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March 13



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Boy Scouts awarded for building faith

BY LAURIE KIEFABER

WARSAW — As Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades talked about wise men building their homes on solid rock in his homily, Boy Scouts from across the diocese received religious awards for building their faith Sunday. Approximately 60 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, family members, friends and Scout leaders attended a diocesan Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Warsaw where religious awards were given.

"When I was a Boy Scout, I got these awards too," Rhoades told the group. "... I congratulate all the Scouts (on receiving their awards)."

Four different awards were given out to various ages of Scouts, including the Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII.

After the Mass, Bishop Rhoades said he was happy to be involved in a diocesan awards ceremony.

"For me, it's important to present these religious emblems to our Scouts," Bishop Rhoades said. "I encourage all of them to work on these Catholic awards. It's good for their growth and knowledge in faith."

"I congratulate them for their hard work. Catholic Scouting is a wonderful program; I'd like to support it to the best of my ability (and honor them)."

Theresa Dirig, a Scout leader at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne for about 18 years and chair of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, said there had not been a diocesan-wide Mass with Scouting awards handed out for at least 15 years.



PHOTO BY LAURIE KIEFABER

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is assisted by Boy Scouts Matthew Krach (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne) and Tommy Lavallee (Christ the King, South Bend) during a diocesan Mass where religious awards were given at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Warsaw Sunday.

SCOUTS, PAGE 5

STATE 2-A BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS



BOB HARTENSTEIN

Senior members of the Bishop Luers High School Lady Knights basketball team present the state Class 2-A championship trophy to Principal Mary Keefer at an assembly at the school on March 7. From left are Anna McNamara, Keefer, Brierra Young and Hilary Watts.

Rites, Calling of Candidates celebrated in cathedrals

BY VINCE LABARBERA

The Rites of Election of Catechumens and Calling of Candidates will be celebrated in the cathedrals in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on the first and second Sundays of Lent.

On March 13, the First Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election will take place in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne at 2 p.m. On March 20, the Second Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election will be held in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, also at 2 p.m.

Catechumens, those unbaptized, are preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil. Candidates, those already baptized outside the Catholic Church, are also preparing to complete their initiation and enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

During the liturgy, each catechumen/candidate and their sponsor will be presented for recognition to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, ordinary of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The catechumens and candidates are from local and area parishes of the diocese. All together, 550 to 600 catechumens and candidates from throughout the diocese — along with their sponsors, families and guests — are expected to attend the liturgies.

Prior to the ceremony, many of the catechumens and candidates will take part in an optional rite in their respective parishes that same weekend called the Parish Celebration for Sending Catechumens for Election and Candidates for Recognition by the Bishop. The catechumens will sign their names in a Book of the Elect that will be available for Bishop Rhoades to sign at the end of the Rite of Election — often referred to as the Enrollment of Names. Each candidate also is included in this rite but, out of respect for the validity of their baptism, normally do not sign the book.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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School Choice: A matter of justice



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

There has been much debate the past few months concerning proposed legislation in our state that creates a new Choice Scholarship program that allows families to choose a non-public school, commonly called "school voucher program." This legislation also improves the state's Scholarship Tax Credit program.

I have followed this debate in our local newspapers. Much of the commentary appearing in the secular press opposes this legislation. The Church, through the Indiana Catholic Conference, is strongly supportive of the legislation (House Bill 1003).

Much of the public debate seems to me to ignore the fundamental issue of justice in this legislation. This debate should not be about public vs. non-public schools. It should not seek to disparage one or the other. We need to focus on the fundamental moral principles that underlie this legislation. In this column, I wish to expound the important teaching of the Church concerning education and the rights of parents.

The Church teaches that the right and the duty of parents to educate their children is essential, primary, irreplaceable and inalienable. The State cannot annul this right and has the duty to respect and promote it. The Holy See's Charter of the Rights of the Family states that public authorities must see to it that "public subsidies are so allocated that parents are truly free to exercise this right without incurring unjust burdens. Parents should not have to sustain, directly or indirectly, extra charges which would deny or unjustly limit the exercise of this freedom." In our state today, parents are not truly free to exercise this right since, if they choose to send their children to non-public schools, they must pay the "extra charge" of tuition in addition to the taxes they already pay for the support of public schools.

We read the following in the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church: "The refusal to provide public economic support to non-public schools that need assistance and that render a service to civil society is to be considered an injustice." Interestingly, the proposed legislation here in Indiana is not even designed to provide public economic support to non-public schools. Instead, it is designed to provide public economic support to parents who then can choose the schools to which they wish to send their children. Neither does the proposed legislation provide this support to all parents. Eligibility is limited to those whose family income is less than a certain amount. Though the proposed legislation is a step in the right direction, it does not provide parental choice for all.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has stated that "whenever the State

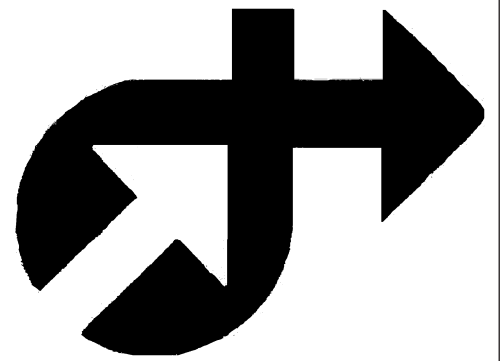
lays claim to an educational monopoly, it oversteps its rights and offends justice... The State cannot without injustice merely tolerate so-called private schools. Such schools render a public service and therefore have a right to financial assistance." Again, the proposed legislation here in Indiana does not provide direct assistance to non-public schools, but to the parents. In truth, the system in our nation promotes a State educational monopoly. Though we are free to establish and run Catholic schools, schools which provide a great public service, the financial burden is sometimes so heavy that our schools are not affordable for many parents no matter how hard we try to help them with tuition assistance.

Six years ago, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement, "Renewing our Commitment to Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools in the Third Millennium." We addressed the critical financial questions that continue to face our Catholic schools. We called for just and equitable treatment of our students and teachers in federal and state-funded educational programs. We reiterated the Church's perennial teaching that "as the primary educators of their children, parents have the right to choose the school best suited for them." We encouraged the entire Catholic community "to advocate for parental school choice and personal and corporate tax credits, which will help parents to fulfill their responsibility in educating their children." That is precisely what Indiana House Bill 1003 does, at least to a certain extent.

It seems to me that those who are opposing House Bill 1003 fail to appreciate that parents have a fundamental right to choose a school for their children. Though they will likely affirm that right, in truth such a right is not upheld when parents cannot exercise it due to the unjust financial burden.

If anyone has any doubt about the Church's authentic teaching in this area, I refer them to the Second Vatican Council's "Declaration on Christian Education" ("Gravissimum educationis"). In that important Declaration, the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council declared that "the public power, which has the obligation to protect and defend the rights of citizens, must see to it, in its concern for distributive justice, that public subsidies are paid out in such a way that parents are truly free to choose according to their conscience the schools they want for their children."

There is one area of criticism of non-public schools that I have read in our local newspapers that is particularly unjust. In opposition to the proposed voucher system, some argue on the basis that we often do not accept students with special educational needs. They criticize us for this. This criticism is patently disingenuous since we desperately want to accept more students with special educational needs. The problem is that, because of the lack of public subsidies, we often do not have the financial resources to provide for these needs. That is the injustice!! I am glad that another bill has been proposed (House Bill 1341) that would require that state funds allocated for special needs students enrolled in non-public



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In addition to the I-CAN Update, one can obtain more detailed information regarding the bills and detailed information about the legislative process through the ICC Legislative Action Center. Under policy tools click on issues and legislation and access the state or federal bills by clicking current legislation." Also, you can access the archived updates, ICC positions and other background information at the ICC Web site, www.indianacc.org

schools be spent on their behalf. Current Indiana law does not require that state money allocated for special education students in Indiana be used for students in non-public schools, even though the allocation the public school district receives counts these students. This is clearly a matter of justice — public resources allocated for special needs students should go to serve these students in whichever school they attend.

I invite all to join our Indiana Catholic Conference in advocating for justice in this important area of school choice.

This issue is not new. In the 19th century, when many Catholic schools were established in our diocese and throughout our nation, the Catholic community fought and worked hard for Catholic schools. This was in the context of much anti-Catholic bigotry, manifest in efforts such as the so-called "Blaine" amendments, which were adopted in some states to ban or severely limit assistance to private and/or religious schools. Following our ancestors in the faith, we make great sacrifices for our Catholic schools. And like them, we advocate for justice for parents to have the right to choose the schools best suited for their children without financial penalty.

Bishop Coyne ordained as Indianapolis auxiliary bishop

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — A witness to mystery.

That is how Indianapolis Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein described Bishop Christopher J. Coyne in a homily that he delivered just minutes before he ordained the Boston archdiocesan priest as the first auxiliary bishop for the church in central and southern Indiana since 1933.

"In a secularized world that believes only in what it sees, by your consecration and by what you do, Bishop Coyne, you will be a witness to mystery," Archbishop Buechlein said during the March 2 liturgy at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. "The very life and identity of a bishop — and of priests — are rooted in the order of faith, the order of the unseen and not in the secular order of values."

In a sense, the 1,000 people who filled the oldest Catholic church in Indianapolis also witnessed mystery during the two-hour ordination Mass.

When Archbishop Buechlein, co-ordinating Bishops Paul D. Etienne of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Richard G. Lennon of Cleveland, and the 15 other bishops present for the liturgy prayerfully laid their hands on the head of Bishop Coyne, they continued a ritual that the apostles themselves used to call down the Holy Spirit upon those who would succeed them in their mission of proclaiming the Gospel to all nations.

"We can all be good administrators, liturgists, preachers, healers, teachers, good and friendly guys," Bishop Coyne said in remarks after Communion. "But if we're not about spreading the good news of salvation in and through the Catholic Church, then we've missed the point of our ministry."

Pope Benedict XVI named him an auxiliary bishop for Indianapolis Jan. 14. The pope noted in his letter of appointment, read at the start of the ordination rite, that Bishop Coyne was "endowed with ... outstanding qualities of mind and heart as well as pastoral experience" that made him "suitable for undertaking that office."

Toward the end of his homily, Archbishop Buechlein summarized for Bishop Coyne all of the various tasks of the office for which he was about to be ordained.

"Bishops are called to live the simple life of the Gospel in a way that somehow mirrors Jesus, the one who serves," Archbishop Buechlein said. "Wouldn't you agree that, when all is said and done, what our Church needs more than anything from us bishops and priests is integrity and holiness?"

"The Church needs us to be nonsense, down-to-earth, holy,



CNS PHOTO/BOB NICHOLS

Auxiliary Bishop Christopher J. Coyne smiles during his ordination Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis March 2. The new Indianapolis auxiliary previously served as pastor of St. Margaret Mary in Westwood, Mass.

spiritual and moral leaders who are who we claim to be. With Jesus, in Jesus and for Jesus, that is the ultimate service, the ultimate witness to the unity of faith."

The ordination rite that followed included many ancient rituals in addition to the laying on of hands.

While Archbishop Buechlein and the co-ordinating bishops prayed the prayer of ordination, two deacons held an open Book of the Gospels over Bishop Coyne's head as a symbol of the pre-eminent importance of evangelization in the ministry of a bishop.

Archbishop Buechlein later anointed Bishop Coyne's head with sacred chrism oil and gave him the insignia of bishops — an episcopal ring, miter and crozier.

Although such symbols mark the distinctiveness of Bishop Coyne's ministry, he called all present at the Mass to work with him in fulfilling that ministry.

"My friends, we can never lose sight of the fact that the mission of this Church is about salvation, whether we are ordained, religious, or lay men and women," Bishop Coyne said. "Each of us in our own way is asked to participate in spreading the good news. As it has in the past, and as it is now, all that we do as Christians must be formed by this truth of the faith."

He also described the many

places and ways in which that good news is shared with others.

"We proclaim this Gospel from the pulpit, the altar and the baptismal font," Bishop Coyne said. "We proclaim this Gospel at the hospital bedside, the dining room table, the school classroom, the university hall, the senior center and the nursing home. We proclaim this Gospel on the phone, in e-mail and on the blog."

And, in a humorous aside, he said, "By the way, if you want the address to my blog, just ask."

That line was one of many that elicited laughter during Bishop Coyne's remarks. His lighter side came through, especially in the thanks he gave to various people in his life, including his family, many of whom were present at the liturgy.

"To my brothers and sisters, my aunts and uncles, my nieces and nephews and all my cousins that are here, I salute you with a proper Boston salute, 'You are wicked awesome!'" said Bishop Coyne with a particularly thick Boston accent.

But he concluded on a serious note, describing himself as a servant to the Church, "as a brother who walks with you, and as someone who seeks to be a friend to all. ... I promise that I will try and do all that is possible to be a shepherd after God's own heart."



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, March 13, 8:30 a.m. — Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church, Pierceton
- Sunday, March 13, 2 p.m. — Rite of Election, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Monday, March 14, 8:30 a.m. — Meeting of Regional Hispanic Ministry Leaders, Saint Mary's Inn, Notre Dame
- Tuesday, March 15, 5:30 p.m. — Mass for St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Wednesday, March 16, 10 a.m. — Mass for Christ Child Society, St. Patrick Church, South Bend
- Wednesday, March 16, 3 p.m. — Mass for Pueri Cantores Festival, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, South Bend
- Thursday, March 17, noon — Luncheon with Presentation of Light of Christ Award, St. Mary's Parish Hall, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, March 17, 5:30 p.m. — Mass at St. Patrick Church, Lagro
- Friday, March 18, 8:45 a.m. — Keynote Speech and Mass at ICF Day, Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend
- Friday, March 18, 1 p.m. — Visit to Hannah's House, Mishawaka
- Friday, March 18, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Adalbert Church, South Bend
- Saturday, March 19, 10 a.m. — Confirmation Mass at Queen of Peace Church, Mishawaka
- Saturday, March 19, 4:30 p.m. — Mass at Marian High School, followed by dinner and auction, Mishawaka

Father Thomas Ascherman named provincial superior

CHICAGO — Father Thomas J. Ascherman, parochial vicar of St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, has been named provincial superior of the Society of the Divine Word Chicago Province, the missionary order's largest administrative unit in the Western Hemisphere.



FATHER THOMAS ASCHEMAN

For decades, Father Ascherman, 56, has been a voice for people who live in poverty and at the margins of society. He has worked on the grassroots level in the barrios of Mexico, as well as in the highest administrative body of the Society of the Divine Word in Rome.

For 12 years, Ascherman served as Generalate Mission Secretary. As mission secretary, he worked closely with the superior general (the worldwide leader of the religious order) and his council to plan and coordinate the Society of the Divine Word's missionary endeavors in 71 countries. Those efforts address the needs of communities in which the 6,000-plus Divine Word Missionaries live and serve.

For the past three years, while serving as a parish priest at St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne, Ascherman has helped to raise the awareness of the daily struggles that immigrants face in Indiana. St. Patrick, a large Hispanic, Vietnamese and Anglo parish, sponsors a food bank, a free clinic, and many educational and cultural programs to help people live a fuller life.

The Des Moines, Iowa, native

holds dual bachelor's degrees in philosophy and mathematics, two masters' degrees and a doctorate. He has been a member of the Society of the Divine Word since 1977, studied at Nanzan University in Japan, received his theological education at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and fulfilled his crosscultural training program in Mexico. In 1982, he was ordained to the priesthood by Society of Divine Word Most Rev. Joseph Francis.

For his first assignment, Father Ascherman taught theology at Divine Word College in Epworth before going to Washington, D.C., to pursue his doctorate. Father Ascherman earned his doctorate in religion and culture from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. While working on his doctorate, he also served as a pastor in a Spanish-speaking parish and as North American inter-province coordinator for justice and peace.

In 1991, the Society of the Divine Word again assigned him to Mexico, where he taught and lived for four years with theological students in one of the outlying, economically-challenged neighborhoods of Mexico City. From Mexico, he was called to Rome.

Father Ascherman will succeed Father Mark Weber, who served two terms as provincial superior.

Father Ascherman's three-year term will begin on June 1. As provincial superior, he will oversee activities of the Society of the Divine Word from Nebraska to Massachusetts and from Montréal to Montserrat. For more information about the Society of the Divine Word Chicago Province, go to www.divineword.org.

Rose Home an oasis for recovering women

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The women of Rose Home welcomed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades with open arms during a pastoral visit he made on Tuesday, March 1. During his visit Bishop Rhoades extended a special blessing on the home and its staff and residents with holy words and holy water. Following the ceremony those in attendance, including past and current Rose Home directors, benefactors and residents, enjoyed a reception where they visited personally with Bishop Rhoades.

Rose Home, located at 2208 Wayne Trace in Fort Wayne, has been a safe haven for women in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction since April of 2002. The beautiful old Victorian-style house was purchased through the generosity of Vince Tippmann, current Rose Home executive board member, and pledged for use as a house for up to 10 recovering women at any given time. The home offers room and board along with a stringent program through which the women work to become responsible, clean and sober members of society.

The residents, many of whom come through the drug court system, are interviewed for acceptance into the program.

According to Sister Rose Claire Ehrlich, a Sister of St. Agnes and founding director and current executive board member, the women, who must be 18 years or older, must show a sincere desire to work toward recovery from drug and/or alcohol addiction and

be clean — free of substance abuse — for two weeks before they enter the home. Each woman is asked to make a six-month commitment to the program, though reaching official graduation from the program typically requires eight to 12 months. Children are not permitted to live with the women during their stay.

Each woman enters the home with no privileges. As she works through each of the five levels she earns more privileges, including day passes and driving privileges, which further develop her independence.

A commitment to work with an appointed case worker on assignments designed to build self esteem and provide anger management and relapse prevention coincides with each of the five levels. The residents must make a commitment to work through the Alcoholics Anonymous 12-step program by attending AA meetings and working with a sponsor as well. The combination of requirements offers tools to create a whole and healthy lifestyle as the five levels pertain to action and the 12-step program focuses on inner formation.

Each resident is responsible for completing household chores including cooking, cleaning, paying toward room and board, and seeking and maintaining employment. The women rise at 6:30 a.m. for morning prayer time. Though the Rose Home is ecumenical in nature it emphasizes Christian values. Church attendance is encouraged but not required.

Deb Burton, current director of Rose Home, says, "The mission



PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

Rose Home in Fort Wayne was established in 2002 to aid women in recovery from substance abuse.

here is to help women who come to us to find a better way of life, help them come to a relationship with the God of their understanding, and to help them grow spiritually and gain tools to lead a clean and sober life again." According to Burton, 64

women have gone through the program in the two years that she has been director there.

The home is always in need of volunteers. Skilled workers or handymen are needed for home repairs and maintenance. Volunteers to drive the residents to appointments, job interviews and shopping trips are needed as well. Also needed are volunteers to share their spiritual experiences with the residents.

"These women have been separated from their faith or come with no background in faith. They're reluctant and timid to opening to their spiritual strength," says Burton.

Additionally, donations of new or gently-used casual business women's apparel is always welcome, as well as cleaning supplies and paper goods for the home.

The Rose Home is one of the "best kept secrets in Fort Wayne" and holds a unique place in community support of these recovering women. Burton offers, "We are smaller and we do have a more personal approach to helping the women live their spirituality."

Recovering women in the Syracuse area are supported by a second Rose Home directed by Kim Kelly.

For more information or to donate call (260) 424-1600.



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Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades extends a special blessing on the Rose Home and its staff and residents during a pastoral visit there on March 1. Sister Rose Claire Ehrlich, founding director, stands to the left of Bishop Rhoades.

Notice of ANNUAL CLEANUP at Catholic Cemetery

The Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne will conduct their ANNUAL CLEANUP of decorations from March 15 thru March 31.

Please do NOT place any decorations during this entire time. If you wish to save your decoration, please have it removed **BEFORE** March 15 or call the Catholic Cemetery Office, 426-2044, by March 11, and we will hold it for you no more than 30 days.

Decorations may be placed **AFTER** March 31.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Charitable gaming law to improve fundraising events passes Senate

INDIANAPOLIS — As planning gets underway for parish and school fundraising events, some are finding a bit of discouraging news. A change in the law and new rules from the Indiana Gaming Commission have made running charitable events cumbersome and in some cases are causing a significant reduction in fundraising.

Sen. Dennis Kruse (R-Auburn), author of the charitable gaming bill, SB 340, is working to change that. The legislation, which passed the Senate Feb. 22, by a 47-2 vote, would make changes to the charitable gaming law to 1) allow raffle tickets to be purchased with a credit card; 2) ensure that licensing fees for charitable events are based on charity gaming proceeds only; and 3) would allow money raised in gaming events to be used to pay salaries of full-time staff members.

"The Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) is supporting the bill and will be following its progress throughout the legislative process," said Glenn Tebbe, ICC executive director.

Kruse said that there are about 20 charitable organizations in his area that raised nearly a dozen concerns with the current gaming laws. "I identified four that I could handle myself this year through legislation," said Sen. Kruse.

"I am an anti-legalized gambling person, but we do have legalized gaming in Indiana. I think if we are going to have gaming in Indiana, it might as well be just and fair for those who are participating in it," he said.

"One area where I felt an injustice was occurring, was when an organization has an event with five different fundraising events going on at the same time, but only one of those was a gaming event, the gaming commission was charging a percentage fee on all those events," said Kruse. "I felt the percentage fee should only be charged on the gaming event, not the other activities at the event."

Kruse said that the bill also allows full-time employees of legitimate nonprofit organizations to use money gained through gaming proceeds to pay salaries. "Current law prohibits salaries to be paid from gaming proceeds," said Kruse. "But for some charities, their annual fundraiser raises up to 90 percent of the group's budget."

The provision would allow staff to be paid from the group's budget, even if some of the money was attained through gaming.

"The goal of the legislation is to allow as much money as possible to stay with the local charitable

cause to meet the needs of the people that their charity is set up to serve," said Sen. Kruse.

Kris Markham, special events coordinator for Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, began experiencing firsthand the problems the changes in the law created and brought her concerns to Sen. Kruse and others.

"We host four major events throughout the year. Our Saints Alive Dinner and Auction is a huge fundraiser for our school. We have a silent auction booth, a live auction, a bishop's scholarship event, we sell raffle tickets, and have a \$300 per couple dinner," she said.

"Last year the gaming commission told me that our licensing fee would be based on our entire proceeds for evening, not just the charitable gaming or game of chance portion of the event," said Markham. "We were also told people could not buy raffle tickets with credit cards."

"We are in our 32nd year for this event. For the past 31 years, people have been able to purchase raffle tickets using credit cards," she said.

"This year, people were not allowed to use their credit cards to buy raffle tickets," said Markham. "It has hurt us immensely; our

sales are down a good 50 percent. We sell anywhere from \$80,000 to \$100,000 in raffle tickets."

Saints Alive at Bishop Dwenger High School sponsors at least four major events annually and raises roughly \$400,000. "All of the proceeds raised go to support the school," said Markham.

"Currently the law is crippling our fundraising efforts."

"If Senate Bill 340 passes, it will effectively untie our hands. It will help us to fulfill our mission of educating children," she said. "Through our fundraising efforts, we are able to offer scholarships and can help so many children who could not otherwise afford a Catholic education."

Harry Verhiley, development director for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, who consults with the schools in the diocese and the development directors, said, "After talking to Kris Markham, I realized that our 80 parishes, 40 schools and four high schools would be affected in some way by

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

this if they were going to do any kind of gaming event.

"The law was changed with good intent in 2009, but we have some very legitimate nonprofits that rely on gaming events to support their mission," said Verhiley.

Sen. Kruse said he "was very encouraged" that the bill passed the Senate almost unanimously. Kruse said that if House lawmakers come back to work, "I think we have an excellent chance of this passing this year."

Senate Bill 340 is awaiting a hearing in the House.

SCOUTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"When I met with the bishop in September ... he wanted to be involved with (Scouting) and encourage them," she said. "Scouting doesn't always get attention like sports. All the boys here will remember this for the rest of their lives. We are encouraging them to get involved in their faith. The Pope Pius XII award helps them to understand the balance of life and faith and life issues. They don't get that everywhere."

The 25 Boy Scouts attending the Mass were happy to receive their awards with the bishop present.

"It means a lot," said Tyler Liponoga, 18, of St. Thomas Church in Elkhart. "... too much to put to words."

The son of Jim and Terri Liponoga said he completed about six hours of book work and cleaned an Elkhart conservation club one weekend with friends to earn the Pope Pius XII award, which explores vocations and is given to Scouts 15 years old and older.

"I hope my son will be a better Catholic and Christian," his father said after the Mass. "(Being a good Catholic) is more than just in words but deeds."

His mother also was happy. "We're really proud of him," she said.

Nick Schenkel, 18, of St. Joseph Church in Fort Wayne



PHOTOS BY LAURIE KIEFABER

Jason Ivanovic, left, of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne and Nathan Ladwig, right, of St. Patrick in South Bend receives the Ad Altare Dei religious award from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Warsaw.

received the Ad Altare Dei award, which is given to 13- and 14-year-old Scouts and requires study of the sacraments.

"It was nice (to receive the award)," the son of Matt and Susan Schenkel said. "It was nice being recognized for giving a little extra effort to demonstrate your faith."

Schenkel's father was equally pleased.

"We're very proud our kids went through the time it takes (to earn the award)," he said. "It's not a requirement for an Eagle Scout award. It's just something they wanted to do and that's great."

Andrew Schenkel also received the Ad Altare Dei award Sunday.

Matt Krach, 14, of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Fort Wayne received the Ad Altare Dei award

as well.

"(Working toward this award) really helped me strengthen my faith and get closer to God," the son of Maria and Dan Krach said. "It's helped me to try harder ... and gave me a better faith because I understand why we do the things we do. For example, why the host is unleavened bread and the wine is symbolic for the blood of the lamb. Jesus is the lamb of God ... and how this compares to the Passover feast."

About 41 Boy Scouts had been invited Sunday. However, not all Boy and Girl Scouts were present as some had not been informed of the event. Dirig said any Catholic Scout interested in working towards these awards can contact her at tscoutlady@yahoo.com.

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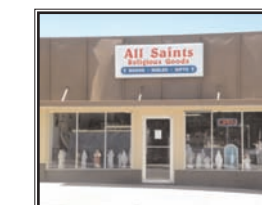
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Supreme Court upholds First Amendment rights in funeral protest case

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The First Amendment right to free speech trumps the rights of a deceased Marine's family to be protected from emotional distress intentionally inflicted by extreme and outrageous protests outside his funeral, the Supreme Court ruled March 2. In a narrowly applicable 8-1 decision, the court upheld a 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that the members of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., were within their First Amendment rights when they staged a protest outside the 2006 funeral of Matthew Snyder in Westminster, Md. His father, Albert Snyder of York, Pa., sought financial compensation for emotional distress, defamation and other injuries after he learned about the Westboro group's protest. The members of the small church, which consists of the Rev. Fred W. Phelps and his family, have made a practice of staging protests at the funerals of soldiers and at other public places with signs such as "God Hates the USA," "God Hates Fags" and "Thank God for Dead Soldiers." Rev. Phelps teaches that the deaths of soldiers are God's vengeance on the United States for society's tolerance of homosexuality. The Catholic Church is a frequent target as well, with protesters' signs about pedophiles. But in writing for the court, Chief Justice John Roberts said the Westboro members had a constitutional right to be where they were and to say what they did, despite the objectionable nature of what they were doing.

Pope calls for aid to civilians in Libya; Catholic agencies step in

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As fighting between rebels and government forces in Libya intensified, Pope Benedict XVI called for aid and assistance to civilians caught in the conflict. "Recent clashes have caused many deaths and an increasing humanitarian crisis" in Libya, the pope said after praying the Angelus with pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square March 6. He expressed his concern over the growing crisis and said his prayers were with all victims and "those who find themselves in distress." He said: "I appeal for assistance and aid for the people who are hit" by the crisis. More than 1,000 people were believed to have died in the two weeks after pro-democracy protests began in mid-February. A violent crackdown on the popular movement also triggered a large exodus of people, including migrants; more than 100,000 people were said to have fled to Egypt and Tunisia. Rebels opposed to the 42-year rule of Col. Moammar Gadhafi tried to take control of cities in the country's western and eastern regions, and forces loyal to the Libyan dictator launched

NEWS BRIEFS

PALESTINIAN CHILDREN DRESS UP FOR CARNIVAL



CNS PHOTO/DEBBIE HILL

Palestinian children dressed up in costumes attend a carnival at Holy Family Parish in Ramallah, West Bank, March 4. Hundreds of Catholic children from parishes in the West Bank gathered in costumes for a festive celebration before the start of the penitential season of Lent. The day was filled with shows, games and a special Mass.

aerial bombing raids in a counteroffensive. Bishop Giovanni Martinelli of Tripoli, Libya, said there were clashes "in the mosque after prayers in central Tripoli" March 4, but that most of the capital is currently "well-guarded" by government forces. However, "the situation is very uncertain and for the moment anything is possible," Bishop Martinelli told Fides, the news agency of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. "In my view, the international embargo and threats are unlikely to convince the Libyan authorities to surrender," he said.

School choice promoted in Pennsylvania, New York

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Pennsylvania state Sen. Anthony H. Williams invokes the language of the civil rights movement and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. when arguing for school choice. Williams, a Democrat who represents Philadelphia, called the bill that would give low-income parents tuition vouchers to transfer their children from failing public schools to schools that succeed a "moral imperative." The bill passed by a vote of 8-2 in the Senate Education Committee March 1. "For too long we have trapped and failed thousands of children and their families and failed the taxpayers who have paid for this expensive failure," he said. Nearly 70 years after the U.S. Supreme Court banned segregated

schools, declaring that "separate is not equal," Williams has adapted the famous ruling to describe his own crusade for choice: "Failing schools are not equal," he said. Williams is lead co-sponsor of S.B. 1 — the Opportunity Scholarship Act — along with state Sen. Jeffrey Piccola from the Harrisburg area and 15 other legislators. Under terms of the legislation, a family of four earning less than \$28,688 could use vouchers to send their children to the school of their choice — public, private, Catholic or charter. The money would come from the per-pupil subsidy the commonwealth pays to local school districts. The vouchers would cover tuition up to the current cost of the base subsidy: \$8,950. Meanwhile, Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York testified Feb. 15 at a joint legislative budget hearing on elementary and secondary education in Albany, N.Y., speaking out against proposed cuts in reimbursements to religious and independent schools and in favor of school choice. "It is in the area of parental choice that we see the gravest injustice perpetrated on families, no matter whether it's a family with children in public school or a family with children in a Catholic school, yeshiva, or some other independent school," he told the panel. In Virginia, the Senate Finance Committee recently defeated legislation that would have given businesses tax credits for their donations to fund nonpublic school tuition for low-income stu-

dents. Among those testifying in favor of the Virginia legislation was Florida state Rep. Terry Fields, who spoke of "the great success and wide bipartisan support the program receives in Florida."

Archbishop calls Obama's decision on federal marriage law 'alarming'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Obama administration's decision to no longer support the federal Defense of Marriage Act is an "alarming and grave injustice," said New York Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Our nation and government have the duty to recognize and protect marriage, not tamper with and redefine it, nor to caricature the deeply held beliefs of so many citizens as 'discrimination,'" he said in a March 3 statement. The archbishop's comments were in response to a Feb. 23 announcement that President Barack Obama had instructed the Department of Justice to stop defending the federal law passed by Congress and signed into law in 1996 by President Bill Clinton. The Defense of Marriage Act says the federal government defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman and that no state must recognize a same-sex marriage from another state. Attorney General Eric Holder said Feb. 23 that although the adminis-

tration has defended the law in some federal courts, it will no longer continue to do so in cases pending in the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Holder said the 2nd Circuit "has no established or binding standard for how laws concerning sexual orientation should be treated." He said Obama "has concluded that given a number of factors, including a documented history of discrimination, classifications based on sexual orientation should be subject to a more heightened standard of scrutiny." Archbishop Dolan disagreed, saying the federal law "does not single out people based on sexual 'orientation' or inclination. Every person deserves to be treated with justice, compassion, and respect, a proposition of natural law and American law that we as Catholics vigorously promote. Unjust discrimination against any person is always wrong." He said the marriage law was not "unjust discrimination" but merely affirmed the "unalterable meaning of marriage."

Border violence among issues discussed by bishops from Texas, Mexico

EL PASO, Texas (CNS) — Shared concerns over violence among Mexico's drug gangs and broader issues related to discrimination and human rights violations against immigrants and their impact on the Church were discussed by bishops from dioceses along the Texas-Mexico border during a three-day meeting that ended March 3. Gathering in El Paso, across the border from Ciudad Juarez, ground zero in Mexico's drug war and where thousands of murders occur annually, the 10 bishops also discussed pastoral issues related to the celebration of the sacraments, said Father Juan Armando Renovato Lopez, spokesman for the Diocese of Piedras Negras, across from Eagle Pass, Texas. The bishops agreed to coordinate practices on both sides of the border, making it easier for U.S. residents to get married or to have their children baptized in Mexico in front of relatives who find it difficult to cross the border because of the violence, Father Renovato said. "It's important that we have the same requirements along the border in regards to marriage preparation. That's been a big issue for us," Brownsville Bishop Daniel E. Flores told television station KVIA in El Paso. Mexico's crackdown on organized crime and drug cartels has claimed more than 35,000 lives over the past four years. Violence mainly had impacted those involved in illegal activities, but the Chihuahua state human rights commission recently reported at least 200 entire families have been killed in retaliation for the actions of relatives. Father Renovato told Catholic News Service the bishops also wanted to explore "how the Church can offer assistance to migrants, many of whom don't have any money."

Grotto to be closed March 14-18 as part of maintenance plan

NOTRE DAME — The Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes at the University of Notre Dame will be closed from 8 a.m. March 14 to 3 p.m. March 18 as part of a long-range maintenance and care plan for the religious shrine.

During the temporary closure, candles will be available for lighting and accommodations will be made for the nightly rosary, both outside the kneeling rail.

A fire July 26 caused damage to the interior of the grotto. Restoration at the time included cleaning soot from the stone surfaces of the shrine, removing melted wax from the floor, repairing damaged candle racks and inspecting the structure to ensure the interior was safe for use.

From March 14 to 18, digital scanning technology will be used to develop a three-dimensional model of the grotto. The model will be used to understand and document for historical purposes how the grotto was built and for tracking future maintenance and repairs, specifically its periodic cleaning and tuck-pointing.

Built in 1896, Notre Dame's Grotto is one-seventh the size of the famed French shrine where the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette on 18 occasions in 1858.

USF showcasing high school art talent

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will host its 35th annual High School Exhibition March 6-27 in the John P. Weatherhead Gallery in the Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center. An opening reception will take place from 1-3 p.m. on March 6, with an awards ceremony at 2 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

The exhibition showcases the best work by high school students around the region. High schools from Indiana, Michigan and Ohio may submit as many as 10 pieces from each of their students. Merchandise awards and art scholarships are available to eligible students who participate.

Weatherhead Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1-5 p.m.

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel holds parish mission

FORT WAYNE — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will hold its parish mission from March 13-16, beginning at 6:30 p.m. each evening at 11337 U.S. Highway 27 South, in Fort Wayne.

Father David Mary Engo, minister general of the Friars of the Franciscan Brothers Minor will speak each night of the mission, whose theme is "It has pleased the Father to make us His children."

AROUND THE DIOCESE

PILLOW DRIVE ASSISTS MUSTARD SEED BANK



PROVIDED BY ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOL

The Home and School Association (HASA) of St. Aloysius School, Yoder, organized a pillow drive to benefit the Mustard Seed Furniture Bank in Fort Wayne. The Mustard Seed provides home furnishings to people who are in need or have gone through a life crisis. The focus this year for Catholic Schools week was "Giving Back to the Community," and the Mustard Seed informed HASA that they were depleted of pillows. During Catholic Schools Week, St. Aloysius students could wear their pajamas to school as long as they brought in a new pillow or money to buy a new pillow. St. Aloysius donated 118 pillows to the Mustard Seed.

Topics include the following: Sunday, March 13, spiritual adoption; Monday, March 14, Reconciliation (Penance service and private confessions will be offered); Tuesday, March 15, the Blessed Virgin Mary; Wednesday, March 16, the Holy Eucharist, followed by Mass.

Morning sessions are also being offered at 9 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in the community room. Babysitting will be available each night.

St. Joseph holds parish mission

BLUFFTON — St. Joseph Church will hold its parish mission from March 20-24 at 1300 N. Main St., Bluffton.

The theme of the mission is "Molded in the Image of Jesus Christ."

Topics include the following: Sunday, March 20, "We are a Community of God's People"; Monday, March 21, "We are a Praying People"; Tuesday, March 22, "We are a Forgiven and Forgiving People," which includes a Reconciliation Service; Wednesday, March 23, "We are a Caring People"; and Thursday, March 24, "We are a Eucharistic

People," with speaker Bishop-emeritus John M. D'Arcy. The mission will close with Mass.

Light refreshments will be served after each session. Transportation and nursery care and infant preschool will be provided. Special children's sessions also will be held Sunday through Wednesday for grades kindergarten through fourth grade. For more information call (260) 824-1380 or e-mail stjosephchurch@adamswells.com.

Scholastic Art Awards highlight talent at Saint Joseph's High School

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph's High School students were recently honored with the Scholastic Art Awards.

Avery Gray is awarded both gold and the prestigious American Vision Award for her series of five masks.

Kaitlin Martin was awarded three golds and one silver for her digital designs plus two golds for her portfolios in both art and writing.

Cody Davis received two golds for his ceramic pieces, a silver for a photography entry "Blending" in, which also was given a Visual Voice Award, an honorable men-

tion for a painting, and a silver for his art portfolio.

Allyssa Swearingen was given a gold for her art portfolio and also an honorable mention for a painting.

Other winners included: Ellen Bachmannhuff, honorable mention; Frank Busch, gold; Frank Busch, silver; Jessica Ferro, silver; Christina Hevel, silver; Erin Kelley, honorable mention; Anna Martin, honorable mention; Kathleen Ray, silver; and Jacob Speybroeck, gold.

All Gold award winning pieces will go to New York City for the national competition.

Spring 40 Days for Life campaign planned

SOUTH BEND — The South Bend community will unite with other cities throughout the nation for the 40 Days for Life campaign this spring from March 9 through April 17. The campaign is a peaceful, prayerful, simultaneous pro-life outreach.

The South Bend campaign will include the following:

- Prayer and fasting — Inviting people of faith throughout the community to join together for 40 days of fervent prayer and fasting for an end to abortion

- Peaceful vigil — Standing for life through a 40-day peaceful, prayerful, public witness outside the abortion facility, the Women's Pavilion, located at 2010 Ironwood Circle, South Bend

- Community outreach — Taking a positive, upbeat pro-life message to every corner of the city through media efforts, church presentations, door-to-door advocacy and public visibility.

The South Bend campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday and run through Holy Thursday, making it longer than the national 40 Days for Life.

"Our hope is that 40 Days for Life, South Bend will be one way for Catholics to deepen their Lenten experience," said Mary Akre, South Bend campaign director. "In this spirit, we will not have any 40 Days for Life sponsored events. Instead, we would like to encourage people to participate in the Lenten activities taking place in their own parishes and around the diocese."

Akre said, "We have a place on www.40daysforlife.com/south-bend called 'Local News.' We would like to post information about any events you have planned in your parish and are open to all Catholics in the area."

Saint Joseph's seniors receive accolades

SOUTH BEND — Two Saint Joseph's High School seniors have received notable recognition for their excellence.

In November, Paul Anthony was notified he had achieved a perfect score on the ACT, a feat shared by only 588 seniors nationwide. He has also recently been named a semifinalist in the United States Presidential Scholars Program.

Anthony is also in contention for a second prestigious scholar program, The Hesburgh-Yusko Scholars Program at Notre Dame.

Anthony and classmate Ellen Roof have been chosen finalists from a large pool of applicants. The 50-60 finalists will visit the campus of Notre Dame during the weekend of March 26-29, and the Hesburgh-Yusko Scholars Program interviews will be conducted. In addition to distinguished academic achievement, this program is looking for exemplary moral character, demonstrated leadership abilities and a sincere commitment to service.

Roof has also been awarded the highly competitive Professional Athletes Foundation (PAF) Scholarship. The Indianapolis Chapter of the National Football League Retired Players Association offers two scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each. The PAF program seeks out highly qualified recipients, selecting only one male and one female in the states with established chapters. This competitive scholarship requires a 3.75 GPA or better. Roof's GPA is 4.450 and she plans to attend the University of Notre Dame.

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Missionary Sister, 52, uses unusual background to help Poorest of the Poor in Haiti

Sr. Irene Clare Duval knew she wanted to be a nun since she was 8 years old, but it wasn't until she was 48 that she joined the Missionaries of the Poor, Sisters. During the four decades in between she served in the U.S. military, went to college and worked for the New York City police department as a drug chemist.

Though she still isn't sure why God told her to wait so long, she knows now that the things she learned while she was waiting help her serve the poor in Haiti better.

"I could ask why for the rest of my life," says Sr. Irene in something in between a Haitian and Brooklyn accent. "But the way I see it, God's timing is perfect and he had me go through what I have for a reason."

"Besides, I figure I'll live until about 112, so I have lots more life to give to God," the 52-year-old says with a broad smile.

Sr. Irene is known now as the dynamic Catholic sister who transformed the lives of hundreds of families in Viloux, a small, remote village in the mountains of southern Haiti. She began important social programs where none existed.

Sr. Irene was born in Haiti but moved with her family to New York when she was in sixth grade. In Haiti she had always attended Catholic school — where she first realized she wanted to be a nun — but in New York her parents could only afford to send her and her siblings to public school.

"I used to get beat up every day at school because I looked and talked different from everyone in my class," Sr. Irene says. "I quickly learned how to deal with bullies — a skill that still serves me well today."

After graduating high school, she considered joining a convent, but she was shy and says

"it just didn't feel like the right time."

Instead she joined the U.S. army reserves and went to Pratt University in Brooklyn to study chemical engineering. After graduating, she made a pact with God, promising to join an order and help the poor after she paid off her student loans — a task that took more than 15 years. In the meantime, she worked for the City of New York's Department of Environmental Protection and then for the New York Police Department's drug testing lab.

"My classmates and coworkers always used to ask why I'd want to give up my great job and become a nun. They asked how I'd have money to live," Sr. Irene recalls. "I just smiled and told them that I had the ultimate sugar daddy— Jesus."

Finally, at age 48, Sr. Irene joined the Missionaries of the Poor Sisters. Just two years later she was sent to Haiti to begin the outreach work she had promised God she would do. And she kept her promise in a big way (see feature on opposite page).

She started a school feeding program that provides meals to 121 children, most of whom were going days without food before she arrived. She opened up the local government school to more children by hiring additional teachers and launched a dispensary, doling out medicine and care to families who had nowhere to turn when they got sick.

Sr. Irene is also planting spiritual seeds. She's begun a new order in the area and already has 53 vocations.

"Everything I've done in my life has come into play in my mission. I'm not working as an engineer, but it's like my studies — it all comes into play," Sr. Irene says. "People are always coming to me with some need. I'm able to help because of the varied experiences



Sr. Irene comforts a child being served at her outreach. Her joy and optimism are infectious.

I've had. I think that was God's plan."

One thing Sr. Irene has learned over her life is the importance of prayer. She says it is especially helpful when she makes the trip to Viloux each week. She takes the *tap-tap* — an overcrowded public bus — then walks the last hour-and-a-half through rocky roads winding up the mountains.

"Prayer is my lifeline," she explains. "Over and over, I've seen how powerful prayer is."

Through her strong faith in God and rich life experiences Sr. Irene works diligently to help Haiti's poor, despite the challenges. But she wouldn't be able to do her important work for Christ without Cross International Catholic Outreach, a U.S.-based relief ministry that funds the bulk of her outreach programs. Without the support Cross provides, Sr. Irene would have never been able to help Viloux or its people, she says.

"Cross is committed to helping strong

Catholic missionaries like Sr. Irene," says Jim Cavnar, Cross president. "One of the most important aspects of our work with the poor is supporting small ministries doing great things, ministries that would not be able to run without the support of our donors. We are thankful for the unique opportunity we have to help these ministries grow."

And that's good news for Sr. Irene, who has finally found her true calling in Haiti.

"God is joy, and where you find joy that's where God wants you to be," Sr. Irene says, smiling from ear to ear. "I'm so happy here — serving the poor of Haiti in God's name."

To make a tax-deductible contribution to Cross International Catholic Outreach and its outreach overseas, use either the enclosed postage-paid brochure or send donations to: Cross International Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00735, 490 White Pond Drive, PO Box 63, Akron, OH 44309-0063.

Cross Recognized, Endorsed by Nearly 50 U.S. Catholic Bishops

As Cross International Catholic Outreach (CICO) continues its range of relief work to help the poor overseas, its efforts are being recognized by a growing number of Catholic leaders in the U.S.

"We've received an impressive number of endorsements and letters of support from American Bishops and Archbishops — nearly 50 Catholic leaders at last count," explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross International Catholic Outreach. "They're impressed by the fact that we've done outreaches in more than 40 countries and that we undertake a variety of projects; everything from feeding the hungry and housing the homeless to supplying safe water and supporting educational opportunities for the poorest of the poor."

Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis sent one of the more recent letters of encouragement, writing: "It is my hope that this ministry will continue to flourish and reach as many people as possible. I will inform the priests of the Archdiocese of St. Louis of the important work that Cross International Catholic Outreach does and elicit their prayerful and financial support for the service you provide to the less fortunate

around the world."

Bishop Kevin Vann of Fort Worth was just as enthusiastic about Cross Catholic and its mission. "I also know that many of the Bishops in Texas think very highly and endorse the work and mission of Cross International Catholic Outreach — as well as do other Bishops whom I know from my days of graduate studies in Rome. Please know of my prayers and support for this vital work..."

In Archbishop Gregory Aymond's case, the endorsement came with a personal note of thanks for the role Cross Catholic played in helping families hit hard by Hurricane Katrina.

"I'm happy to acknowledge that Cross International Catholic Outreach was of tremendous help to the Archdiocese of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina," he said.

Bishop Thomas Rodi of Biloxi had similar praise.

"Your quick response to the needs of the people in south Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina will always be remembered and greatly appreciated," he said. "Thank you for all the good you do, and may God bless you and your ministry."

In addition to praising the work CICO



Bishop Kevin W. Vann, a director on the board of Cross International Catholic Outreach, at a recent meeting with Pope Benedict.

Cor Unum is a source of encouragement," the Archbishop said. "The Holy See has unique knowledge of local situations throughout the world through its papal representatives in nearly two hundred countries and through its communications with Bishops and others who care for the poor and needy in

every corner of the world."

CICO president, Jim Cavnar, explained the significance of this connection.

"Our collaboration with Cor Unum allows us to fund outreaches in virtually any area of the world, and we have used that method in special cases — to help the victims of natural disasters, for example," he said. "It only represents a small part of our overall ministry, but it can be a very important benefit in those special cases."

accomplishes, many of the Bishops and Archbishops are also impressed by the unique collaborative relationship Cross has with the Pontifical Council Cor Unum in Rome. This allows the charity to participate in the mercy ministries of the Holy Father himself. In his praise of CICO, Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati underscored this unique connection.

"Cross International Catholic Outreach's close collaboration with the Pontifical Council

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Catholics Bring Light in Haiti's Darkest Hour

Despite overwhelming adversity, Catholic leaders are making a difference in the lives of Haiti's poor

Two-year-old Kiel's screams cut through the clear morning air, his eyes full of tears and red from crying. His sister Lysins, 5, makes silly faces, hoping for a smile — but gets only more cries.

"He's hungry," says Enita, 7, his other sister, as she rocks him in her arms. "We are all hungry."

Though their mother works as a maid, making the equivalent of \$20 a month, her meager earnings are hardly enough to feed her eight children, especially now that food prices in Haiti have more than doubled in the last year.

Though Haiti has long carried the designation of the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, its problems have intensified over the last year. Rising food prices have led to widespread hunger — several news reports told of Haitian's eating "dirt cookies" to survive. In April and mid July protests broke out against the staggering price of staple foods such as rice, some turning violent. Recently, the country was affected by four storms in less than a month, which killed at least 600 people. Widespread flooding from the hurricanes and tropical storms destroyed crops, intensifying the food crisis, and left hundreds of thousands of Haitians without homes.

But in what seems to be Haiti's darkest hour rays of light are shining through. A bevy of social outreach ministries led by strong Catholic missionaries are making a difference.

"Things are better now that sister is here," says 14-year-old Sanette Labossiere, who partakes in a parish-run feeding program at her school in Viloux, a small, remote village in the mountains of southern Haiti. "We eat every day now."

Sr. Irene Clare Duval, part of the Missionaries of the Poor Sisters, provides hot, nutritious meals to 121 children in Viloux through this school feeding program. The outreach is one of several she began for the people in the area after she arrived in Haiti over a year ago.

"I saw what needed to be done, and I did it," Sr. Irene says. "Malnutrition is a big problem here, like in the rest of Haiti."

Cross International Catholic Outreach, an aid organization that ministers to the poor by partnering with Catholic missionaries around the world, helped Sr. Irene start her outreach programs with cash grants raised through U.S. donors.

"Cross gave me the resources I needed to begin my work," she says. "Without their help, I would never have been able meet the profound needs of these people."

Before Sr. Irene came to this remote village, which is about an hour's drive through rugged terrain from Haiti's main southern town Les Cayes, there were no teachers in the school, no medicine for the sick and most children would go days without a meal.

"These people had no one to help them," says Sr. Irene, who opened a dispensary from the Catholic mission in Viloux and now pays the salaries of three teachers at the local school. "If I don't, who will?"

That question is exactly what led Fr. Marc, a former U.S. Navy chaplain, to give up his career, move to Haiti and start an orphanage for street children in Les Cayes. He now cares for nearly 700 children, providing them with shelter, food and a chance at a new life.

"I sometimes wonder what all these children



In Haiti, many poor children depend on Catholic outreaches for "their daily bread." There is no other place for these families to turn for help.

would do without this ministry," Fr. Marc says. "Anytime I get discouraged I just remember that we are making a difference and that we are fulfilling God's commission to help the poor."

And theirs is help Haiti desperately needs, especially when it comes to health care. Haiti ranks 146th out of 177 countries in the UN's latest Human Development index. Study after study has shown that women and children bear the brunt of the country's health woes.

Haiti's maternal mortality ratio is 630 per 100,000 live births (compared to eight women in 100,000 in the US), and it has the highest rates of mortality for infants and children under 5 in the Americas, according to UNICEF. These death rates are so high because few pregnant women in Haiti have access to medical care while giving birth. They are either too far away from a hospital when they go into labor, or cannot afford it. This is compounded by the fact that there is one obstetrician for every 40,000 people.

Before the Haitian Health Foundation (HHF) began working in Jeremie, a large, rural town in Haiti's Grand Anse region, mother and child mortality rates soared. It was common for pregnant women in labor to bleed to death as they were transported in wicker chairs down the mountain on the way to the hospital. The lives of more than 200 women have been saved since HHF bought an ambulance to transport these women — theirs is the only emergency vehicle in the region.

"We're here because of the poor, to bring them what they couldn't otherwise get," says Sister Maryann Berard, a Franciscan nun and the administrator for HHF, a Catholic outreach organization running more than 100 programs to improve the health of Haiti's women and children. "The people who come to us keep us motivated. When you see people healthier



and smiling it's worth it."

Though their faith in God and the progress they see in the people they help keep them going, these Catholic missionaries need help. Without the financial support of American Catholics and U.S.-based ministries they wouldn't have the resources to do their important work.

"Despite the heartaches and tremendous

pressures these Catholic missionaries face every day, they obey God's calling to help the hurting people of Haiti with earnest compassion and without reservation," says Jim Cavnar, president of Cross, which supports Sr. Irene, Fr. Marc and HHF in their work for Christ. "We count it a privilege to be a partner with them in their holy work."

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ST. PATRICK HONORED IN SIX DIO

BY MARK WEBER

Can you name them ... the locations of six Catholic churches in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend honoring St. Patrick?

In Arcola, a small community west of Fort Wayne, Father Julian Benoit, pioneer priest, first said Mass in private homes. Established as a parish in 1862, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ arrived to teach there three years later.

If heavenly rewards are based on earthly services rendered, one cannot begin to imagine the celestial rapture still enjoyed by Sister M. Bonaventure Heinsmann who, in addition to being superior of the primitive outpost, taught music, was sacristan, did the church wash and visited the sick in their homes.

Known as the Mother Church of South Bend, St. Patrick Parish

listed Touhey, Cooney, Quinlan and Clifford as charter members in 1858, but Germans, Poles, Hungarians and Belgians first worshiped there before spinning off to form their own parishes.

Considering what those settlers did to provide a house of worship for themselves, by hauling stone and timber by ox cart and digging in with pick and shovel for the foundation, their determination and devotion seems unmatched.

Moreover, this was done by men who had spent the day building a railroad and worked for 75 cents a day. As they dug and lugged in the evenings, their children stood by with lanterns lighting the scene.

St. Patrick Parish in Walkerton, established in 1856, was first served by Holy Cross priests from Notre Dame who arrived by horseback with Mass in a saddlebag. At the time, the congregation was known as St. Henry's, but by 1870 when the parish of 19 families

built a 45 x 22 foot church for \$800, the members, registered as Quirk, Quinn, Murphy, Muldoon, Finnegan, Fitzgerald, and Frank Krankowitz, who got one vote, were inspired to rename their congregation in honor of St. Patrick.

In a section of Fort Wayne so predominantly Hibernian that it was called Irish Town, St. Patrick Parish, established in 1889, was served for its first 73 years by pastors named O'Leary, Delaney and Monahan.

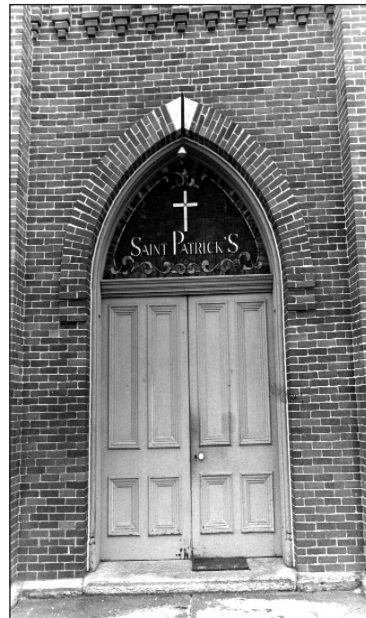
At one time the enrollment of its grade school reached nearly 700 and had a faculty of 18 Sisters of Providence. Through their example and those of its pastors and assistants, many religious vocations began at St. Patrick's, with 60 joining the Sisters of Providence, 16 became women religious in other orders, and 35 sons of St. Patrick became priests or brothers.

Today, membership there is 85 percent Mexican-American, with

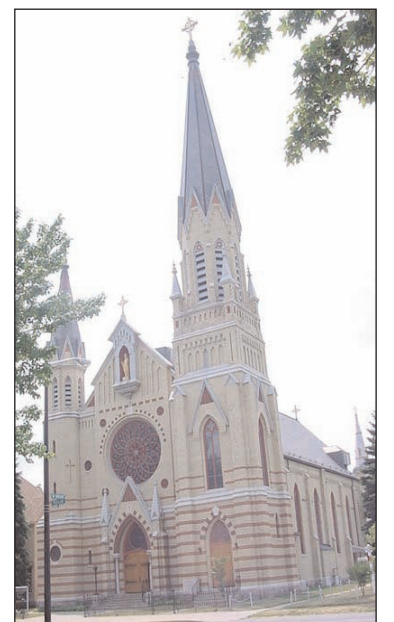
with three cultures harmoniously blended in one belief.

Nineteen centuries after Christ was born in a stable, He was present and worshiped as the Blessed Sacrament in another stable in Ligonier. "The Stable" is a term affectionately used for a former carriage house and barn which was one of the houses of worship that has served the Catholics of Ligonier and still comes up in conversation among senior parishioners.

When St. Patrick, Ligonier was founded under the direction of Bishop John Henry Luers, Masses



St. Patrick, Lagro, first to honor St. Patrick.



St. Patrick, South Bend



St. Patrick, Fort Wayne

the balance made up of Anglos and Vietnamese with Masses regularly offered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. And although the shamrocks there continue to symbolize the Trinity, now quite appropriately, also emblemize the universality of Christ's Church

were held for about seven families in the home of Henry Zonker and then in a log cabin type church on Martin Street where in winter, parishioners were warmed by a potbelly stove. Depending upon the weather, folks arrived on foot, on horseback, or in buggies, wagons and sleighs. Going to Mass called for planning and effort with no guarantee that a priest would be present; once or twice a month was a good average.

A significant chapter in the development of the Midwest as the faith was planted there is related to the building of the Wabash and



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CESAN CHURCHES

Erie Canal, particularly in Lagro, where the first of the six churches named for St. Patrick was founded in 1838.

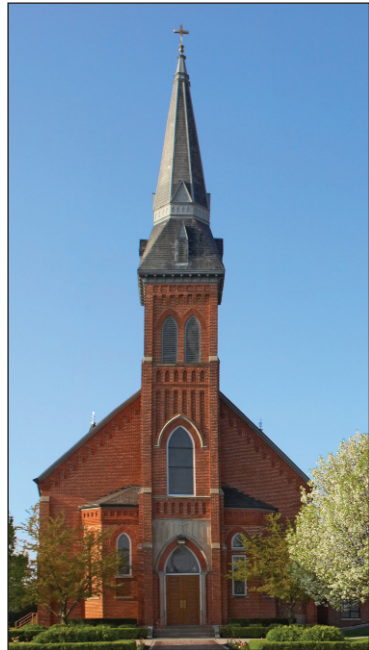
The canal diggers were Irish, with some settling in Lagro and become the charter members and builders of the first Catholic church.

Today, like ancient ruins, remnants of the Jim Kerr canal lock remain not far from St. Patrick's, which is now an oratory, with a Mass said at 12:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month, and is administered by St. Bernard Parish, Wabash.



St. Patrick, Walkerton

Although the pioneer spirit, style and sacrifice are etched in the history of each of the St. Patrick parishes, none captures the drama or determination of those early Hoosier Catholics as well as the story of "St. Patrick's Bell" in



St. Patrick Arcola



St. Patrick, Ligonier

Lagro.

It was there in the spring of 1848, that a young man named Pasque, owner of a good team of oxen and a strong wagon, was dispatched to Toledo, Ohio, with cash in hand to purchase a church bell.

Fording streams, camping and seeking shelter and food with settlers, Pasque and his team made their way with slow heavy steps.

In Toledo, no such bell could be found, and Pasque was directed to a foundry in Bethlehem, Pa., where once again he was disappointed and moved on to Buffalo, N.Y., where a suitable bell was found.

Back in Lagro, gazing at a vacant belfry, some quietly observed that perhaps Father Ryan had shown poor judgment by trusting "the young man" with the bell fund which had taken years to accrue.

Their muttering turned to cheers when nearly a year after his departure, the weary team and their drover showed up with the bell which soon could be heard miles away.

From the majesty of St. Patrick Cathedral in New York City and the luster of the luminaries who appear there to remote places like Lagro, where St. Patrick's had its golden age in the distant past, the love of the Irish for the faith and their patron continues to inspire, highlighted in gold and green through the ages.

Thanks to the following for assistance with photos: Angie Brechtel, St. Patrick, South Bend; Patty Denihan and Ron Ulaszewski, St. Patrick, Arcola; Vicky Krohn, St. Patrick, Walkerton.

PADDY'S DAY PARADE OFFERS FIRST GREEN OF SPRING

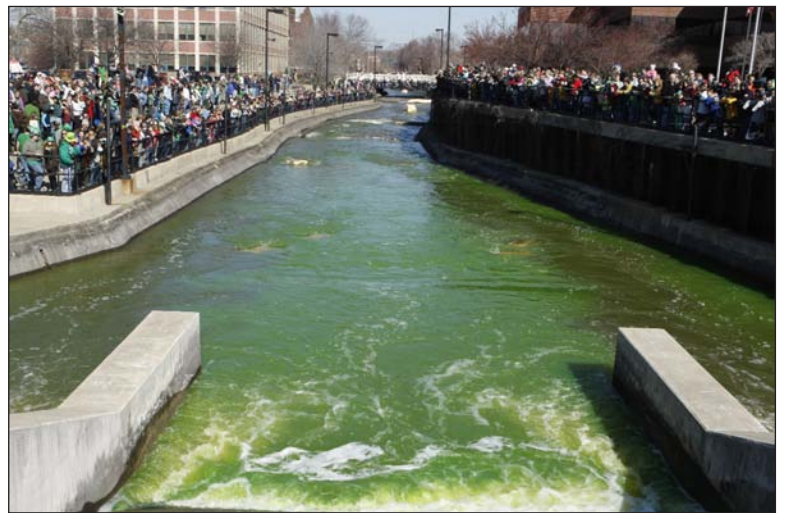


PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

St. Patrick's Day festivities in downtown South Bend on Saturday, March 12, will include a Celtic Mass at St. Patrick Church at 9 a.m., a Little Leprechaun Contest at Howard Park, followed by the 11 a.m. parade along Jefferson Boulevard and the Greening of the East Race. City Ceili, complete with corned beef and Irish music and dance, will be at St. Patrick's Parish Center from 12-4 p.m.



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Study abroad offers immersion, universal connection

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College students find small world in Ireland

BY JUDY BRADFORD

Saint Mary's College offers total immersion Irish program

NOTRE DAME — For Nikki Taylor, a year in Ireland meant a lot more than taking classes, traveling, or eating beef and Guinness pie for the first time.

"The most important thing is that I grew up a lot," says the Fort Wayne native. "I had to take care of myself, shop and cook, and I learned how to keep a budget on a foreign currency. Afterwards, you have this feeling that you can do anything."

Taylor spent her sophomore year, in 2008-2009, in Maynooth, Ireland, about 14 miles west of Dublin through the Ireland program of Saint Mary's College. She shared an on-campus apartment with four Irish women.

For 33 years, the Saint Mary's program has offered students an opportunity to live and learn with Irish students at the National University of Ireland in County Kildare. Taylor, who is a graduate of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, took classes in sociology, religion and English, finishing up her general education requirements under special arrangement "since most of the classes there focused on their majors."

On weekends and breaks, she would take the train into Dublin or travel to Rome, Venice, Paris or Austria, where she spent Christmas that year. By spring semester, she was starting to blend in and felt "almost native" to Ireland.

"That's the wonderful thing about the program, is that it's full immersion," says Taylor. "One of



PHOTO PROVIDED BY NIKKI TAYLOR

Nikki Taylor stands in front of the remains of a Norman castle at Clonmachnoise, on the River Shannon during her travels abroad.

my roommates and I became fairly good friends, and we would go out together or just stay in and watch TV together. Some of the friends I made in Ireland have come to visit me here now."

Karen Chambers, a professor at Saint Mary's College and faculty coordinator for the Ireland Program, says that students "really get to be Irish for their time there," often by joining clubs and societies.

"Last year, a couple of the students joined the basketball team and they played in the All-Irish

finals," said Chambers, in an e-mail. A few years ago, a Saint Mary's student was elected president of the Drama Society.

Many of the program's alumna — some from as far back as 20 years ago — report that they are still friends with some of the people they met in Ireland.

On the topic of growing up while abroad, Chambers said the program gives students another way of viewing the world, and as such is an important part of a liberal arts education. But it's also a chance to become truly independ-



PROVIDED BY STACEY BRANDT

Stacey Brandt stands in front of the O'Connell House in Dublin where she study abroad for one semester.

ent for the first time.

"College students are used to calling their parents on the mobile nearly any moment of the day to get advice and support. But with the time difference (in Ireland), they need, for the first time, to really make decisions on their own," said Chambers, adding that with e-mail, cell phones and an on-site coordinator, there is still a lot of support in Maynooth. "But in the

moment, they need to make their own choice. They learn to solve problems without someone else doing it for them or always guiding them through it."

The town of Maynooth is also very welcoming for Saint Mary's students. The college sends the most students from a single American institution to National University, so locals are accustomed to seeing them and will often say "Are you the new Saint Mary's girls?"

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ND students find universal connection studying abroad

The world is smaller than we think, and we are connected in ways we would not expect.

That was the surprise that South Bend native Stacey Brandt got when she spent a semester studying at the University College of Dublin (UCD) last year.

"I learned how connected we all are. You expect to notice the differences, but in the end you notice all the connections," says the University of Notre Dame senior, who participated in the university's Ireland program spring semester of 2010.

While there, she studied English and theology, taking courses ranging from medieval literature to modern Irish writers.

Sister Maris enjoys a century of living

BY IDA CHIPMAN

"There were Irish students and German students as well as Americans all in the class, so there were lots of perspectives."

Brandt, who is a graduate of Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend, had not delved into Irish literature until she reached Ireland. So, James Joyce's "Ulysses" would have been quite a challenge for her. But the Irish professor at UCD took a different approach. "We didn't read it in order. He assigned chapters in the order that he thought they should be. It was a good look into Dublin, and it was neat to read about the author walking through the city, and knowing that these were places I could now walk myself."

In addition to historical and international connections, Brandt also connected with other Americans. "One time, about 18 of us went to Loch Ness, in Scotland. We were walking around, and everyone from the town was so welcoming. Then we ran into two women who were from Purdue University."

Brandt feels the best part of Notre Dame's program is the support provided through the O'Connell House, in Dublin. Once the home of Daniel O'Connell, a 19th century Irish Catholic political leader, the house is now a place that guides and supports students during their stay abroad. "But they also let us be free to explore," adds Brandt.

The O'Connell House has a staff of five to support the students and all of them are Irish citizens except for the program manager, says Peggy Weber, assistant director for the Office of International Studies at Notre Dame, through an e-mail.

The house is home to the Keough-Naughton ND Study Centre which has helped Notre Dame establish a presence in Ireland for the past 10 years.

In addition to the program with UCD, students can also enroll in Trinity College in Dublin, which is for an entire academic year. During the 2010-2011 school year, the program in Ireland included 71 students. Most of them were semester students, like Brandt.

Students in either the Trinity or UCD program are brought together one evening a week for a mandatory course called "Introduction to Ireland" which goes over the history, culture, anthropology and literature of Ireland. Trips are organized to other parts of Ireland.

For the coming summer, Weber says, a new study abroad program is starting with the introduction course and a second one, "The Irish American Experience."

"It will start off with 25 eager students, and promises to be an interesting experience," Weber says.

DONALDSON — On Tuesday, March 8, Sister Maris Krimmel, Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, turned 100 years old.

"Can you imagine that," she said. "A century of living."

The diminutive, spry nun looks, acts and talks like someone much younger.

At her First Communion when she was 9 years old, she said, "I knew in my heart that I wanted to love God. The story of St. Augustine and the Holy Virgins fascinated me."

She didn't know what a virgin was and asked her friends: How do you get to be one?

"All I knew was that I wanted to belong to Jesus," she said.

And so she has.

She graduated from Ancilla High School in 1932 and took her first vows on June 25, 1934.

"Everyone said that I was too independent and that I wouldn't last two weeks as a nun," she laughed.

She took her perpetual vows three years later on June 24, 1937.

Sister Maris explained that the final vows are taken on the anniversary of the first vows, minus one day, so that the novices would not be without their guidance and strength.

"Or it could be," she joked, "that they didn't want anyone getting away."

Her vocation has never wavered.

The one downside was the habits. "They were awful," she said. "They were dark and hot and the wimples were like horse blinders; you couldn't see sideways when wearing them."

After earning her bachelor of science degree in math through DePaul University, she earned a master in physics from Loyola University and a life license in teaching from Indiana University in Fort Wayne.

She taught grade and high school at St. Augustine in Chicago for years, then transferred to Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne in 1970 for her last eight years of teaching before retiring at the age of 65.

"Then I started a second career," she said.

Sister Maris went to a nuclear medicine school at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago ... "the place wasn't even Catholic," she said ... and upon graduation,



IDA CHIPMAN

Sister Maris Krimmel, a Sister of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, celebrated her 100th birthday March 8.

became a nuclear medicine technician at St. Anne's Hospital.

For the next four years, she worked in the lab and medical library at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne. On weekends, she went to the Radio Shack to learn more about computers.

In 1984, she was invited to return to Ancilla Convent to help with the computer program.

"I had to put my move off for several weeks," she said, "because I wanted to stay to vote for Ronald Reagan before leaving."

For the past 26 years she has been helping Ancilla College students and her fellow sisters in the computer lab. She is also a librarian.

She gives free private computer lessons as a hobby.

She plays cards every evening and enjoys bingo, cryptograms and crossword puzzles to keep her mind sharp.

Sister plays the piano and taught herself how to play the violin. When teaching science she built her own telescope and radio. She joined a ham radio club, got her license and her own handle.

"I talked to the truckers and other folks, but I never told them I was a nun," she said.

She eats moderately, takes vitamins and walks a half hour every day.

"I am in prayer three to four hours a day, including my private adoration hour," she said. "My spiritual life is very important to me."

A reception on March 7 was held for 100 people. "No cake," she said. "Apple slices will be served because I love apple pie."

On March 8 there was a birthday dinner for a few friends.

Sister Maris said that she is very happy doing what she does

and where she lives.

"I have had a wonderful life. The Lord has given me a lot of energy, and I want to stay here the rest of my life and help the sisters as long as I can."

"I feel much loved," she said. In 1999, she celebrated her 75th jubilee. "My profession is what I was meant to do with my life," Sister Maris said.

Sister Maris holds the distinction of being the oldest nun in the American Province of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

"I don't know about the German Province," she said, "but I would guess that I am livelier than most of them anyhow."

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Lord, help us spring ahead and leap again

Five inches of snow melted yesterday, and I could hear it dripping off the roof. It sounded like rain and looked like hope.

We have been buried in five feet of snow over the course of this Minnesota winter, which isn't over. One December Saturday brought nearly two feet, collapsing the roof of the Vikings' Metrodome and capsizing our weekend plans.

But today the sun is shining. A chickadee is singing. And the stems of my trimmed hydrangeas are popping out from the snow. It is a marvel to think they have slept all winter and eventually will sprout bright, fluffy bouquets.

I'm reflecting on the symbols of spring in my life, the people and things that show me what it looks like to defeat winter.

There's the old oak in the

backyard, spotted by moss and choked by a vine. Though it's lost limbs and endured woodpeckers, it stands firm, fanning its gnarled branches with a peacock's pride.

Then there are the people, like the meteorologist who produced today's snow report. Paul Douglas was laid off three years ago, but he hasn't stopped tracking heat waves and cold fronts. He created a blog and a Twitter account, and he's got 3,287 followers, which isn't bad.

"Entrepreneur and father of two amazing boys, making the transition from old (dying) media to new media," his Twitter profile reads.

There's the mom in snowy Fargo, raising five kids and pinching pennies, who posted on her blog a Luci Shaw poem that begins "Blessed be God for thaw."



TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

There's the widow in Wisconsin, who bought a new memory-free house and a 105-pound Labradoodle named Gabe. They go on walks down to the lake and she's begun taking him out at night to star gaze. Enveloped in the dark, she's focusing on the tiny, twinkling lights overhead.

My 80-year-old grandma buried her husband at 44, with six children at her side, and stood

CAPECCHI, PAGE 15

Jesus can fortify us against temptation



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

First Sunday of Lent Mt 4:1-11

The first reading for this first weekend of Lent 2011 is from the Book of Genesis.

Few passages in the Scriptures are as abundant in literary technique, and in theological message, as is this reading from Genesis. Bluntly confronting paganism and the tendency of all humans to avoid accusing themselves of fault, it goes to the heart of sin.

The heart of sin is that it is the result of a freely chosen act by humans. While in this reading the role of the tempting devil is clear, it also is clear that the devil only tempts. The devil does not force the first man and woman to sin. They sinned of their own will.

However, the temptation in itself has a lesson. Rebelling against God was hardly the best thing to do. Yet, imperfect even in their pristine state of holiness, the first man and woman listened to bad advice and trusted not God but another.

It is a process that has been repeated untold number of times in the lives of us all.

The second reading is from the Epistle to the Romans. In this reading, the epistle looks back to the incident described in Genesis. It reminds us that by the original sin the first humans introduced sin, and resulting chaos and trou-

ble, into earthly existence.

Thus, death and hardship are not God's designs for us. They were not curses sent upon the human race by an angry God. Believe it or not, the first humans chose them when they sinned. Sin, voluntary and deliberate, brought such devastatingly bad results into the world.

God is the center and source of everlasting love and mercy. He did not leave humanity in the whirlpool of death and despair created by human sin. Instead God sent Jesus, the Redeemer, the Son of God.

St. Matthew's Gospel provides the last reading. It recalls the temptation of Jesus. It is a Synoptic tradition, not unique to Matthew. Similar stories appear in Mark and Luke.

As was the case with Genesis, this reading is heavy in its symbolism. For example, bread in the time of Jesus much more obviously represented survival than bread would be today.

Modern refrigeration and quick transportation of food products have given us in our day a great selection as to what we will eat. In the time of Jesus, the selection was considerably less. There was no refrigeration. Few foodstuffs could be transported at any distance without spoiling.

However, grain and flour, could be stored. Bread was a principal food. So, the devil tries to convince Jesus that the devil can give true life.

In another example, the devil takes Jesus to the top of the temple. Even the earth, created by God, can be contaminated by evil.

The final and most powerful message is that Jesus can command even the devil. Jesus is God.

Reflection

This weekend is the first weekend of Lent. The Church uses the opportunity of this weekend to teach us one of the most basic facts of spiritual life. Sin removes us from God. Sin is not thrust upon us. We are not captured by sin against our will. We choose to sin.

Perhaps, ultimately, the deadliest effect of original sin was the human tendency to minimize the danger of sin and to deny personal responsibility.

In these readings, the Church calls us to awake and then turn away from sin. It reminds us of our own personal role in sin. It pleads with us not to underestimate temptation. It reassures us that, although temptations may be strong, Jesus is our Redeemer and our strength. His strength is enough to overcome any temptation.

But, we must fortify ourselves by asking for the Lord's strength. This is the purpose of Lent.

READINGS

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9;3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

The new translation of the Holy Mass:

Final reflection

Over the last few months, we have studied the upcoming new English translation of the Roman Missal, which we shall begin using on the First Sunday of Advent — Nov. 27, 2011.

Much still needs to be done as we ready ourselves for the implementation, and there will also surely be a little sadness as we bid farewell to the Mass translation we have become accustomed to over the last 40 years. However, despite some opposition and criticisms we may encounter, it is important to keep in mind that the process by which we have received the new Missal has been very methodical and comprehensive. There is never such a thing as a perfect translation, for each language has its own unique character. But many experts and Church leaders have worked diligently over the last decade to ensure we receive the most suitable and accurate translation of all the prayers as possible.

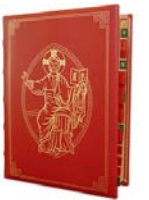
In a very real way, this new Missal should help foster the full, active and conscious participation of the faithful — especially with respect to renewed interior participation at Mass. The rituals and actions of the Mass are not changing; rather, we are receiving richer translations of the original Latin words of the Mass. The new words will require priests and laity alike to be even more attentive to the deep meaning of the prayers.

As we have seen, the new translation will reveal the Scriptural origins of the Mass more powerfully. And although some of the prayers may be longer or more complex than those we use right now, they would not be terribly different in length or style from many sentences among the Pauline readings that we currently hear in the Lectionary.

The new texts also demonstrate the evolution of the Church's understanding of how to use the vernacular most effectively in prayer. In fact, many aspects are a recovery of the devotional language that is familiar from private prayer books. It is an effort to cultivate a "sacred vernacular" — an elevated style of speech that illustrates the significance of the occasion, and helps us enter a context of divine worship. As Pope Paul VI urged in 1969, the language used in the sacred liturgy "should always be worthy of the noble realities it signifies, set apart from the everyday speech of the street and the marketplace."

These elements of the new translation are integral to prayer and worship in the Roman Rite, which in turn are key to our identity as Roman Catholics. It is this need to maintain a distinctive Catholic identity that makes the new Missal so important. Through it, we will achieve greater unity with Mass translations in other languages. But perhaps more significantly, our new translation of

THE NEW MISSAL



BY BRIAN MACMICHAEL

the Mass will help us to set ourselves apart from the culture at large.

It will require us to exercise patience and discipline as we engage the new texts for the first time. It will necessitate deeper study of the faith by presenting the splendor of truth with greater precision. Even if there are difficult words or prayers, their meanings can be taught — and the opportunity to catechize on the depth and mystery found in the words of the Mass can have great evangelizing potential.

What better way to advance the New Evangelization than through the Holy Mass itself? The sacred liturgy is meant to transform and mold us, not vice versa! If we are uneasy with the Church's prayer, perhaps we should strive to understand and enter more fully into that life of prayer.

Particularly as young people today find themselves having to combat radical secularism at every turn, it is of tremendous benefit to worship in a manner that is meant to radiate reverence, truth and beauty unambiguously and abundantly. A renewed expression of the immensity of what happens at the sacred liturgy is essential — this will inspire more seekers of truth to recognize their home in Christ's Church. And ultimately, I believe such beauty in the Mass will lead to an increase in vocations to the holy priesthood. We should therefore approach the new translation with joy, supporting our priests wholeheartedly as they strive to implement the texts.

We began our reflection in Advent, a season of preparation. So it is appropriate that we conclude at the beginning of Lent, another time of heightened preparation and prayer. May we use this season, and all the days until the implementation of the new Missal, to prepare ourselves for a fruitful encounter with the divine Word of God, Jesus Christ, in the words of every Mass. As the new Collect Prayer for Mass on the First Sunday of Lent will say in 2012, may we "grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects."

Brian MacMichael is the director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The chutzpa of German theologians

In "The Joys of Yiddish," Leo Rosten defined chutzpa as "... Presumption-plus-arrogance such as no other word, and no other language, can do justice to" and then offered classic examples of chutzpa in action: "Chutzpa is that quality enshrined in a man who, having killed his mother and father, throws himself on the mercy of the court because he is an orphan. A chutzpanik may be defined as the man who shouts 'Help! Help! while beating you up.'"

Leo Rosten should have lived to experience German Catholic theologians of the early 21st century.

In anticipation of Pope Benedict XVI's forthcoming visit to his homeland, more than 200 German theologians — men and women who have earned doctoral degrees in theology and teach in German universities — have issued a manifesto, "The Church in 2011: A Necessary Departure." The manifesto itself does not identify the destination for which the Church is to depart, but the terminus ad quem seems reasonably clear from a careful reading of the document: Catholicism is to transform itself into another liberal Protestant sect by conceding virtually every point at issue between classic Christianity and the ambient culture of the post-modern West.

It is, perhaps, no surprise to find German Catholic theologians publicly supporting the ordination of married men and women to the ministerial priesthood (overtly), same-sex "marriage" (slyly), and full communion within the Church for those in irregular marriages (subtly but unmistakably). These causes have been espoused for years. German theologians dissented en masse from the 1993 teaching of "Veritatis Splendor" on the nature of moral acts and from the 1994 teaching of "Ordinatio Sacerdotalis" on the Church's inability to admit women to Holy Orders. What was particularly striking about

this new manifesto was its attempt to address serious problems with tried-and-failed solutions. That bespeaks a remarkable lack of intellectual creativity and historical sense.

Thus we are told that the German sexual abuse cases that came to light in 2010 have "plunged the Catholic Church in Germany into an unequaled crisis." Really? I understand, and in many respects sympathize with, German complaints about the ubiquity of references to the National Socialist period whenever anything German is discussed. But was 2010 really a crisis greater than that in which German Catholicism found itself between Hitler's 1933 accession to power and Nazi Germany's defeat in 1945? (Do today's Catholics face crises of conscience greater than those faced by Count Claus von Stauffenberg or Sophie Scholl?) Moreover, what about the crisis of faith that emptied German churches over the past two generations, such that weekly Mass attendance in urban areas hovers around 5-10 percent?

The manifesto is also notable for its failure to examine academic consciences, an exercise that might have led to more measured assessments of responsibility for the current situation. Do these theologians imagine that they and their teachers bear no responsibility for the "paralysis and resignation" they deplore in German Catholicism? Does German theology's tendency to treat the Bible as a specimen to be dissected rather than a gift to be studied with a full array of interpretive tools (including the eyes of faith) had nothing to do with today's crisis of faith in a land whose very language was formed by Luther's biblical translation? Has the theologians' bizarre notion that "freedom of conscience" means abject surrender to the sexual revolution in all its demands had nothing to do with the Church's failures to convert a hedonistic culture? Few of these academics have



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

any serious or sustained connection to the liturgical or pastoral life of the Church; yet they assume they occupy a privileged position from which to understand what has happened to German Catholicism and how its genuine problems can best be addressed. Why?

Seeking a rousing conclusion to their call to the ecclesiastical barricades, the German theologians advise their fellow Catholics that they should "look to the future with courage and walk on water, like Peter as Jesus said to him, 'Why do you have fear? Is your faith so weak?'" A question to the professors: Would each of you who believes that Peter walked on water please raise your hand?

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

CAPECCHI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

beside a snow-covered gravesite this February, bidding farewell to her beloved companion Dick. During the visitation I watched her hug and comfort others, true to form. On such a sad day, there was my grandma, so beautiful and vibrant.

She called the other day, and I saved her voicemail. "Just know that I'm getting along real well," she said. "It's just kind of one special blessing after another going on around me."

That's the promise of spring,

packed in each sunrise, in each day we try to make a little better.

This month we enter into Lent, the sober liturgical season that carries us into the ultimate springtime victory. We are prepared for the 40-day journey by a Sunday Gospel reminding us how to weather the winter. Like the wise man St. Matthew describes, we must heed God's commandments and build our homes on firm foundations. "The rain fell, the flood came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock."

I'm grateful for the people in my corner who model resilience, who live with the faith that spring will always follow winter.

They demonstrate the Latin meaning of the word: to be resilient, "to leap again."

We 20-somethings may seem fearless, but we need to observe resilience in action, 30- and 50- and 70-somethings diving into new careers and new relationships, new homes and new hobbies. They help us imagine our lives in unrestricted terms, to see that older can mean better. They teach us how to forgive ourselves and our loved ones, to find new strength and to leap again.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.ReadChristina.com.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for March 13, 2011

Matthew 4:1-11

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent, Cycle A: the temptation in the wilderness. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

WILDERNESS	THE DEVIL	FASTED
FORTY	NIGHTS	TEMPTER
LOAVES	BREAD	IT IS WRITTEN
ALONE	MOUTH	HOLY CITY
COMMAND	HANDS	DASH
A STONE	THE TEST	MOUNTAIN
WORSHIP	SATAN	SERVE

DEVIL AND ANGELS

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

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St. Paul visits Greek Islands

Where are the islands Cos and Rhodes that St. Paul visited?

St. Paul was heading to Jerusalem from Miletus. On his way he stopped at the Greek island of Cos (modern Kos) situated off a peninsula in southwestern Turkey. Kos has 9,000 inhabitants today and is the birthplace of Hippocrates who was a medical doctor there. From him we derive the Hippocratic Oath for doctors. Baedeker says at Kos you see the sanctuary of Asclepius, son of Apollo, which was a center of treatment and healing. By this sanctuary are Roman baths and a fountain. Fifteen miles from this sanctuary you can see a castle of the Knights of St. John and an early Christian church.

Rhodes is also a Greek island off the southwest coast of Turkey in the Aegean Sea with 30,000 inhabitants today. In the Middle Ages Rhodes was conquered by the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

O. Meinardus says that as St. Paul's ship sailed into the harbor Rhodes, he would have seen the remains of the famous Colossus of Rhodes, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, that collapsed during an earthquake in 225 B.C. A tradition says that St. Paul appointed Prochorus, one of the seven deacons in the Acts of the Apostles, as the bishop of Rhodes.

Another harbor on the southeast coast of the island is called



HIRE HISTORY

FATHER RICHARD HIRE

"St. Paul's Harbor." A small barrel-vaulted chapel commemorates St. Paul's preaching there. Another tradition says that St. Silas, a prophet and leader among the brethren in the Acts of the Apostles, healed a paralytic at the village of Sorone, 20 miles southwest of the city of Rhodes. So the villagers accepted Christianity and built a church in honor of St. Silas.

Phaidon mentions the sites today in the capital city of Rhodes. There is part of a 3rd century B.C. Temple of Aphrodite and a Temple of Dionysos and the remains of the ancient city walls. Southwest of the capital is the sacred precinct with an ancient acropolis with the remains of a Temple of Zeus and Athena. South of the acropolis are three 3rd century B.C. columns still standing on the foundations of the Temple of Apollo.

Nearby are a restored 2nd century B.C. stadium and theater for 800 spectators. This was used as a lecture auditorium for the school of philosophy. Nearby are nymph shrines with niches and statues.

Sports

BISHOP DWENGER CHEERLEADERS WIN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Bishop Dwenger High School's varsity cheerleading squad won the National Championship on Orlando, Fla., on Saturday, Feb. 26. The team took the varsity division, the high-point total for Level 5 teams and the Grand National title for the team with the highest score of the day. They competed against 63 teams from across the nation. Amy Gonzagowski is the cheer leading coach.

St. Joseph, Mishawaka, leads ICCL girls' basketball division

BY CHUCK FREEBY

GRANGER — It has taken seven weeks, but it appears things have finally sorted themselves out in the Inter-City Catholic League's Martin DePorres girls' basketball division.

Thanks to a 12-point effort from Cameron Schultheis and some defensive adjustments, St. Joseph, Mishawaka, downed St. Bavo, 28-22, in a battle of division leaders Sunday. The victory puts the Wildcats all alone atop the division entering the final weekend of the regular season.

"This was a very good game by both teams," said St. Joseph Coach Jeff Deitchley afterwards. "Our girls did a great job focusing on this game, because St. Bavo has a great team."

The Panthers certainly have one of the more potent scorers in the league in Kiersten Reed, and she was a dominant force in the first half. The talented St. Bavo eighth grader poured in 13 points in the first half, leading her squad to a three-point lead at half-time.

"They went to Reed a lot in the first half, and we weren't stopping her," lamented Deitchley. "In the second half, we changed from zone to a box-and-one with Jasmine Rice on her.

Jasmine did a great job and held to her four points in the second half."

Meanwhile, St. Joseph also adjusted its offense, pounding the ball down low to Shannon McCarty and Emily O'Lena. Their effectiveness opened shot opportunities for Schultheis, who buried a key three down the stretch to help put the game away.

Reed fouled out with a game-high 17 points for St. Bavo, which takes a 6-3 overall record into the regular-season finale against Christ the King (6-3) next Saturday.

In the John Bosco Division, St. Joseph, South Bend, wrapped up a perfect 10-0 regular season with a 35-23 triumph over Christ the King Friday night and a 31-13 win over St. Thomas the Apostle on Saturday.

For a full list of the weekend's scores, go the girls' basketball section of the website www.icclsports.org

Correction

St. Bavo's team was incorrectly listed as from South Bend in the March 6 issue of *Today's Catholic*. St. Bavo is located in Mishawaka.

GOLD LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



PHOTO PROVIDED THE BY ST. JOSEPH-ST. ELIZABETH PANTHERS

St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth girls' basketball team won the CYO large school or Gold League championship.



MARK WATTS

The Bishop Luers Lady Knights' basketball team poses for a team photo after winning the Class 2-A state championship on March 12 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Luers girls win state championship

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Luers girls' basketball team made state history on Saturday when they won their sixth state championship game.

The Fort Wayne and Bishop Luers community rallied around team on Monday at a special assembly at the school. Bishop-emeritus John M. D'Arcy congratulated the team. He and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades cheered the girls team at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne on Saturday.

What is becoming a tradition at Bishop Luers, Principal Mary Keefer offered a poem the honored the basketball team. Fort Wayne Deputy Mayor Beth Malloy presented a proclamation making March 7, 2011 the Lady Knights Basketball Day.

In game action on Saturday, Brownstown Central came out of the gate strong in Saturday's Class 2-A state championship game, as the Lady Braves made six of their first eight shots from the floor, but Bishop Luers' Miracle Woods was too much to handle in the post, and Bishop Luers won the state basketball championship, 59-46, at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne.

Woods scored 24 points on 10-

of-14 shooting, and also pulled down 14 rebounds, to lead the Lady Knights, who outscored Brownstown Central, 29-16, in the second half to seal the victory. Her 14 rebounds tied the 3-A state championship game record. Senior guard Brierra Young, who struggled with foul trouble throughout the game, scored 17 points, grabbed 8 rebounds, and collected 7 steals for Luers.

Guards Maria Allen and Sammie Bane scored 10 points apiece for Brownstown Central, which made its first appearance at the girls basketball state finals. The Lady Braves came out strong and ran to a 30-27 halftime lead, but were unable to withstand a 9-0, fourth quarter run as Bishop Luers pulled away. Brownstown Central finishes the season with a 23-6 record for Head Coach Karla Rieckers.

For Bishop Luers, the state championship was the first in girls basketball since 2006, when the Lady Knights won the Class 3-A title over Evansville Memorial. Denny Renier's team wraps up the season on an 11-game winning streak, with a record of 24-2 following last year's state runner-up finish.

"For anybody to win a state

championship, it's special," Bishop Luers Coach Denny Renier told the Indiana High School Athletic Association. "For me, it is the first one, for these kids it's the first one. But every year it's hard to get to state and then to win it. We have 10 to 12 coaches in the program and they help develop these athletes."

Renier said, "We played well offensively in the first half, but we could not stop them. We decided late in the first half to take the ball out of (Sammie) Bane's hands. Our guards (Catherine Barnett and Allison Butler) just did a fantastic job in executing that. Brownstown Central's offense really stalled when she didn't have the ball. There is no doubt that was the difference in the game.

"Our players are tough kids," the coach added. "They know how to finish games. They have done it all year long."

"Miracle (Woods) played an awesome game," Renier noted. "We thought we could really hurt them inside. She couldn't be stopped."

Tim Johnson and The Indiana High School Athletic Association contributed to this story.

CYO girls' earn championship crowns

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth League (CYO) lady hoopsters gathered for their year-end tournament and finally played three different league championship games on Monday, Feb. 28, after numerous cancellations and postponing of match-ups.

For the seventh-grade competition, Kurt Patterson's top-seeded St. Charles Cardinals were victori-

ous over a tough St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth squad by a score of 31-15. The Cardinals were perfect in league play with a 5-0 record and finished 18-10 overall which included a challenging start.

The seventh-grade ladies went 1-8 early on against eighth-grade squads and even a boys' team. However, Patterson explained, "I think it really helped us progress to where we ended up."

Point guard Kristina Burkhardt led the scoring attack most of the

season, but the Cardinals played with a great team effort all year long.

"We were tough to defend when all of our girls could put the ball in the basket," Patterson detailed.

He added, "But we won most of our games with defense. The last dozen games or so, we came up only 12 to 14 points."

In her fifth and final season coaching St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Coach Amy Knapke led

her Squires to another Blue League title and lost just a single CYO game during her three years in the head-varsity position. But the top-seeded and undefeated Squires, 7-0, did not get off easy in the championship game against Linda Luegring's St. Therese Crusaders.

"St. Therese is truly a tournament team. Linda always has them ready," Knapke marveled. "It was a great championship game. We had to fight back and fight hard."

Battling all four quarters, the Squires came from behind and pulled it off, 23-20. Kendall Knapke typically led her team in scoring this season, however, Knapke explained, "All season it has not been only about one girl or another, but always been all about team. I am very proud of these girls and will sure miss them."

In the loss, Luegring also could not have been more proud of her team: "We had an awesome season, a lot of fun and a great group of girls. Each girl did her own part individually to make a strong team."

The Crusaders listed just seven players on their roster this season — Briana Wood, Haley Brooks, Mollie Shutt, Angelica Navarro, Sarah Braun, Alyssa Reeder and Elizabeth Wood.

Explaining their championship game strategy, Luegring said, "We worked hard on all the little things that lost the regular-season game three weeks ago for us and tried to take them out of their game this time. We succeeded in limiting their points scored, but just couldn't quite get the job done."

Luegring concluded, "Everything I asked of these girls they did. And then I would ask more and they did that too!"

Finally, in the large school or Gold League championship, St.

Joseph-St. Elizabeth ended a decade without a championship and won their first title since joining the large school division beating St. Charles, 34-31.

The game was true to championship form with both teams demonstrating exemplary skills and talented play. After three quarters the contest was all knotted up at 20 with the lead changing hands back and forth the entire game.

In the final stanza, Natalie Huntine carried the Panthers scoring eight of her 10 points. Allison Leja sealed the deal for St. Joe-St. Elizabeth with 19 seconds left on the clock converting both ends of a "1 and 1." She finished with 13 points and Michelle Adgalanis added 11.

Head coach Joe Leja was very proud of his team's accomplishments this year, remarking, "My kids played with a lot of heart and never quit during the season. They battled back when we were down and were a great group of girls. I am glad to have had the opportunity to coach them."

On the road to the championship game, the Panthers got by a gutsy and determined group from St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, 29-19.

Leja explained, "The game was closer than the 10-point margin indicated. They played us very hard."

The Panthers finished their impressive season with a 7-1 record securing the first-place seed and league title.

Members of the championship team included Leja, Adgalanis, Huntine, Dana Boretzky, Jenna Kawiecki, Makenna Zwick, Audrey Dieser, Cassie Scheider, Savannah Toporek and the assistant coach for this season was Steve Boretzky.

Diocesan high school swim teams 'make a splash' this season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

The 2010-2011 swim season has come to an end and the four diocesan high schools fared well once again.

In his fourth season at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, Coach Jeff Siples listed nearly 30 athletes on his roster.

"With limited numbers in our guys' group, it was tough to compete, but we were powered by an exemplary senior with great leadership in Henry Till," explained Siples.

With 24 years total coaching experience, Siples continues to be impressed by the family support and involvement of the Bishop Luers community: "January was a tough month for many reasons and our team handled the adversity very well."

The weather closed the pool during crucial practice times just before the girls' post season, however, two young ladies were able to advance to the finals. Both juniors, Erin Hipskind and Rachel Myers represented the Knights as Bishop Luers posted a sixth-place finish in a rugged sectional, which included eventual state runner-ups, Homestead High School.

"We do very well, considering we do not have any club swimmers. Nearly every swimmer we compete against swims year-round," he detailed. The Knights moved up a spot in the Summit Athletic Conference (SAC) meet from a year ago to fourth place, nearly taking third.

A pleased Siples concluded,

"These kids give 100 percent every time they hit the water. They are a wonderful group."

In her sixth season coaching, Bonnie Schrem's South Bend Saint Joseph's High School lady swimmers finished with a record of 9-1 winning the South Bend City meet and finishing second at their sectional competition with just 15 athletes.

Junior Sarah Brechenser qualified for the state championship in the 500 freestyle and finished 19th. Diver Samm Reese, just a freshman, also qualified for the state finals and finished 23rd.

"Overall, it was a great season and I'm proud of all that the team accomplished. We were definitely small, but mighty," concluded Schrem.

Boys' coach at Saint Joseph's, Tony Kowals, had eight seniors on his 26-man roster. His unit lost just one dual meet this season to Penn, won the city championship and was runner-up at their sectional.

Of the post season, Kowals explained, "We had mixed results at the state competition with a slow start but strong finish. We have an exciting future with several outstanding young swimmers coming up."

For the Saint Joseph's Indians, who finished 22nd overall, their 400 freestyle relay made it to the consolation finals along with sophomore Trevor Carroll who placed ninth in the 100 freestyle winning the consolation finals and senior brother Tony Carroll placed in the 100 backstroke in the consolations and will continue to swim at the college level.

Tony Polega was another remarkable senior for Saint Joseph's. He was a two-time section winner in the 100-butterfly event. Jake Maginn, the standout freshman was also noted as he qualified for the state competition in the 100 backstroke and was lead off in the medley relay.

Bishop Dwenger had nearly 50 on their roster this year including five senior leaders in James Ryan, Marissa Jackson, Rachel Isca,

Megan Clark and Julia Lee.

In her first season as head coach of the Bishop Dwenger Saints, Michelle Manning-Vogel reported a sixth-place finish for the boys' team and a fourth-place sectional placing for her girls.

In the 200-yard medley relay, Ethan Welch, Dillon Oswald, Ryan and Justin Thelen finished sixth and the same foursome got a fourth in the 400-yard free relay. Welch also finished third in the 100-yard back. For the girls, the top six finishers included the following: the 200-medley relay — Marissa McDonald, J. Lee, Sarah Coffee and Jackson); the 200 free relay — Catie Martino, Nella Lee, Sarah Clark and J. Lee; the 400 free relay — Coffee, Kathlyn Lee, Jackson and McDonald — and McDonald in the 100 back.

For first year coach Patrick Piekarski and assistant Courtney Galloway, Mishawaka Marian's season was a learning experience.

"We were not really sure what to expect and we found some very good swimmers and very good people," explained Piekarski.

Like many high schools, the team did not have its own pool and had to practice at Mishawaka's pool. It was also a challenge for the group to compete with such a small group, but Piekarski proudly added, "It was tough to win meets but our kids overcame the deficit and won two for the girls' and three for the boys'."

One diver, Stephen Rice, made it to the state meet for the Marian Knights. Another standout for the team in the 200 freestyle and the 500 freestyle was David Shafer. He missed the top six in the 200 by just fractions of a second and placed fifth in the 500 pacing a seventh-place overall finish at sectionals for Marian. For the ladies, Katie Clayton and Catherine Rice had an outstanding season. Clayton's strong suit was the 100 backstroke and the 100 freestyle. Rice finished sixth overall in the 100 breast stroke which led her team to an eighth place finish at sectionals.

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'Providence' at hand during movie filming, says writer-director Estevez

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — "I've stopped using the word coincidence" to describe how the upcoming film "The Way" got made, said its writer-director-producer, Emilio Estevez. "It was providence. ... It was the divine."

"The Way," which stars Estevez's father, Martin Sheen, tells the story of four Westerners walking the 500-mile pilgrimage route from the French Pyrenees to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Sheen, who joked during a Feb. 18 interview with Catholic News Service that "I did my own walking" in the movie without a stunt double's help, recalled the first time he tried to make the pilgrimage himself.

"It was in 2003, and we were between seasons filming 'The West Wing,'" Sheen recalled. "I really wanted to make 'the way,' but we really didn't have enough time. So I did what every good American did: I rented a Mercedes and drove the route," he laughed.

But it was in Burgos, Spain, on that vehicular trek that Estevez's son, Taylor, met the woman who would become his wife. "That was the first miracle," Sheen said, adding he urged his own son to write a documentary or drama

about the pilgrimage.

Estevez, sitting next to his father, recounted other occurrences he attributed to divine providence.

For one thing, he was able to conduct his filming in 2010 — not in 2011, as Spanish officials had expected.

When Spaniards saw his tight, 40-day shooting schedule — "40 days — the normal time it would take a pilgrim to walk from St.-Jean (France) to Santiago," Estevez said — they told him, "It rains every day. Your 40 days will become 60."

Instead, "it rained two days," Estevez said. "And both days we were scheduled to shoot interiors."

Estevez also received permission from officials to film inside the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela. "We didn't get it until 48 hours before we arrived" at the city that concludes the pilgrimage, he said, adding that his was the first dramatic film to have received permission.

In the film, Sheen plays a doctor estranged from his son (Estevez). When he learns that his son has perished in a storm in the Pyrenees on the first day of his pilgrimage, Sheen makes the impulsive decision to cremate his son's remains and go on the pilgrimage himself, carrying his son's remains with him.

Along the way, the doctor

meets a carefree Dutchman (Yorick van Wageningen) who says he's making the pilgrimage to lose a few pounds, but gorges himself at nearly every opportunity; a bitter Canadian (Deborah Kara Unger) who says she'll quit smoking once she's completed the journey; and an Irish writer (James Nesbitt) with writer's block.

After a Feb. 18 screening of "The Way" at Georgetown University, Sheen told the audience during a question-and-answer session that the story structure is similar to that of "The Wizard of Oz," with Sheen's character as Dorothy, Dutchman Joost as the Cowardly Lion, Canadian Sarah as the Tin Man and Irishman Jack as the Scarecrow.

And therein lay another miracle during the film shoot. While looking for sites in the Spanish countryside to introduce the Jack character, Estevez found a field with baled hay — a perfect tie between Jack and the Scarecrow.

"The Way" is more than just a movie to Estevez and Sheen. It was a chance for them to work together. Estevez called his father's acting in the film "the performance of a lifetime."

For his part, Sheen said the expected father-son roles were reversed in filming. "That's what the film is about," he added, "how



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF EMILIO ESTEVEZ

Martin Sheen and Emilio Estevez are seen on location while filming "The Way" along the Camino de Santiago — the Way of St. James — in Spain.

the father is led by the son, because of the journey of the boy."

The movie is also an homage to Sheen's father and Estevez's grandfather, Francisco Estevez, to whom the film is dedicated. The elder Estevez was born in the Galicia region of Spain. Sheen said that when growing up in Dayton, Ohio, he heard his father speak often of the pilgrimage route, commonly known to Spanish speakers as "El Camino," which fueled his desire to make the pilgrimage himself.

Estevez said four preview screenings of "The Way" on behalf

of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students brought such a great response "we may have to change our marketing strategies."

The early strategy, Estevez added, was to market merely to "humans," not to any specific demographic.

But Estevez said that in advance of the movie's Sept. 30 U.S. opening, he and Sheen will conduct a 30-day, 30-city cross-country promotion bus trip from Los Angeles to New York. "The Way" opens April 15 in England, Ireland and Malta.

St. Jude presents 'A Mass for the Ages,' a unique Lenten series

BY MARY KINDER

FORT WAYNE — One photograph of a simple, ancient altar, taken a world away in Assisi, Italy, served as the inspiration for a unique and moving Lenten series at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne.

The series, titled "The Mass for All Ages," explores the history and development of Mass. But, rather than simply lecture about the Mass, St. Jude will bring history to life with reenactments of various times, saints, philosophers and more. Described as a "prayer experience" the series is unlike anything St. Jude has done in the past.

At the core of the Lenten series is the belief Catholics have in transubstantiation, that is that the body and blood of Christ are present in the Eucharist. Throughout history, that is the belief that transcends generations and defines Catholics.

The Lenten series is presented on three consecutive Tuesday evenings during Lent beginning March 15. The first evening is dedicated to the earliest days of the Church. First a traditional Passover dinner will be shown, highlighting what parts of the Mass come from this Jewish traditions. Next, the Last Supper will be explored, showing how that event established the Mass still practiced



HEATHER CISZ

The simplicity of the ancient altar in Assisi served as an inspiration for a series on the history of the Mass at St. Jude.

today. The evening will conclude with a look at the domestic church.

Ellen Becker, committee member for the project, says that during the early years of the Church, from the time after Christ through the year 300 or so, the Catholic Church was in hiding, so the Mass was celebrated in homes.

"It's a beautiful part of our history," Becker says, "to know that people were dealing with so many issues yet continued to practice their faith. In those early days, people never doubted the presence of Christ's body and blood in the Eucharist."

The second evening revolves around the Patristic years of the

Church, when Christianity was legal and people could celebrate publicly. These years brought a certain amount of pomp and solemnity. Becker says there were often large processions of Church leaders, including bishops, deacons, sub-deacons and more, with many people involved in the Mass. One of these processions will begin the evening. A medieval Mass will also be explored. Many changes took place at this time, including a diminished role for the people of the Church. This is also the time when questions began to arise about the actual presence of the blood and body of Christ in the Eucharist. Becker says to expect

A Mass for the Ages

6 p.m. — Soup dinner in basement,
6:30 p.m. — Presentation in church
March 15 — Passover, The Last Supper and the Domestic Church
March 22 — The Patristic Church (Procession and Thomas Aquinas)
March 29 — The Modern Mass (Byzantine Liturgy, Present Day African Mass and Community of Saints at St. Jude)

an unusual demonstration on how St. Thomas Aquinas, one of the Church's greatest theologians, answered these doubts.

The final evening of the Lenten series delves into modern-day Mass and various rites of the Church. The Byzantine liturgy will be explored and aspects of a contemporary African Mass will be shown. The finale unites a community of saints to demonstrate how all of the pieces come together through the modern Mass.

Becker sees the conclusion as an illustration and reminder of the importance of Mass, "At Mass, we are uniting with all the saints at that table and remembering what Christ did for us and celebrating His presence."

Becker is just one of many people involved in this project. The

Lenten series committee is made up of Kevin Demetroff, Mary Pohlman, Cynthia Streicher, Renee Sullivan, Jerry Nix and Joyce Racine. Of course, Father Tom Shoemaker also has a role.

Becker says, "Father Tom loves history and history of the Church. He was instrumental in bringing this all together. He's kept us on track of where our focus should be and has pitched in everywhere — including helping build and paint the sets!"

Aside from the committee, many parishioners have been involved throughout the entire process, from research, to set building, creating costumes and more. As Becker says, "This represents the work of many, many people."

She says she was surprised by not only the amount of people willing to help, but also what they had to offer, "I am astounded with the caliber of the people in this parish. We have a wealth of talent at St. Jude. There are so many very gifted individuals who are willing to work and be there when you need them with enthusiasm and spirit. It's delightful."

"A Mass for the Ages" at St. Jude Parish, 2110 Pemberton Dr., will be preceded by a simple soup dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

FISH FRIES

Holy Name Society fish fry
New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 11, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$ 7.50, children 5-12 \$4 and children under 5 free.

Fish fry
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish, 1500 W. State Blvd., will have a fish fry Friday, March 18, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6-10 and free for children 5 and under.

Jonah fish fry
Mishawaka — St. Bavo's School will have a Jonah fish fry on Friday, March 18, from 4-7 p.m. Carry-out and drive-through available. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children K-eighth grade and free for preschool and younger.

Lenten fish fries
Mishawaka — The Knights of Columbus Council 1878, 114 W. 1st St., will have Lenten fish fry dinners every Friday beginning March 11 through April 22, from 5-7 p.m. Carry-outs available. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 553 will have a fish fry Friday, March 18, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Knights hall, 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$4 for children under 12 and children under 5 free.

Fish fry
South Bend — The Our Lady of Hungary Holy Name Society will have a fish fry on Friday, March 18, in the school, 735 W. Calvert St., from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7.50 day of sale or \$7 presale, \$4.50 for children 6-12 and children under 6 free. Carry-out available. Potato Soup \$2. Call (574) 287-1700 for information or tickets.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Mass and a meal for young adults
Fort Wayne — Young adults 18-29 are invited to Mass and a meal on Sunday, March 13. After the 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception meet in the back of church to walk to Pint and Slice, 816 S. Calhoun St., for food, fun and fellowship with Father Jason Freiburger. For information visit www.diocesefwsb.org/CYAM

Garage sale planned for SJSE
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School will host a garage sale Saturday, March 19, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the St. Joseph campus, 2211 Brooklyn Ave. All proceeds benefit the eighth-grade class trip.

Financial Peace class offered
New Haven — St. Louis Parish will offer Financial Peace University, a 13-week, Scripturally based class on beating debt, building wealth, giving and saving for the future on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The first class is free on March 17. Call (260) 493-4528 or (260)

446-9721 for information or to register, or visit www.DaveRamsey.com.

St. Aloysius School offers children's items for resale
Yoder — St. Aloysius School, 14607 Bluffton Rd., is accepting clothing, accessories and footwear sizes infants through juniors, baby equipment, children's furniture, toys, games and DVDs. Consignors will receive between 80-100 percent and volunteers do the work. The sale will be Saturday, March 26, from 8 a.m. to noon. Contact Jennie Haiflich at (260) 615-6236 or stalkidsale@gmail.com for more information.

Women of Hope plan luncheon
Notre Dame — A Women of Hope victory luncheon will be Wednesday, March 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Morris Inn on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Tickets are \$45 and features a silent auction, a fashion show by locally owned Flourish Boutique, and a tribute to Bridge of Hope's Woman of the Year, community philanthropist Lynn Viater. Register online at www.bridge-of-hopesjc.com or call Patricia Druley at (574) 291-2423.

Charlie Brown on stage
Mishawaka — The Marian High School drama department will present "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," March 10-12 at 7 p.m. in the Marian gymnasium. Tickets are \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$6 for adults.

REST IN PEACE

Avilla Charles Edward Ley, 89, St. Mary of the Assumption	Olivia Marie Espinoza, 53, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	Helen C. Monczunski, 98, Little Flower
Bristol Ramona E. Hughes, 82, St. Mary of the Annunciation	Elizabeth J. Richardville, 81, St. Vincent de Paul	Rosemary Primrose, 87, St. Matthew Cathedral
Elkhart Barbara P. Bontrager, 79, St. Vincent de Paul	Mary Jo Yentes, 89, Our Lady of Good Hope	Irene Zdoniak, 91, St. Adalbert
Fort Wayne Richard Milton Repine, 90, Most Precious Blood	Garrett John K. Feagler, 77, St. Joseph	Jeanne M. Tondreau, 85, Basilica of the Sacred Heart
Frances J. Ryan, 88, St. Vincent de Paul	Granger Suzanne W. Sheehan, 79, St. Pius X	Martha Rose Boehm, 95, Holy Cross
Raymond J. Houser, 93, St. Vincent de Paul	South Bend George M. Davis, 72, St. Matthew Cathedral	Mary Andrasik, 84, St. Joseph
Francis J. Miller, 86, St. Charles Borromeo	Anna Bozvary, 91, Our Lady of Hungary	Dorothy H. Cichowicz, 84, Holy Family
		Robert M. Strantz, 85, St. Monica
		Waterloo Carol Dale Musser, 64, St. Michael

Contact Marian High School for information at (574) 259-5257.

Knights host spaghetti dinner
Plymouth — The Knights of Columbus Council 1975 will have a meatless spaghetti dinner on Friday, March 11, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 901 E. Jefferson from 4:30-7 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 6-12 and children under 4 are free. Meatballs will be available for non-Catholics.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day
Mishawaka — The Knights of Columbus Council 1878, 114 W. 1st St., will have a St. Patrick's Day celebration on Thursday March 17, with dinner from 5-7 p.m. and the Caledonia Kilty Band and the World Academy of Irish Dancers at 7 p.m. Dinner includes corned or roast beef, cabbage, boiled potatoes, carrots, rye bread and coffee. Carry-outs available. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and

under. Advance tickets and reservations available by calling (574) 255-2218.

Soup and a movie
Albion — Souper Movie Night, Saturday, March 19, will feature the true story "End of the Spear," a powerful tale of sacrifice, courage and redemption as missionaries work with the Waodani tribe of Ecuador. A soup supper and movie will follow the 4:30 p.m. Mass at Blessed Sacrament. A free-will donation will be taken. Contact (260) 636-2072 for information.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Father Steve Colchin will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel on Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Father Colchin is pastor of St. Louis Besancon and St. Rose of Lima parishes.

TV MASS SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

2011	Feast Day	Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WFFT-TV, Ch. 55	South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TV, Ch. 16
March 6	Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Rev. James Stoye Immaculate Conception Kendallville	Rev. John DeRiso, CSC St. Joseph South Bend
March 13	First Sunday in Lent	Rev. Ron Rieder, OFM SS Peter & Paul Huntington	Rev. Leroy Clementich Notre Dame
March 20	Second Sunday in Lent	Rev. Gary Sigler Queen of Angels Fort Wayne	Rev. Robert Dowd, CSC Notre Dame
March 27	Third Sunday in Lent	Msgr. Bruce Piechocki Our Lady of Good Hope Fort Wayne	Rev. John VancenBossche, CSC Notre Dame



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11 St. Joseph Church	Brooklyn / Hale Avenues, Fort Wayne
18 St. Aloysius Church	14623 Bluffton Road
19 Mt. Calvary Lutheran	1819 Reservation Drive, Fort Wayne
25 St. Joseph Hessen Cassel	US Hwy 27 South of 469 (DRIVE THRU ONLY)

APRIL

1 St. Joseph Church	1300 North Main, Bluffton, Indiana
2 DeKalb Central Music Association	DeKalb Middle School, Auburn, Indiana
8 Cornerstone Youth Center	19819 Monroeville Road, Monroeville, Indiana
15 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church	10700 Aboite Center Road, Fort Wayne
16 DeKalb County 4-H Council	402 S. Union, DeKalb Fairgrounds

Vatican Museums offer hands-on approach for the blind, deaf

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican Museums have launched special tours for the deaf and blind.

The two-hour tours are free to the hearing- and visually impaired and seek to offer a multi-sensory experience of some of the Museums' most famous works.

The initiative also marks the first opportunity for the deaf in Italy to receive training and work in a museum as an experienced guide rather than solely as an interpreter, said speakers at a news conference March 1.

Seven women, five of whom are deaf, received specialized training in art history and archaeology at the Museums so they could work as professional guides for the new tour for the deaf.

One of the new deaf guides, who introduced herself as "Anna," said through an interpreter that she and her new co-workers were happy the new opportunity to work as a professional museum guide "happened at the Vatican Museums."

The tour for the deaf includes stops in the Raphael Rooms, the Sistine Chapel, and visits to the classical statues collection. The

guides are fluent in a number of sign languages, including British and French sign languages.

The itinerary for the blind and visually impaired includes a blend of sensory experiences to help the person appreciate a work of art "without making them wish they could see," said Isabella Salandri, who is in charge of the new tours.

For example, to examine Michelangelo Merisi Caravaggio's "Deposition From the Cross," visitors first listen to a passage from the Bible explaining the scene in which Christ is taken down from the cross and readied for burial.

Then they listen to a Gregorian chant whose lyrics are connected with the biblical event and hear a brief account of the artist's life.

One by one, each visitor's hands are then placed on a resin bas-relief of the scene in the painting of Nicodemus and John laying Christ on a stone while Mary and other women look on.

Helping guide the person's hands across every detail of the bas-relief "lasts a long time," Salandri said, "because it's like a puzzle; they need to create a mental picture" of how the many faces and limbs, including Christ's limp body, are arranged.

Visitors then feel real items



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

The "Deposition From the Cross" by Caravaggio is among the works being made accessible to the blind in a new tour at the Vatican Museums. A resin bas-relief of the painting is available to help visitors feel the scene.

depicted in the painting such as the thick velvety leaves of a common mullein herbal plant and a linen shroud that smells of myrrh and aloe, the same herbs used in burial cloths at the time.

Sara di Luca, a restorer at the Museums, said she used the same materials and techniques Caravaggio used in his masterpiece to make a sample canvas and oil painting of a section of the "Deposition."

She said she used similar brushes and thickness of paints in her sample piece so that visitors could touch the copy and feel the same kind of rough canvas, trace the brushstrokes, and smell the oil medium of the paint just as Caravaggio would have used.

Di Luca also made a sample fresco of Melozzo da Forli's "Angel With Lute" to give visitors a similar sensation of feeling and smelling how the design and medium are represented.

Visitors also receive a booklet written in Braille and bold large print; it includes raised dots tracing the outline of both Caravaggio and Melozzo's two works.



Monsignor Michael Heintz



Monsignor William Schooler

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Marian High School Auction honors Msgrs. Heintz and Schooler on March 19, 2011.

www.marianhs.org