of Pray for Consecrated Life

This Sunday, the Church observes World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We honor those who dedicate their lives to the ministry of the Church through religious life — as priests, brothers and sisters.

Throughout this paper, you will find encouraging stories that are fine examples of serving as a religious and the many dimensions to this life of service.

Let's begin with our bishops. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in his homily at the Chrism Masses laid out his vision for vocations. The homily is reprinted in this issue on page 11.

The Chrism Mass in which priests renew their priestly commitment carried an added dimension this Year for Priests, declared by Pope Benedict XVI last June. Bishop Rhoades reminded all at the Mass, "Without priests, the Church would not be able to fulfill her mission. Without priests, there would be no Eucharist, since by the will of Christ the Eucharistic mystery cannot be celebrated in any community except by an ordained priest. In this Year for Priests, it is particularly important for us to think about this and to consider that the promotion of priestly vocations is a duty of us all. For example, parents have a very special responsibility in this regard, especially by inculcating in the home an awareness of piety and prayer, and of love for the Church and the priesthood."

Our seminarian numbers are increasing as more hear the call to discernment of the priesthood. "I am convinced in the bottom of my heart that God is calling many young men throughout our diocese to the ministerial priesthood, to become living icons of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, the Head and Shepherd of the Church," Bishop Rhoades said in the Chrism homily.

He added, "I am very grateful for the presence here at this Chrism Mass of our seminarians. I want them to know that we support them, that we pray for them, and that we are proud of them. We thank them for answering the call of the Lord."

Our thanks to Bishop-emeritus John M. D'Arcy, who celebrates May 1 the anniversary of his installation as bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend 25 years ago. Professor John Cavadini, chair of the theology department at the University of Notre Dame, has written a most-fitting tribute to the bishop-emeritus. And Bishop D'Arcy, too, has graced us with a few words about the role of bishop-emeritus. This Sunday, Bishop D'Arcy will be the celebrant of the Mass of the diaconate ordination of two brothers, Matthew and Terrence Coonan Jr., who will be ordained to the transitional diaconate in Columbus, Ohio. Within the year, these brothers will be ordained to the priesthood.

In this week's issue, we read about Holy Cross Sister Sharlet, who once thought her future would be in journalism, but felt pulled to the religious life. Today, her ministry involves helping the less fortunate as a sister in the Congregation of Holy Cross and as an attorney.

And Holy Cross Brother Robert Sylvester was an attorney in Washington, D.C. He was a lawyer in a mid-sized private firm and spent most of his time as a solo practitioner representing the poor, including abused and neglected children, in family, health and personal matters. But after 20-plus years as an attorney, he left the work and comfort of his career to study theology at the University of Notre Dame.

He writes: "The problems I saw in my practice, among my neighbors and colleagues, in the professions and the culture at-large were fundamentally spiritual. I was particularly taken by this: The affluent and prosperous were often unhappy and their lives showed it in a multitude of aberrant behaviors. When not chained to work or indulged in self-distracting activities, they looked for meaning and purpose and suffered its absence."

As he studied theology it became clear that he was being called to offer his skills and experience in religious life. Today he is the director of the Initiative on Spirituality in the Professions at the Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame. This is a new and innovative ministry that grew out of Brother Robert's transition from law to theology. "In it," he says, "we offer spiritual care presence to the Washington legal community."

Many have inquired about the Franciscan Brothers Minor who reside at the former rectory at St. Andrew Parish in Fort Wayne. This community is under the guidance and care of Bishop Rhoades. See the story on pages 12-13.

And as we read in the story about the Little Flower Holy Hour, it takes all of our prayers including the laity of our diocese to pray for vocations to religious life. Let us pray with the Little Flower Holy Hour and the Serra Club — active in Fort Wayne and the South Bend areas — that more come to hear that the call to priesthood and religious life comes from God.

Today's Catholic editorial board is Kay Cozad, Fred and Lisa Everett, Father Mark Gurtner, Msgr. Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

COMMENTARY

TODAY'S CATHOLIC welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification. Today's Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Word length may not exceed 250 words. Address letters to: Today's Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

Towards 'passive euthanasia'

In recent years, some medical practitioners have suggested that death from dehydration may not be such an unpleasant way for patients to die. This conclusion, however, remains rather doubtful. Thirst and appetite are very primal drives, and anyone who has ever done a voluntary fast knows well the discomfort that arises from even a single day of fasting. Thus, we ought to consistently maintain a presumption in favor of providing nutrition and hydration to patients in our care, using all reasonable and effective (or "proportionate") means at our disposal to nourish and hydrate such patients, whether by spoon-feeding or by tube feeding.

The intense pains of dehydration and starvation have been graphically described by patients who were previously in a so-called "vegetative state" and had their feeding tubes withdrawn.

Kate Adamson, who was in a vegetative state due to a stroke, and later came out of it, recounted her experience in an article she wrote:

I was half listening to a talk radio broadcast about a 40-year-old woman in Florida, Terri Schiavo, who was going to be starved to death. This woman had been disconnected from her feeding tube. She was without food for eight days.

Suddenly the broadcasters had my full attention. When I was paralyzed, I, too, had a feeding tube disconnected for eight days and I knew what that felt like. Her husband had been saying that being starved was a relatively painless way to go. I nearly shouted at the radio dial, "That is not true. That is a lie. You ought to try it!"

When Mrs. Adamson was interviewed on "The O'Reilly Factor," she provided further details:

O'Reilly: When they took the feeding tube out, what went through your mind?

Adamson: When the feeding tube was turned off for eight days, I thought I was going insane. I was screaming out in my mind, "Don't you know I need to eat?" I just wanted something. The fact that I had nothing, the hunger pains overrode every thought I had.

O'Reilly: So you were feeling pain when they removed your tube?

Adamson: Yes. Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. To say that — especially when Michael (Schiavo) on national TV mentioned last week that it's a pretty painless thing to have the feeding tube removed —

it is the exact opposite. It was sheer torture, Bill.

Elsewhere, she described the obsessive thirst she felt when her feeding tube was removed:

I craved anything to drink. Anything, I obsessively visualized drinking from a huge bottle of orange Gatorade. And I hate orange Gatorade.

Patients in a vegetative state are clearly a "voiceless" population of humans, unable to advocate for themselves. Another voiceless group includes patients facing dementia. Because individuals with dementia are apparently "out of it," they may also be unable to communicate coherently regarding any discomfort or pain they may experience. The assumption may be too facilely made by healthcare professionals that because people are demented, they no longer can truly experience suffering, pain, hunger or thirst.

When patients with dementia are brought to the hospital because they can no longer swallow, some physicians will be aggressive in persuading the family not to give an IV or put in a G-tube. They may suggest that it will only prolong the person's death, forcing him or her to live a "low quality of life." In one such scenario that I am aware of, a physician indicated to the family that if an IV were given, the patient would likely perk back up and live for perhaps another year or two, but, he continued, what would be the point? In a different case, another physician stated that the cause of death would indeed be dehydration and not the patient's disease, but he still advocated declining an IV so that the patient would die. Decisions like these, when assisted hydration would be non-burdensome and effective, are



MAKING
SENSE OF
BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

sometimes termed "passive euthanasia."

When someone dies from dehydration, of course, it is not always an example of passive euthanasia. In some instances, tube feeding will be ineffective or cause significant complications like vomiting or chronic infections. In these circumstances, declining assisted nutrition or hydration may be a reasonable choice, not with an intention of ending life, but acknowledging that unduly burdensome or ineffective treatments may be legitimately refused.

This hearkens back to statements by both Pope John Paul II in 2004 and the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in 2007 which noted that the administration of food and water (whether by natural or artificial means) to a patient in a "vegetative state" is morally obligatory except when they cannot be assimilated by the patient's body or cannot be administered to the patient without causing significant physical discomfort. Recognizing that dehydration is a painful way to die serves as a helpful starting point to assist family members in addressing the nutrition and hydration needs of their loved ones who may find themselves in compromised states or approaching the end of life.



Adalbert of Prague

956-997
April 23

Christened Wojciech in Bohemia, in today's Czech Republic, he took the name of his teacher, St. Adalbert of Magdeburg. He became the bishop of Prague while still in his 20s, but because of pastoral and political difficulties there retired to a Benedictine abbey in Rome in 990. The pope sent him back to Prague, where he founded an abbey at Brzevnov, but local troubles again prompted his return to Rome. Eventually he was allowed to evangelize the Prussians of Pomerania, but he faced opposition there, too. He and his fellow missionaries persevered and were martyred.

At Vatican, frustration and some optimism over abuse scandal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Fresh developments in the continuing storm over clerical sex abuse illustrate a chronic Vatican problem as well as some reasons for guarded optimism about the future.

The problem, acknowledged by many inside the Roman Curia, has been recent missteps in communication that have undercut the Vatican's own patient efforts to provide accurate and detailed information about sex abuse policies.

The latest came when Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Vatican secretary of state, told reporters in Chile April 12 that many psychologists believe there is a connection between homosexuality and pedophilia.

The groans could be heard throughout Vatican City the next

day, as news media reported not only the cardinal's remarks but also the intensely critical public reaction — including a condemnation from the French government.

The Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, came back with a statement that tried to reframe Cardinal Bertone's remarks with an unusual disclaimer: "Church authorities do not believe they are competent to make general affirmations about specifically psychological or medical issues."

The Vatican relies on specialists and experts for such information, Father Lombardi said. In fact, experts consulted by the Vatican several years ago argued against a cause-effect relationship between homosexuality and pedophilia.

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

The groans in Rome came from people who wondered why Cardinal Bertone was needlessly raising an inflammatory side issue at a time when the Vatican was already under a media siege on sex abuse.

The Vatican has been down this road before. A papal preacher recently surprised the pope and

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He is with us still



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday of Easter Jn 10:27-30

The Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading. It gives a glimpse into the *modus vivendi* of St. Paul as he moved across Asia Minor proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus.

Evidently, he first went to synagogues — unsurprisingly. After all, he himself was Jewish, of Jewish descent and background, and he was well educated in the Jewish culture and religion of the time.

Quite likely, therefore, he would have been more comfortable, but also more likely to be heard, in such surroundings as synagogues.

It also is clear that he was not always met by universal acceptance, although it would not be accurate to say that he attracted no converts from among the Jews whom he met. He drew many of them into the ranks of Christians. He also attracted Gentiles.

However, these details are only secondary to the story. The point of this reading is that the Word of God, pronounced by Jesus, continued to be spoken, and received, long after the Ascension.

Moreover, it was proclaimed by an Apostle, and by Barnabas, a disciple of an Apostle.

Salvation went on, and it goes on. Through the Apostles, Jesus still spoke.

The Book of Revelation furnishes the next reading. It is filled

with symbolism, but its meaning is clear. Among those saved by Jesus are people from every nation. Their number is great. They are baptized, wearing the white robes of baptism. They carry the palm branches of martyrs. They have kept their faith despite persecution. Their sins have been washed away from Lord, precisely by the sacrificial blood shed by the Lord on Calvary.

The Good Shepherd leads them. He rescues them from the heat of the day and the dryness of earthly life.

St. John's Gospel provides the last reading. This Gospel reading, read immediately after the passage from Acts, also presents Jesus as the Good Shepherd. For an audience overwhelmingly agrarian, as was the audience to which Jesus preached, imagery built on sheep herding and shepherds was well understood.

This reading states that the sheep know the shepherd. In turn, the shepherd knows them. It implies a relationship of closeness and of trust. No one can snatch any sheep away from the shepherd.

In a great testament of self-identity, Jesus proclaims oneness with the Father. The sheep belong to the Shepherd because of the Father's will, and love, to keep them near and protect them from peril.

Moving beyond symbolism, the readings say that the Shepherd gives eternal life. His sheep will never perish.

Reflection

This weekend, the Church once again calls us to celebrate the Resurrection, as it begins the fourth week of proclaiming the excited news that it first pronounced at Easter. He lives!

Alleluia!

Through the readings this weekend, and through those of the preceding weeks of Easter, the Church essentially makes two points.

The first point is that Jesus lives, literally, and that in the sublime fact of Resurrection is evidence that Jesus is God, the Son of God, the eternal Father. Resurrected, Jesus is totally unique among humans. As God, Jesus is the bearer of life, truth, peace and joy. There is no substitute for the Lord.

The second point, made this weekend and in past weeks, is that the word of Jesus, and salvation in Jesus, continue. They did not cease with the Ascension nor with the end of the first generation of Christianity. Jesus lived in the preaching and good works of the Apostles, such as Paul, and of their followers and successors, such as Barnabas.

Through them all, Jesus touched, and still touches, people.

Emphasizing these points, the Church presents us with its basic belief, Jesus is God. In Jesus are truth and life. He is with us still.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52 Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 Rv 7:9, 14b-17 Jn 10:27-30

Monday: Acts 11:1-18 Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1b-7 Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25 Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27 Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33 Ps 2:6-11b Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 14:7-14

THE CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplisson

Every ten years we do 'em, and this week we quiz about 'em — the census.

- The first time a census is mentioned in the Bible, the Hebrews are**
a. taxed b. killed c. sent to Babylon
- This aptly named book records how Moses was asked to enumerate the Israelites**
a. Gallop b. Numbers 1 c. Censi (Greek for Exodus)
- This tribe alone was to be excluded from the census norms**
a. Hithe (Hittites) b. the Levites (Levi) c. Hanuman (Hannibal)
- Why was this?**
a. They were to be dedicated to the "Dwelling of the Commandments" and so set aside.
b. They were actually descendants of the Hebrews who intermarried with the Jews, so did not count as Jews.
c. They were to form the nucleus of the army and so were not to marry or have children until they had killed enemies.
- Numbers 2 gives some huge numbers for the soldiers enumerated. The total for just one tribe is 186,400 soldiers. This tribe, the one that was to give its name to a kingdom and people was**
a. Syrach b. Jordia (Jordan) c. Judah (Jew)
- Indicative of the military nature of the conquest of Canaan, the soldiers all told total more than**
a. 100,000 b. 250,000 c. 500,000
- The Lord had a special punishment for all the men registered in the census who had done this**
a. grumbled b. eaten pork
c. worshipped the Egyptian god Ihadamazda
- They were told that they would**
a. eat bitter herbs
b. not enter the land of Israel
c. be enslaved by the Egyptians in an endless cycle
- We learn in the Old Testament that men are counted as ready for military service when they have reached this age (older than is generally the case today)**
a. 16 b. 18 c. 20
- In 2 Kings 12, in a strange comment, we are told that David was motivated by _____ to have census**
a. a need to tax people b. a sense of omnipotence
c. Satan
- Perhaps as result, God punished those involved in this census. However that did not stop the next king, Solomon, from having a census. He wisely perhaps, focused on counting these**
a. aliens b. sheep c. his wives
- The New Testament tells us why Joseph headed off to Bethlehem. It was a census, the purpose of which was to**
a. establish a baseline for the Romans to enforce conscription of the Jews
b. tax the whole world
c. see who had a larger population, the Roman Empire or Ireland
- Questioning Jesus about his attitude to Rome, enemies asked Jesus,**
a. Do we have to fill in the census forms?
b. Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar?
c. Is the census lawful if it counts the number of the beast?
- In Acts enemies of Jesus recall failed challengers to the status quo. This man, a compatriot of Jesus, they remembered was active "at the time of the census."**
a. Judas the Galilean b. Ben Hur c. John the Baptist
- A modern government census is regarded by the Church as**
a. a violation of church and state separation
b. an acceptable use of government resources unless the results are collated and used for government programs
c. a legitimate activity unless used for evil purposes

ANSWERS

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

LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

others at a Good Friday liturgy by comparing criticism of the Church on the sex abuse issue with anti-Semitism. A cardinal stood up at the pope's Easter Mass and used the term "petty gossip" to describe such criticism.

Some have faulted Pope Benedict XVI for failing to take firmer control of the reins.

"It's a matter of governance. You have to bring people together, get them on the same page. And tell them to stop speculating out loud with the media," said one Vatican source. But this kind of hands-on management is not Pope Benedict's strength, he added.

Father Lombardi had to put out another fire April 15, after a French Web site published a 2001 letter from Cardinal Dario

Castrillon Hoyos, at the time head of the Vatican's Congregation for Clergy, congratulating a French bishop for not reporting a sexually abusive priest to the police. The priest was later sentenced to 18 years in prison for multiple counts of sexual assault. The bishop was given a three-month suspended sentence for not reporting the abuse in violation of French law.

"I congratulate you for not denouncing a priest to the civil administration," Cardinal Castrillon wrote to Bishop Pierre Pican of Bayeux-Lisieux. "You have acted well and I am happy to have a colleague in the episcopate who, in the eyes of history and of all other bishops in the world, preferred prison to denouncing his son, a priest."

Father Lombardi said in a statement: "This letter is a confirmation of how opportune it was to centralize the handling of cases of sex abuse of minors by clergy under the competence of the Congregation for the Doctrine of

the Faith, in order to assure their rigorous and coherent management."

In effect, Father Lombardi was pointing to Cardinal Castrillon as part of a problem that has since been overcome. Cardinal Castrillon retired in 2006; Bishop Pican retired last March.

The Vatican has emphasized recently that it now tells bishops to follow civil law when it comes to reporting accusations of sexual abuse to civil authorities. When that policy was posted online as part of a "layman's guide" to the Vatican's sex abuse procedures, it prompted such erroneous headlines as "Vatican: Bishops Must Report Alleged Abuse To Police."

Erroneous, because where civil law does not require mandatory reporting — in Italy, for example — the Vatican still advises bishops not to do so. The reasoning is twofold, Vatican sources said: first, the role of a bishop in these situations is to effectively implement Church law, not to act as a reporting

agent for the state. Second, while bishops should advise and sometimes encourage victims to go to police, they should not exercise that right for them; some victims, for a variety of reasons, may not want to report an allegation to police.

The Vatican's policy, then, still has the potential to create problematic situations — especially because non-reporting, in the eyes of many people today, is the equivalent of cover-up.

For all the complaining about Vatican communications, there is a growing consensus inside the Roman Curia that, this time around, the Vatican has been more effective and proactive in responding to allegations, rumors and misinterpretations on the sex abuse issue.

Officials of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation have given extensive and detailed interviews, the Vatican has translated and posted on its Web site copious background information and documents on church law and sex abuse, and Father Lombardi has been unusually swift to respond to media reports.

Reporters on the Vatican's e-mail list sometimes receive such statements late at night, reflecting

an urgency that in previous times would have been reserved for papal death.

Another point the Vatican is eager to make in the court of public opinion is that the recent disclosures and media reports have focused on cases that are decades old, whereas new allegations of sexual abuse against priests are relatively rare.

Father Lombardi, for example, cited a study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which said more than 60,000 child sex abuse perpetrators were reported in 2008. In contrast, in the one-year period covered by the 2008-2009 audit of child sex abuse in U.S. church institutions, there were 21 new accusations of sex abuse by priests against persons who are currently minors.

In short, the Vatican now has a record of progress to point to, largely thanks to the efforts in the United States. Eight years ago, the struggle to establish strict sex abuse norms in U.S. dioceses met with resistance in some Vatican quarters — notably from Cardinal Castrillon, who has since retired. Today, many at the Vatican are pointing to the U.S. norms as a success story.

"Some have faulted Pope Benedict XVI for failing to take firmer control of the reins."

The limits of the papacy

During the preparation of the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, Pope Paul VI proposed that the constitution's discussion of papal primacy include the affirmation that the pope is "accountable to the Lord alone." This suggestion was rejected by the council's Theological Commission, which wrote that "the Roman pontiff is also bound to revelation itself, to the fundamental structure of the Church, to the sacraments, to the definitions of earlier councils, and other obligations too numerous to mention." Pope Paul quietly dropped his proposal.

Yet the image persists that the Catholic Church is a kind of global corporation, with the pope as CEO, the bishops as branch managers, and your parish priest as the local salesman. And according to that image, the pope not only knows what's going on all the way down the line, he gives orders that are immediately obeyed all the way down the line. Or, to vary the misimpression, the Church is like the United States Marine Corps — there, at least according to legend, when the commandant issues an order, everyone from the highest-ranking four-star to the lowliest Parris Island recruit staples a salute to his forehead and does what he's told.

This distorted and distorting image of the pope as dictatorial CEO or Marine commandant is, admittedly, reinforced by the language of the Code of Canon Law. Thus Canon 331 states that the "Bishop of the Church of Rome ... has supreme, full, immediate and universal ordinary power in the Church, and he can always freely exercise that power." Yet, while, both theology and law tells

us that the pope enjoys the fullness of executive, legislative and judicial authority in the Church, his exercise of that power is circumscribed by any number of factors.

It is circumscribed by the authority and prerogatives of local bishops. According to the teaching of Vatican II, bishops are not simply branch-managers of Catholic Church, Inc.; rather, they are the heads of local churches with both the authority and the responsibility to govern them. Moreover, the pope, according to the council, is to govern the Church with the College of Bishops who, with him and under him, share in responsibility for the well-being of the entire people of God, not only for their own local churches.

The pope's capacity for governance is also shaped by the quality of his closest associates, and by the accuracy and timeliness of the information he receives from the Roman Curia via the nuncios and apostolic delegates who represent the Holy See and the pope around the world. An example of how this fact of ecclesiastical life can impede a pope's ability to respond promptly to situations comes from the American crisis of clerical sexual abuse and episcopal misgovernance in 2002. Because of grossly inadequate reporting from the apostolic nunciature in Washington between January and April 2002 — when the firestorm was at its hottest — John Paul II was about three months behind the news curve in mid-April 2002; what appeared (and was often presented by the press) as papal uninterest in the U.S. crisis was in fact a significant time-lag in the information-flow.

Papal governance can also be



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

undermined by inept subordinates. Thus the image of an uninterested John Paul II was reinforced in 2002 by Cardinal Dario Castrillon's disastrous presentation of the pope's annual Holy Thursday letter to priests that year, during which Castrillon blew off questions about the U.S. crisis by saying that John Paul had more important things to worry about, like peace in the Middle East.

These very real human limits on the exercise of papal power seem almost impossible for some editors and reporters — and indeed for some Catholics — to grasp. Yet the fact remains that the overwhelming responsibility for turning the scandal of clerical sexual abuse into a full-blown Church-wide crisis lays at the feet of irresponsible local bishops, and unfortunately of bishops who bought the conventional wisdom about therapeutic "cures" for sexual predators. That underscores the imperative of getting episcopal appointments right and of removing bishops whose failures destroy their capacity to govern: see "Ireland today, Catholic Church in."

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for April 25, 2010

Acts 13:14, 43-52

Following is a word search based on the first reading for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, Cycle C: Paul and Barnabas proclaim Christ in Antioch. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PAUL	ANTIOCH	SYNAGOGUE
JUDAISM	BARNABAS	GRACE
WHOLE CITY	JEWES	BOLDLY
REJECT	ETERNAL LIFE	GENTILES
A LIGHT	SALVATION	DESTINED
REGION	WOMEN	LEADING MEN
CITY	DUST	JOY

PAUL AND BARNABAS

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

BISHOP DWENGER SAINTS OPEN GOLF OUTING SET JUNE 18 This year's Bishop Dwenger Saints Open Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, June 18, at Deer Track Golf Course. Registration begins at 12 p.m., with a shotgun start at 1 pm. Cost is \$90 per person or \$360 per team. SuperTickets are also available for purchase at \$35 each and include entry into contests, one mulligan and five raffle tickets. Proceeds benefit the school's endowed scholarship fund. Visit the Web site at www.bishopdwenger.com to download a reservation form. For more information, please call the Development Office at (260) 496-4706.

CAN DRIVE HELPS CATHOLIC CHARITIES



DIANE FREEBY

Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dr. Mark Myers challenged area schools to bring in food for the needy this past Lent, and students at Corpus Christi School in South Bend answered the call. They donated 807 canned items so Catholic Charities could fill its food pantry. Students displayed the cans in a line that stretched from the school's front doors, around the statue of Our Lady and up to the church front doors. Every class participated, but Peggy Foldenauer's preschoolers outdid them all, bringing in the most donations and earning a class pizza party, courtesy of Dr. Myers.

Coach Jeff Rekoweg resigns from USF basketball

Rekoweg will lead NCAA Division II program in Michigan; Chad LaCross to lead Cougar program as interim head coach

FORT WAYNE — Mark A. Pope, director of athletics at the University of Saint Francis (USF), announced April 19 that he has regretfully accepted the resignation of Jeff Rekoweg, USF men's basketball coach, effective April 30. Pope also announced that he has selected Assistant Coach Chad LaCross as the interim head coach of the Cougars.

Rekoweg led the Cougars to the school's first NAIA Division II National Basketball Championship in March, was named NAIA Coach of the Year, and to USF's second-best single season record at 27-9. He leaves with a 265-198 overall record, a .572 winning percentage.

Rekoweg has accepted the head basketball coaching position at Northwood University, which is an

NCAA Division II member located in Midland, Mich. NU is a member of Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Rekoweg becomes the ninth head coach in the Northwood program's history, which dates back to the 1960-61 season. He takes over a team that hasn't had a winning season since 2003-04, replacing coach Bob Taylor.

"This is truly a bittersweet moment for us," said Pope. "I've known Jeff for many years as a strong family man, dedicated, innovative, hard-working and loyal to his team and his employer. However, in the many talks that I've had with Jeff, I've also known that he has a strong desire to take his coaching skills to the next level. Given our team's recent success, there will never be a better time for Jeff to realize his dreams of advancing his career."

"We will miss him a great deal, but we also understand that the best thing for Jeff, Rebecca and their family is to take this next step."

"This was a very difficult decision for my family and me," said Rekoweg. "I love Saint Francis,

the NAIA, and all of the relationships that I have enjoyed over the years. I can't tell you how much the last 14 years has meant to me, and the opportunity that Saint Francis gave me to coach at this wonderful institution. Professionally, it is the right move. Emotionally, it was very hard to make the decision."

Rekoweg leaves USF with the most wins of the five men who have been head coach of the USF men's basketball program, which started play in the 1964-65 school year.

Assistant Coach Chad LaCross will serve as interim head coach of the men's basketball team.

"Whenever a coaching change presents itself to me, the single most important question to be asked is, 'Is the program heading in the right direction?'" said Pope. "In this situation, there is no doubt: this program is definitely heading in the right direction — both on and off the court. Chad has been a vital part of USF basketball for more than seven years, and I have complete faith in him to continue to lead our men's team into the future."



"The family is the church in miniature."
—John Paul II



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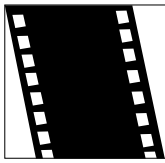
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MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) – Following are capsule reviews of theatrical movies recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“Letters to God” (Vivendi)

Inspirational and touching drama, based on real events, about a faith-filled but cancer-stricken 8-year-old boy (Tanner Maguire) whose prayers and reflections are expressed in a series of letters to the Almighty, and the effect these notes have on his family — including his wid-

owed, overtaxed mother (Robyn Lively), his devout grandmother (Maree Cheatham) and his emotionally conflicted teen brother (Michael Christopher Bolten) — but especially on the depressed, boozing war-vet-turned-postman (Jeffrey S. Johnson) who has recently taken over the local mail route. Though the underlying theology of director David Nixon's family-friendly tale of courage and conversion is evangelical, the basic message about the power of Gospel values to transform lives is sufficiently nondenominational to exert a strong appeal on Christian believers of every stripe. Life-threatening illness, divorce and alcoholism themes. The USCCB Office for Film and Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

‘The Perfect Game’ offers warmhearted, positive embodiment of the priesthood

BY JOHN MULDERIG

NEW YORK (CNS) — As the universal Church's Year for Priests nears its conclusion June 19, and as the overwhelming majority of dedicated Catholic clergy around the world once again find themselves smeared — in some quarters at least — for the grievously sinful misdeeds of a few, who would have guessed that an entirely warmhearted and positive embodiment of the priesthood would be portrayed onscreen by comedy veteran Cheech Marin?

Marin — a long way from his persona as a doped-up dope in the Cheech and Chong string of stoner comedies — plays Padre Esteban, the spiritual guide of a ragtag boys' baseball team from northern Mexico whose unlikely bid for sports immortality is recounted in the faith-infused, fact-based drama “The Perfect Game” (IndustryWorks).

Set in 1957, this is the story of an enthusiastic but initially unskilled group of youngsters, led by their future star pitcher, Angel Macias (Jake T. Austin), who enlist the reluctant help of local factory worker and ex-major leaguer Cesar Fez (Clifton Collins Jr.) to form the Monterrey Industrials, their downtrodden city's first Little League team.

Improving rapidly under coach Cesar's hard-driving regime, the lads cross the border and embark on a series of David-versus-Goliath-like victories over their far more advantaged opponents in the Little League championship



CNS PHOTO/INDUSTRYWORKS UNITED

Cheech Marin and Clifton Collins Jr. star with young actors in a scene from the movie “The Perfect Game.”

tournament.

As directed by William Dear, W. William Winokur's script unambiguously presents the young players' Catholicism as the inspiration for their winning streak. Thus Marin's devout but down-to-earth padre leads the team in prayer before each game, and uses the story of Blessed Juan Diego to encourage them to accomplish great things.

Their beliefs also prompt the boys' persistent refusal to allow either their impoverished circumstances or the disdainful prejudice they frequently encounter during their time in the U.S. to deprive them of their dream. In a touching scene that reinforces the film's message about racial and ethnic equality, they courageously defy the rules of a segregated

diner by joining, and befriending, a solitary black Little Leaguer who has been forced to eat at a table by himself, shunned by his own white teammates.

A brief scene of the otherwise estimable Padre Esteban celebrating a Tridentine Mass makes it clear that no one involved in the production had even a rudimentary knowledge of the Catholic liturgy of the time, and the result is an image of worship so sloppy and repetitive as to approach unintentional parody.

But this is a relatively small flaw in what is, overall, a rousing tribute to the power of religious faith and the values of persistence and human solidarity.

The film contains racial tensions, ethnic slurs and a few mildly earthy insults. The USCCB Office for Film and Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG.

John Mulderig is on the staff of the Office for Film and Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. More reviews are available online at www.usccb.org/movies.

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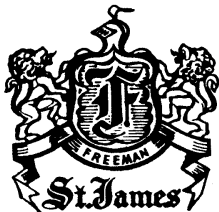
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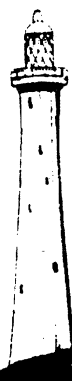


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WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Events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

Knights to hand out Tootsie Rolls
Ossian — The St. Aloysius Knights of Columbus will be supporting the Mentally Handicapped people of Adams and Wells county by handing out Tootsie Rolls on Friday, May 7, from 3-6 p.m. in Ossian and Saturday, May 8, from 8 a.m. to noon in Bluffton. The Knights ask only for a free-will donation.

Fish Fry
New Haven — St. John the Baptist Holy Name Society will have a fish fry Friday, April 23, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$7.50, children 5-12 \$4 and children under 5 free.

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

Council of Catholic Women holds potluck dinner
Fort Wayne — The Fort Wayne Deanery Council of Catholic Women will have their annual potluck dinner Tuesday, April 27, at St. Louis Bescanson. Rosary at 3:45 p.m.; Mass at 4 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner with meat and drinks provided, and white elephant sale. Speaker will

be Charlotte Flatt, director for the Province of the State of Indiana Council of Catholic Women, who will speak about the 90th Anniversary Convention; changes to move forward; and Campaign for Human Dignity Project. Women from all parishes are invited.

Rummage and bake sale
Fort Wayne — A Rosary Society rummage and bake sale will be May 6 and 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St., and Saturday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Beach Bash with Biff and the Cruisers
New Haven — A Beach Bash will be held Saturday, May 22, at St. Louis Besancon Parish. A \$5 drive-through cheeseburger meal will be from 4-7 p.m. and then live music from Biff and the Cruisers will be from 8-11 p.m. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person.

Celebrating children
Fort Wayne — A celebration of children will be Friday, April 30, from 3-9 p.m., at St. Henry Community Center, 3029 E. Paulding Rd. Activities include face painting, games, food and vendor booths and a moon walk.

Women's Day Away planned
Huntington — Victory Noll

Center will host a Women's Day Away" program on Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to noon, and will give women a chance to relax, breathe and celebrate with old friends and make new friends. There will be music and prayer, presentations on wellness for the mind and body, and healing using art and poetry. Suggested donation for the program is \$10 to \$15. A continental breakfast will be provided. Registration is required by May 7.

All family rosary
Fort Wayne — The all-family rosary will be recited on the last Sunday of the month, April, 25, from 3:30-4:15 p.m., at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel. The intention is for the strengthening of families, especially those having difficulties.

Bach Collegium to perform
Fort Wayne — The Fort Wayne Bach Collegium will present an admission-free concert at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Sunday, May 2, at 7 p.m. The concert will include a cantata by Bach, the 5th Brandenburg Concerto and the Missa Brevis in A major. The music will be sung in the Baroque style and accompanied by expert period-instrument musicians.

REST IN PEACE

Fort Wayne Patricia M. Haffner, St. Vincent de Paul	Jack D. Kuespert, 79, St. Pius X	St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude
Miguel Moreno, Jr., 66, St. Joseph	New Haven Lee Brandon Minick, St. John the Baptist	Theresa A. Hojnacki, 89, St. Matthew Cathedral
Ruth Olinger, 82, Queen of Angels	Eugene C. Taylor, 83, St. John the Baptist	Mary J. Stopczynski, 76, St. John the Baptist
Granger Mary J. Stopczynski, 81, St. Pius X	Plymouth Ambrose M. Pozorski, 84, St. Michael	Walkerton William D. Ward, Jr., 80, St. Patrick
Daniel P. Conboy, 63, St. Pius X	South Bend Gerald W. Allen, 78,	

Position Opening DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Saint Joseph Parish, a vibrant, Catholic, faith community of over 800 families and a large, K-8 grade school in South Bend, Indiana, seeks a Director of Stewardship and Development. This position furthers the mission of the Parish by promoting the concept of Stewardship as a way of life in accordance with the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, Stewardship: A Disciple's Response. The position also oversees Parish Development efforts, including fostering relationships with parishioners, school alumni, and other friends of St. Joseph for the purpose of finding and cultivating partners to financially support St. Joseph Church and School in the living out of its mission.

Qualified applicants will be practicing Catholics and demonstrate a commitment to the concept of Stewardship as a way of life. Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree and have at least two years of experience in a field requiring high organizational skills and computer skills. The successful candidate will also have strong communication skills and the ability to work well with others.

Number of hours/week negotiable. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. For a complete position description, please visit the parish website: www.stjoeparish.com. Qualified candidates should send a cover letter and résumé with references to:

St. Joseph Parish
226 N. Hill Street
South Bend, IN 46617

Questions may be directed to Fr. John DeRiso, CSC, Pastor, at (574) 234-3134, ext. 20.



TV MASS SCHEDULE FOR MAY

2010	Feast Day	Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WISE-TV, Ch. 33	South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TV, Ch. 16
May 2	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Father Fernando Jimenez Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne	Father Robert Dowd, CSC Notre Dame
May 9	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Father Daniel Leeuw VA Hospital Fort Wayne	Father Tom McNally, CSC Our Lady of Fatima House Notre Dame
May 16	Ascension of the Lord	Father Derrick Sneyd Immaculate Conception Auburn	Father John Vanden Bossche, CSC Notre Dame
May 23	Pentecost Sunday	Father William Peil St. Anne Home Fort Wayne	Father Pat Maloney, CSC Notre Dame
May 30	Trinity Sunday	Father Gary Sigler Queen of Angels Fort Wayne	Father Chris Cox, CSC St. Adalbert South Bend

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STONE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

University graduate, who had hopes of going to law school, got a job at Bishop Dwenger teaching history and taking on some coaching duties. Tone quips, as a south side Fort Wayne youth, a Sacred Heart parishioner and a 1963 Bishop Luers High School graduate, he didn't travel much to the north side of town. His wife had to give him directions to Bishop Dwenger for his 1968 interview. Two days after the interview, Tone was hired.

As he attended 6 a.m. Mass with 100 men and coaches that very first day as a teacher and coach, Tone recounted, "That said

a lot to me what this school was about."

Tone said in that first year of teaching history, he probably read 60 books on history. "I really enjoyed teaching, being with young people, seeing their dreams and hopes and getting to assist in that!"

Tone kept signing teaching contracts and never made it to law school. He eventually took the job as dean of students, and 16 years ago, was made principal of the high school.

Tone's "yes you can" attitude was felt first by the band students who came to him in his first week as principal and complained that they don't get respect. He visited the band room, saw it needed some fresh paint. He encouraged the students to respect themselves. They put a fresh coat of paint on the walls of

the band room and instilled his positive attitude in the band.

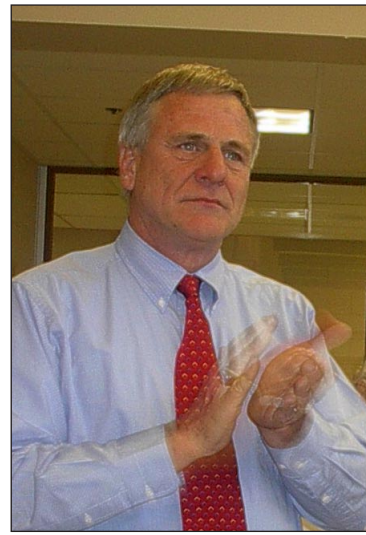
Now, years later, Dwenger boasts two show choirs that have pulled some fifth and sixth places in state, and the school has built an arts wing, making tremendous strides.

Tone oversaw the addition of \$13 million building campaign and renovations that have included a new cafeteria, small gym, new library, new lighting in the building and landscaping.

He strives to keep the school looking good. The administration pitches in to clean up the cafeteria but also expects the students to do their part.

Tone says, "We're all into this together" in helping every student achieve success and form their faith. And it's a family environment where everyone takes ownership.

Tone says he is very proud of the teaching of the Catholic faith at Bishop Dwenger, but he credits



TODAYS CATHOLIC FILE PHOTO

Fred Tone will retire at the end of this year.

the fine masters' program in theology, instituted under Bishop John M. D'Arcy and the Office

of Catechesis, that has brought well-educated religion teachers into all the Catholic high schools. "Bishop D'Arcy has a lot to do with that, and Sister Jane Carew, and Bishop D'Arcy's commitment to Catholic schools never wavered."

Tone notes that Catholic high school students often get back in scholarship money for college what they paid for their high school education. Last year, Bishop Dwenger students received \$9 million in college scholarships.

Tone is very thankful for the help he received over the years from John Gaughan, former Bishop Dwenger principal, and the late Msgr. J. William Lester who Tone called "the most helpful and sincere person."

So what advice does Tone have for the next principal? "Come in and be your own person," he says, "and make sure you really do care."



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