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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## St. Felix Oratory blessed, Dominican Sisters of Mary welcomed

BY TIM JOHNSON

HUNTINGTON — “In this oratory, may God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be worshipped in spirit and in truth,” exclaimed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in his homily at the blessing of St. Felix Oratory in Huntington.

The historic day not only included the blessing of the oratory, the dedication of the altar, but also the formal announcement that the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, a community of sisters based in Ann Arbor, Mich., will use a part of the former friary for formation of their sisters beginning next fall.

Bishop Rhoades thanked John Tippmann and the Mary Cross-Tippmann Foundation for the purchase and overseeing the renovation of the friary.

“I believe it is 33 years since the sacred liturgy was offered here, when St. Felix Friary closed after 50 years as a novitiate for the Capuchin Franciscan order,” he said.

The friary is revered as the hallowed home of Venerable Father Solanus Casey.

FELIX, PAGE 4

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades anoints the altar of St. Felix Oratory with oil of chrism at a blessing on March 3. It was announced that the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, will use a part of the facility for formation of the sisters. The center is also available for retreats.

More photos are available at [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org)



JOE ROMIE

### A WELCOME FROM BISHOP RHOADES



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades greets catechumens and their godparents at the Rite of Election at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, on March 4.

### BISHOP JOHN D'ARCY GREETES POPE



PROVIDED BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Bishop John M. D'Arcy, bishop emeritus, is greeted by Pope Benedict the XVI during the Feb. 9 meeting with U.S. bishops on their “ad limina” visit to the Vatican.

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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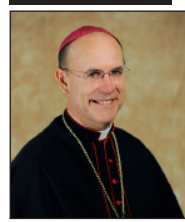
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# Preparing for Easter sacraments



IN TRUTH  
AND  
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

These past two Sundays, I had the joy of celebrating in both our cathedrals, the Rite of Election and the Rite of the Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates who are preparing for Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

The Rite of Election marked the close of the period of the catechumenate for 227 adults of our diocese who will be baptized, confirmed, and receive their first Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. These men and women, now called "the elect," have now begun the period of final, more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation. They are called "the elect" because they have been chosen or elected by God. At the ceremonies these past two Sundays, their names were inscribed in the Book of the Elect.

During the Rite of Election, the godparents of the catechumens testified that they have faithfully listened to God's word proclaimed by the Church and have responded to that word and begun to walk in God's presence. The catechumens testified that they desired to enter fully into the life of the Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. The assemblies gathered at our cathedrals testified that they would pray for the catechumens as we move toward Easter. It is good for all of us, during these weeks of Lent, to remember the elect in our prayers.

After the Rite of Election, we celebrated the Rite of the Call to Continuing Conversion of 275 adults of our diocese who will be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. These are men and women, already baptized, who seek to be able to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Catholic Church. Their sponsors testified that they are ready to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. And, again, the members of the assembly pledged to support these candidates in faith, prayer, and example. It is also good for all of us, during these weeks of Lent, to remember the candidates in our prayers.

As we look forward to celebrating at Easter the life-giving mysteries of our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection, we do so along with the 502 men and women of our diocese who will join us for the first time at the Eucharistic table of the Lord. They will join us in faith and in the sacramental sharing of the paschal mystery.

## Our evangelizing mission

I have said many times in parishes throughout our diocese that a truly vibrant parish is an evangelizing community. Evangelization is the fundamental mission of the Church. We have received the missionary mandate from Jesus Himself who said: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

The elect, those awaiting baptism, are shown with their sponsors at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend on March 4. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the Rite of Election and Call of Candidates to Continuing Conversion.

Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and Lo, I am with you always, until the close of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20). The Twelve Apostles were the first missionaries. The local churches they founded became missionary communities. What was done at the beginning of Christianity remains important for us today since the Church is missionary by her very nature.

When we think of the Church's missionary activity, we naturally think of the proclamation of the Gospel in foreign lands where people have not heard about Christ or the Gospel and where the Church is not established. This is what is called the Church's mission "ad gentes." It can be called "a first evangelization." Every October, we celebrate World Mission Sunday and support the Church's missions in these areas of the world.

It is also important for us to recognize the need for our missionary activity here in the United States and in our diocese. Here most people have heard Christ proclaimed and here the Church is established. The first evangelization of America began centuries ago. Both Blessed John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have spoken of the need for a "new evangelization" in the Western world. It is not "new" in content, but in energy and ardour, in methods and expression. It is urgently needed especially because of the secularization process that has produced a serious crisis of the meaning of the Christian faith and of belonging to the Church. We need only think of the millions of people in our country who practice no religion, baptized Christians who have become indifferent to the faith, and the many people who have become lost in "the deserts of the secularized world." Pope Benedict has spoken often about "the eclipse of the sense of God" in our society. Yet, every human soul thirsts for meaning and purpose in life, indeed, thirsts for the living God.

In the context of our increasingly secularized culture, we must be ever more attentive to our evangelizing mission. This begins with ourselves and our own commitment to Christ and the Gospel. In this

season of Lent, we are reminded of the need for our own continual repentance and conversion, our constant need of being evangelized ourselves by constant renewal and growth in holiness. Only then can we evangelize others with credibility.

The witness of our lives as faithful disciples of the Lord Jesus has primary importance in the task of evangelization. The witness of our parishes as vibrant communities of faith, hope, and charity is what makes them true evangelizing communities. Besides our witness, there needs to be an explicit proclamation of the Gospel. We must not be afraid to speak about and share our faith and to invite others to the Church. We are to bear witness to the faith and to proclaim it. We evangelize; we do not proselytize. We propose; we do not impose. We respect other religions and the religious liberty of our neighbors. At the same time, we do not withhold from non-Christians the riches of the mystery of Christ. And, of course, we respect our brothers and sisters who are non-Catholic Christians with whom we share a common baptism. We pray and work for Christian unity. At the same time, we also bear witness to our Christian brethren of the fullness of the revelation which the Catholic Church has received and the fullness of the means of salvation which we have received from our Lord, including the seven sacraments.

As we approach Easter, we pray for the 502 people in our diocese who will become Catholic: those who will be baptized and those who will be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. We welcome them and we rejoice with them. At the same time, looking to the future, I invite all to be even more dedicated to the mission of evangelization. We have conducted the Catholics Come Home campaign to invite our non-practicing brothers and sisters to return to the practice of the faith. We must continue to reach out to them. And we must be even more ardent in our mission of evangelization to the unchurched. May the Lord bless us with spiritual fervor as we proclaim and bear witness to Him with joy and with love! May Mary, the Star of Evangelization, intercede for us in this holy mission!

# Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, to move into St. Felix

BY TIM JOHNSON

HUNTINGTON — The signing of a lease was part of the festivities associated with the blessing at St. Felix Friary on March 3. The lessee? The Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist.

Their motherhouse in Ann Arbor, Mich., is currently at capacity “due to our amazing increase in vocations. In order to preserve the integrity of life and provide proper formation for the young women, additional housing is needed. St. Felix seems perfect for this,” said Mother Mary Assumpta Long, superior for the Dominican Sisters of Mary, and one of the four founding sisters of the community.

Mother Assumpta reported through an email interview with *Today's Catholic* that the conversation began about a year ago from Carl Minick, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne and executive director of the Mary Cross-Tippman Foundation, who had heard about their growing community and wanted to know if some sisters would possibly be interested in living at St. Felix. When the need for interim housing became apparent, “we decided to visit the monastery and as we walked through the building, it seemed like this was where God was leading us,” Mother Assumpta said.

“In the short history of our community, we have met so many wonderful and faith-filled Catholics including, now, Mr. John Tippmann,” Mother Assumpta said. “John had gone through his own prayerful discernment and then decided to purchase and renovate this monastery for the needs of the Church.”

“The fact that the renovations were completed at the same time that we sisters identified our need is a sign of God’s providential blessings for those who respond to His voice,” she added. “We will never be able to adequately thank John Tippman and his family for the beautiful renovations to this monastery and the invitation to come and live therein.”

The sisters’ lease agreement encompasses the possibility of five years.

“Our over-riding concern for our community, at this point in time, is moving forward with the building of a priory in Texas,” said Mother Assumpta. “Once the Texas priory is built, we will be able to move the sisters there.”

In the meantime, the St. Felix facility will be used for the formation of the sisters. Mother Assumpta noted she expects about 25 sisters will be locating to St. Felix in the fall.

“The sisters who will be living at St. Felix will be in their



JOE ROMIE

From left, Mother Assumpta Long, superior of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and John Tippmann of the Mary Cross-Tippman Foundation, sign the lease for the sisters to locate to St. Felix in Huntington. The facility will be used for the formation of the Dominican Sisters of Mary.

novitiate stage of formation,” said Dominican Sister Joseph Andrew Bogdanowicz, another founder of the community. “A sister is a novice for two years. During this time, she continues her religious studies as well as her human formation. The novice studies the vows she is preparing to take in her religious profession, the Rule and Constitutions governing the community and she makes a second meditation daily together with her fellow novices.”

“The first novitiate year is primarily dedicated to study and development of the interior life, while the second year is dedicated to introducing the novice to the apostolic life of the community,” Sister Joseph Andrew said. “At the end of the two years, if the sister and the community discern that it is God’s will, she professes vows of chastity, poverty and obedience for three years.”

The sisters will be faithful in carrying out the Dominican monastic life at St. Felix. The contemplative and monastic practices include daily Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, Eucharistic Holy Hour as a community, recitation of the rosary, dedication to daily personal prayer and “cloister appropriate to our life,” noted Sister Joseph Andrew.

“It should not come as a surprise that as Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist we have deep and ardent love for the most Holy Sacrament of the altar,” Mother Assumpta said. “Christ is at the very center of our being.”

She added, “Seeking to maintain and invigorate our love for our Divine Spouse, each Dominican Sister of Mary rejoices to begin her day with a daily hour of Eucharistic Adoration and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The first Friday of every month finds us before the Divine throne for night Adoration. Our monthly ‘Retreat Sunday’ includes a full day of Eucharistic Adoration and our weekend yearly retreat offers the same.”

“The Eucharist is present, not only in the chapel of our Motherhouse, but also in the chapels of all of our mission houses,” Mother Assumpta said. “Wherever we go we always find ourselves at home because He is there.”

“We depend greatly on the presence of our Eucharistic Spouse to help us in our prayer and our work, and we could not live without Him,” Sister Joseph Andrew added. “Our vocation to live the evangelical counsels for the glory of God, the salvation of souls, and the transformation of the world only arises from the graces received from His Divine Eucharistic Presence.”

The community of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist is growing rapidly.

“With certainty we can say it is growing by God’s grace and mercy — not only for our community and our schools but for the good of the entire Church,” Sister Joseph Andrew said. “We seek to live our consecrated life faithfully and with devotion. Our life of consecrated fidelity attracts young women of this generation who seek such a commitment for God and His people.”

“The Dominican charism is aligned to the New Evangelization both in our prayer and our teaching mission,” added Dominican Sister John Dominic Ramussen, another of the founding sisters. “First and foremost, we must know the Person of Jesus Christ through the contemplative dimension of our life. Both the fruits of a rich prayer life and of assiduous study overflow into our teaching and preaching about the Person of Jesus Christ. Thus faith and reason are not separated as we provide in our schools challenging academics coupled with sound catechesis.”

“Young people are drawn to our clarity in living the religious life as well as in our teaching,” Sister Joseph Andrew noted.



## PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Monday, March 12, 9 a.m. — Meeting of USCCB Committee on Doctrine, Washington, D.C.
- Monday, March 12, 1 p.m. — Meeting of USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth, Washington, D.C.
- Tuesday, March 13, and Wednesday, March 14 — Meeting of USCCB Administrative Committee, Washington, D.C.
- Friday, March 16, 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Hispanic Apostolate, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Warsaw
- Saturday, March 17, 4:30 p.m. — Mass at Saint Francis Convent Chapel, Mishawaka
- Saturday, March 17, 6 p.m. — Marian High School Dinner and Auction, Mishawaka

## More ‘confusion than clarity’ about HHS mandate, Cardinal Dolan says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said there is more “confusion than clarity” in the revised federal contraceptive mandate.

In a March 1 blog entry on the New York archdiocesan website, the cardinal said the U.S. bishops will “keep up advocacy and education on the issue” and “continue to seek a rescinding of the suffocating mandates that require us to violate our moral convictions.”

San Francisco Archbishop George H. Niederauer in a Feb. 27 column in the *San Francisco Chronicle* said the troubling aspect of the revised HHS mandate was “not about contraception, but about religious liberty.”

The mandate, announced Jan. 20 by Health and Human Services’ Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, requires no-cost coverage of all

contraceptives approved by Food and Drug Administration, including some that can cause an abortion, as well as sterilizations, as part of preventive health services for women. A narrow religious exemption applies only to those employed by houses of worship.

In a revision announced Feb. 10, President Barack Obama said religious employers could decline to cover contraceptives if they were morally opposed to them, but the health insurers that provide their health plans would be required to offer contraceptives free of charge to women who requested such coverage.

U.S. bishops and other religious leaders continue to press for rescission of the HHS contraceptive mandate, saying it violates religious liberties.

Cardinal Dolan, in his blog post-

HHS, PAGE 5



CNS PHOTO/NANCY PHELAN WIECHEC

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said March 1 that there is more “confusion than clarity” in the revised federal contraceptive mandate and urged U.S. bishops to continue their fight against “mandates that require us to violate our moral convictions.” The archbishop of New York is pictured during the November 2011 meeting of the U.S. bishops’ conference in Baltimore.

# FELIX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for 20 years in Capuchin friaries in New York, Harlem, and Yonkers," Bishop Rhoades said in his homily. "Then, in 1924, he was assigned to St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit where he served for 20 years. He served as the porter, the doorkeeper, where he welcomed thousands of people."

"People came to him because in him they experienced in a deep way the presence of God. He was renowned for his compassion," Bishop Rhoades said. "There are many reported miracles, conversions and other blessings received through his prayers and counsel."

Father Solanus' superiors sent him to St. Felix Friary in 1946, where he lived for 10 years, to ease the burden of so many visitors the simplex priest would see. Eventually, however, people flocked to Huntington as well, sometimes busloads of people from Detroit. Father Solanus worked in the friary garden and tended the beehives.

Father Solanus' room was pre-

served in the friary, even when the property was owned by the United Brethren Church for many years.

"Father Solanus Casey spent much time in the chapel absorbed in prayer for long hours, even in the middle of the night," Bishop Rhoades said of the oratory he was about to bless. "(Father Solanus) had an intense prayer life that also sustained him in illness and suffering."

Father Solanus left St. Felix in 1956, recalled to Detroit by his superiors so that his skin disease, which was worsening, could be treated at a hospital there. He died a year and a half later.

"How grateful I am that this friary where a possible future saint of the Church lived for 10 years is now once again a Catholic facility," Bishop Rhoades said.

After the Mass, Bishop Rhoades blessed the halls and rooms of the friary and then gathered with the media, Dominican Mother Assumpta Long, superior of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, and John Tippmann, who purchased the property, for a ceremonial signing of the lease that will bring the Dominican Sisters of Mary to the facility where novitiate training will be held.

"What a day of joy it is; this is a historic place in Huntington," Bishop



JOE ROMIE

**Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist are recognized at the luncheon and press conference that followed the blessing of the St. Felix Oratory on March 3. At bottom, Capuchin Brother Richard Merling of the Solanus Casey Guild and Capuchin Brother Leo Wollenweber, who is vice postulator for Capuchin Father Solanus Casey's sainthood cause, greet Bishop Kevin Rhoades.**



Rhoades opened at the press conference. "It's a historic place for the Church in our diocese."

"Eighty-three years ago, when this facility was built for the Capuchin friars as a novitiate, we can think about the hundreds and hundreds of priests and brothers who grew in their relationship with Christ here and then went forth from here to serve the Lord in the spirit of St. Francis," Bishop Rhoades said. "We remember all of them. And it is with special joy that we come to rededicate St. Felix Oratory today, to dedicate the altar of the oratory chapel, to be here to celebrate a new stage of the history of this place, a spiritual place where so many will come to

grow in their faith, to draw closer to Christ, to be spiritually refreshed through retreats and through spiritual days that will take place here."

"Also with special joy we welcome Mother Mary Assumpta and the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, who will be coming here in a few months and where sisters will be here in formation for the consecrated life — another great blessing for our diocese," he noted.

Bishop thanked John Tippmann, the Mary Cross-Tippmann Foundation and the whole Tippmann family "for their faith, and for their generosity in allowing this dream to become a reality."

"Thanks are certainly in order, and I cannot thank you enough," said Mother Assumpta. She told those gathered that she has become familiar with the diocese by reading *Today's Catholic*, and added, "It is a great honor to be in the diocese that you lead."

To John Tippmann, Mother Assumpta said, "What a family. I know all about you because you gave us the book," referring to the family history book.

Carl Minick, the executive director of the Mary Cross-Tippmann Foundation and member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, had contacted Mother Assumpta originally a few years ago.

But just six weeks ago, the friary set up a website promoting the retreats at the facility. Minick told *Today's Catholic* he sent that website link to the Dominican Sisters of Mary. The next morning, there was a message from Mother Assumpta, "that maybe this was something they could be interested in."

John Tippmann said the friary purchase started when Fort Wayne businessman Ed Romary called him and encouraged the Fort Wayne commercial property owner to check out the friary. Romary gave Tippmann a book on Father Solanus and asked Capuchin Father Ron Rieder, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington and who knew Father Solanus personally, to give Tippmann a tour of the friary.

Tippmann said he returned to Fort Wayne and told the real estate board at his company: "We need to buy this facility down in Huntington. I don't know what it is, but here's their brochure. Next thing you know, we owned it," Tippmann related at the press conference.

"I didn't have a clue what we were going to do with it," Tippmann said. "Father Rieder said, 'Hey, you've got faith. That's all it's going to take. You've got to have faith.'"

"They say, 'If you build something, the people will come,'" Tippmann added, "And I think if you rebuild something, they will come again. So I think this is sort of the second beginning of this facility."

Tippmann told *Today's Catholic* a lot of volunteers were part of the renovation, especially from the Huntington area. "Some days we had as many as 25 volunteers in here working all over — inside the building, out on the grounds, everywhere," he said.

Father Rieder enthusiastic at seeing the friary restored welcomed the announcement made by the Dominican Sisters of Mary. He said, "This is one of the happiest days of my life."



## ARISE Together In Christ

**ARISE Together In Christ is a three-year, parish-centered process of spiritual renewal and evangelization that enables people to deepen their faith, develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others.**

*Here is the schedule for launching Arise Leadership Training for the Arise Parish Team which will be responsible for introducing ARISE to individual parishes by presenting an overview of the entire process; timelines, materials, an understanding of faith sharing, and how to become a ministerial community.*

### ENGLISH

**Little Flower, South Bend:** Tue., March 13 • 6-8 pm

**Knights/Columbus Hall, Warsaw:** Wed., March 14 • 6-8 pm

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Ft. Wayne:** Thurs., March 15 • 6-8 pm

### SPANISH

**St. John the Evangelist, Goshen:** Sun., March 11 • 2:30-5 pm

**St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart:** Sun., March 11 • 6:30-9 pm

**St. Adalbert, South Bend:** Mon., March 12 • 6:30 - 9 pm

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw:** Tue., March 13 • 6:00 - 9 pm

**St. Patrick, Fort Wayne:** Wed., March 14 • 6:00 - 9 pm

Parish Teams can register for the session of their choosing at

[www.diocesefwsb.org/renew](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/renew)

For more information, contact Natalie Kohrman,  
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# HHS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ing, said he is putting more hope in finding a resolution to this issue through Congress or the courts than the White House. "We have to be realistic and prepare for tough times," he said.

He also disputed the opinion expressed in an editorial in the March 5 edition of *America* magazine, which said the bishops' objection to the revised mandate is primarily "a difference over policy" and seemed to "press the religious liberty campaign too far."

Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty, also took issue with the editorial in a March 2 letter to the editor. In reference to the editorial's call for civility and a "conciliatory style," he said: "Maybe Moses wasn't at his best when he confronted Pharaoh. Maybe the Good Shepherd was a bit off his game when he confronted the rulers of his day."

In his column, Archbishop Niederauer acknowledged "the issue of contraception is extremely important in American society," but also pointed out that there are "frameworks through which the government's desire to make contraceptives widely available and affordable, and the Catholic Church's desire not to be involved in supplying contraceptives that conflict with Catholic faith, can both be accomplished."

In a March 1 congressional subcommittee hearing, Sebelius said she was confident an acceptable compromise could be reached in the health care law to allow self-insured religiously affiliated institutions to provide contraception access without violating their religious beliefs.

"There are a variety of arrangements already in place in the 28 states that have this law already in place and we intend to be informed by that when we propose the rules," Sebelius told members of the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee during a hearing about the HHS's 2013 budget proposal.

"Whether it's through a third-party administrator or a side-by-side plan or many other arrangements, we will offer a variety of strategies to make sure that religious liberties are respected," she said. Sebelius was responding to a question by Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., who asked about possible penalties for religious employers that fail to comply with the HHS mandate to offer contraceptive drugs that violate their religious principles.

Upton said a Catholic hospital in his state would likely be subject to fines of more than \$1 billion.

Rep. Joe Pitts, R-Pa., who chaired the hearing, read a statement from Catholic Charities USA emphasizing that the organization did not endorse the revised HHS mandate and shared the "goal of the U.S. Catholic bishops to uphold religious liberty."

More than 4,500 women have signed a letter urging Obama, Sebelius and Congress "to allow religious institutions and individuals to continue to witness to their faiths in all their fullness."

The open letter from women was organized by Helen Alvare, who teaches law at George Mason University School of Law, and Kim Daniels, former counsel to the Thomas More Law Center, under the banner, Women Speak for Themselves (<http://womenspeak-forthemselves.com>).

"No one speaks for all women on these issues," the letter says. "Those who purport to do so are simply attempting to deflect attention from the serious religious liberty issues currently at stake."

The Senate voted 51-48 March 1 to table the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act, also called the Blunt amendment for its chief sponsor, Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo.

The act would have allowed Church-affiliated organizations, including Catholic charities, hospitals, schools and universities, to opt out of mandated contraception coverage and would have extended exemptions to any nonreligious employer with a moral objection to such coverage.

Under the amendment, any employer also would have been allowed to refuse to cover any other preventive health care procedures required under the rule if they held a moral or religious objection.

Bishop Lori said in a statement after the vote that the bishops will continue their strong defense of conscience rights for all people.

"The need to defend citizens' rights of conscience is the most critical issue before our country right now," Bishop Lori said. "We will continue our defense of conscience rights through all available legal means. Religious freedom is at the heart of democracy and rooted in the dignity of every human person."

# Archdiocese of Omaha opens sainthood cause for founder of Boys Town

BY LISA MAXSON

OMAHA, Neb. (CNS) — It started in 1917 with a rented house, five boys who needed a home in Omaha and a Catholic priest determined to help troubled and abandoned youths throughout the city.

Now, Boys Town helps more than 1.6 million people each year through its main campus of group homes, churches, a grade school and high school, post office and bank, as well as a national research hospital in Omaha, a national hotline, and other services and locations around the country.

And the priest who started it all — Father Edward Flanagan — might someday be named a saint.

The process toward canonization began Feb. 27 with Archbishop George J. Lucas — surrounded by more than 200 people with dozens of cameras flashing — placing a notice on the doors of St. Cecilia Cathedral in Omaha.

The notice, which is a centuries-old Church tradition, alerts the public to the opening of Father Flanagan's sainthood cause. It also invites people to share their thoughts with a tribunal that is being formed to review the priest's life and works.

The process toward possible canonization continues with a March 17 Mass at Immaculate Conception Church at Boys Town — where Father Flanagan's body is laid to rest — with Archbishop Lucas, Father Steven Boes, executive director of Boys Town, and other Catholic officials participating.

Father Flanagan will be named a "servant of God" at the Mass. In addition, the archbishop will install the religious officials and experts who will form the tribunal investigating Father Flanagan's work and reputation. Tribunal members will interview people who come forward as witnesses of Father Flanagan's virtue.

If there is a declaration of the priest's heroic virtues, the Church will give him the title "venerable."

The second step is beatification, after which he is called "blessed." The third step is sainthood. At various steps in the canonization process, evidence of alleged miracles is presented to Church authorities. In general, two miracles need to be accepted by the Church as having occurred through the intercession of the prospective saint.

If Father Flanagan is canonized, he would be the first person declared a saint whose ministry was based in the Archdiocese of Omaha.



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## Churches become centers for aid, prayer after tornadoes

HENRYVILLE, Ind. (CNS) — As one of the few buildings in town to come through intense storms March 2 nearly intact, St. Francis Xavier Church has become a natural staging area for relief efforts, community organizing and prayer. Four days after a devastating tornado hit, volunteers and professionals used St. Xavier, the nearby Henryville Community Church and a community center as bases for people trying to put their lives back together. The town of about 1,600 was one of several in the region to be largely destroyed by a wave of storms that created dozens of tornadoes across 11 states March 2 and 3. At least 39 people were killed, including one in Clark County, where Henryville and nearby Marysville took direct hits. Deaths also were reported in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Ohio. Substantial damage dotted those states as well as Georgia, North Carolina, Illinois, Mississippi, Virginia and South Carolina. Tracy Guernsey, the staff nurse at Henryville's public school complex, was among about 40 people still in the building when the tornado hit. She told Catholic News Service in a March 5 phone interview that if classes hadn't been dismissed early in the face of the advancing storm, the death toll in Henryville would have been dramatic. She said she and about 15 other people emerged from her office to find the whole second floor of the school had been ripped off. Inside, the papers on her desk were undisturbed. The tornado hit at the normal dismissal time of 3 p.m., Guernsey said. "The bus drivers were the heroes here. If they hadn't sent the buses out early, it would've been a different story." Also reeling were parishioners of St. Luke Catholic Church in Salyersville, Ky., which was destroyed by another tornado in the same weather front. There, parishioner Helen Pennington was working in the church basement as the twister approached. Two carfuls of people passing through the area asked to seek shelter and joined her in safety while the structure above was flattened. Six buildings — the church, the rectory, an outreach ministry, a storage building, grotto and picnic shelter — previously stood on the parish grounds. After the storm, only the locked door of office manager Benedictine Sister Jan Barthel's office and its adjoining wall were left standing atop the church's basement foundation.

## Cardinal dismayed that White House rebuffs religious freedom concerns

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a strongly worded letter to his fellow bishops, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York charged that White House officials failed to consider the U.S. bishops' concerns that the federal mandate governing employer coverage of contraception and sterilization under the health care law violated religious freedom principles. An invitation from the White House

## VOLUNTEERS LOAD DONATIONS FOR TORNADO VICTIMS INTO TRUCK OUTSIDE INDIANA CATHOLIC CHURCH



CNS PHOTO/JOHN SOMMERS II, REUTERS

Volunteers load donations into a truck for tornado victims outside St. Francis Xavier Church in Henryville, Ind., March 4. Calm weather gave residents of storm-wracked towns a respite as they dug out from a chain of tornadoes that cut a swath of destruction March 2 from the Midwest to the Gulf of Mexico, killing at least 39 people in five states.

to "work out the wrinkles" regarding the mandate either by rescinding it or at least widening the exemptions on religious grounds failed to reach an agreement and the effort "seems to be stalled," he said in the letter released late March 2. The letter cited recent comments by a White House official that the mandates are a "fait accompli" and that Congress was notified that the rules have been published in the Federal Register "without change." Cardinal Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, also said that during a recent meeting with White House officials, USCCB staff members "asked directly whether the broader concerns of religious freedom ... are all off the table." He wrote: "They (USCCB staff) were informed they are." The cardinal said: "Instead they advised the bishops' conference that we listen to the 'enlightened' voices of accommodation," pointing to a recent editorial in *America* magazine. The editorial in the magazine's March 5 issue questioned whether the bishops' opposition to the revised mandate released by the administration Feb. 10 was an issue of disagreement over government policy as opposed to an infringement of religious liberty. "The White House seems to think we bishops simply do not know or understand Catholic teaching and so, taking a cue from its own definition of religious freedom, now has nominated its own hand-picked official Catholic teachers," the letter continued.

## Ohio community mourns after 'senseless tragedy' at high school

CHARDON, Ohio (CNS) — Wearing Chardon High School colors of red and black and carrying candles and red flowers, more than 3,000 people from Chardon and neighboring communities gathered inside and outside of St. Mary Catholic Church for an evening vigil Feb. 28 to pray with and comfort one another after the tragic shooting at the high school. Five students were shot Feb. 27 when a teenager opened fire around 7:40 a.m. in the cafeteria at Chardon High School in the Cleveland suburbs. The shooting victims were rushed to the hospital, where Daniel Parmertor, 16, a St. Mary parishioner, was declared dead. Russell King Jr., 17, was pronounced dead at 1 a.m. Feb. 28, and Demetrius Hewlin, 16, died later that day. Demetrius' mother, Phyllis, is a member of St. Mary Parish. Nick Walczak, 17, remained hospitalized in serious condition March 1. The fifth victim, Joy Rickers, 18, was in another part of the school when she was shot; she was released from the hospital Feb. 28. The alleged shooter, identified by his family as 17-year-old T.J. Lane, was chased from the school and arrested a short time later. He was being held in jail as a juvenile, and formal charges against him were to be filed by March 1. St.

Mary Church is across the street from Chardon Middle School and Chardon High School, and its pastor, Father Daniel Redmond, said the church has remained open and welcoming to anyone who wants to pray or talk to counselors. He said youths from the parish's Life Teen group also had gathered for prayer. "Generally, it's just shock that everyone is feeling," Father Redmond told the *Catholic Universe Bulletin*, newspaper of the Cleveland Diocese.

## Virginia Senate passes revised ultrasound bill, aims to reduce abortion

RICHMOND, Va. (CNS) — Both chambers of the Virginia General Assembly started revising legislation forcing women to get a fetal ultrasound before an abortion after Gov. Bob McDonnell persuaded lawmakers not to require a vaginal probe as part of the procedure. That change was reflected in the revised version of a House bill that the Senate Education and Health Committee approved Feb. 23 on an 8-7 party-line vote. The measure, sponsored by Delegate Kathy Byron, a Republican from Lynchburg, was approved in a full Senate vote 21-19 Feb. 28. The amended bill excludes women who are victims of rape and incest. "Though amended, the ultrasound bill as passed by the Senate will still give many women considering an

abortion the opportunity to first have the benefit of important additional information before making these life-altering decisions," said Jeff Caruso, executive director of the Virginia Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the state's bishops. "The Virginia Catholic Conference considers this Senate-approved bill an important improvement to Virginia's current informed consent law and looks forward to its anticipated final approval in the House," he said. "As this bill was extensively debated and covered, one point that seemed to get lost all too often is that the information to be gathered is information about an unborn child — a member of the human family with intrinsic dignity whose value is beyond measure," added Caruso. "As dialogue continues on measures that seek to build a culture of life one small step at a time, let us continue to speak with persistence and determination for those who have no voice but ours," he said.

## Ruling ordering removal of school's prayer banner won't be appealed

CRANSTON, R.I. (CNS) — A local school committee voted it won't appeal a federal court ruling that called for the permanent removal of a Cranston public high school's prayer banner in place for almost 50 years. After hearing three hours of passionate testimony Feb. 16, the Cranston School Committee voted 5-2 to not appeal because most members believed that the cost of additional legal expenses would hurt the school department budget. The banner became the center of debate last April when the American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit contending that it was a religious symbol displayed in a public school that violated the First Amendment rights of Jessica Ahlquist, a self-avowed atheist, who is now a junior at Cranston High School West. More than 700 people attended the committee meeting, many of them wearing signs bearing the directive "Appeal," while others carried placards supporting their position. Before the meeting began, many supporters of the prayer banner sang "God Bless America," while during the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, a large number in the audience shouted "Under God." Joseph V. Cavanagh, a First Amendment attorney and member of the legal team which represented the city of Cranston in the ACLU suit, told those gathered that he'd received hundreds of calls about the case, mostly in support of keeping the banner on the wall of the auditorium where it has hung since 1963 when it was presented as a gift from that year's graduating class. "This is not about prayer in public schools," Cavanagh emphasized, adding that a 1963 Supreme Court decision stipulates that prayers cannot be recited in public schools. Cavanagh said that while he believes that the Cranston banner is a "display," U.S. District Judge Ronald Lagueux, who ordered the banner's removal, interpreted the issue differently, calling it a "prayer" because it begins with the words "Our heavenly Father" and ends with "Amen."

## St. Michael offers parish retreat

WATERLOO — St. Michael the Archangel Parish, located at 1098 County Road 39, Waterloo, will offer a retreat on Sunday, March 18, from 1-5 p.m.

The speaker will be Meg Hanlon, head of the theology department at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, and a diocesan catechist for the Education for Ministry and Catholic Educator Programs. Her topic is "The Role of the Laity."

For information or to register call Bobbie Charleswood at (260) 868-5661 or Sharon Garman at (260) 927-1768.

## Skip Holtz featured speaker during Parent-Alumni Weekend

NOTRE DAME — Only a few months removed from his triumphant return to Notre Dame Stadium last fall, Louis Leo "Skip" Holtz will be back to celebrate Parent and Alumni Weekend at his alma mater, Holy Cross College. One of the college's most well known alums, Holtz will join Holy Cross College President Holy Cross Brother John R. Paige as the featured speaker for the Ave Crux dinner on Saturday, March 31. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m., with dinner to follow at 7 p.m.

Award winning community servant Skip Holtz graduated from Holy Cross College in 1984, and has coached at several universities. In his first season at the University of South Florida, Holtz led the Bulls to an eight-win season and a 31-26 victory over Clemson in the 2010 Meineke Car Care Bowl. The following year, Holtz brought USF into Notre Dame Stadium and left with a shocking 23-20 win over the 16<sup>th</sup> ranked Irish.

During the eighth annual Parent and Alumni Weekend, March 30-31, campus activities such as a Saturday morning run and breakfast with the president, opportunities to worship together at Mass, and social activities throughout the weekend will be offered. Additionally, Kyle Akin, '08, who was born with Cerebral Palsy, will speak on "Living with Cerebral Palsy," Friday, March 30, at 10:45 a.m. in the Pfeil Center Board Room.

For more information on the weekend, contact Katie Fetters, Parent and Alumni Weekend chair, at (574) 239-8406 or e-mail [kfetters@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:kfetters@hcc-nd.edu).

## Dismas House holds dinner and auction

SOUTH BEND — Dismas House's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Silent Auction will be held on Wednesday, March 28, starting at 6 p.m. at St. Hedwig Memorial Center in South Bend. The event is open to the public. This year's theme is "St. Dismas: The Good Thief Who Stole Heaven."

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICS STUDENTS TREATED TO JAZZ



PROVIDED BY SAINT JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL

Saint Joseph's High School students of instructor Chris Culver's physics classes found their study of sound waves became more understandable when Stephen and Mary Merriman and their jazz music were brought into class. Stephen is a master piano technician, possessing an expertise in both the workings and tuning of the piano and the playing of jazz. Joined by Saint Joseph's junior John Dean on the piano, Mary on the bass, and Stephen on the Djembe drum, students were treated to 10 minutes of jazz. Following the performance, Culver and Merriman instructed the students in the physics of sound, using a "stripped down" piano that allowed students to not only hear but also see and feel the creation of the notes.

Dismas House is named after the thief, who asked for forgiveness from Christ and whom Christ forgave before they were both crucified. The evening will offer St. Hedwig's famous Polish dinner, international keynote speaker Mary Eisenhower, president and CEO of People to People International (PTPI), an array of auction items and recognition of outstanding community volunteers and fellowship.

For the past 26 years Dismas House has been providing second chances to men and women returning from incarceration and has been home to over 600 former offenders, who shared the house with 100 area college students.

Cost for the dinner-auction is \$35 per person. Reservations are due on or before Friday, March 23. For more information or to purchase tickets contact the Dismas House Office, (574) 233-8522 or email [dissouthbend@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dissouthbend@sbcglobal.net).

## USF invites students to Spring Campus Visit Day

FORT WAYNE — High school students and their parents or adult supporters are invited to explore the University of Saint Francis

(USF) as a college choice during Spring Campus Visit Day on Saturday, March 31. Students are invited to bring their college transcripts for an evaluation while taking advantage of a range of meetings and activities including meeting faculty members, discussing financial aid, investigating academic programs, touring the 108-acre campus and discovering possibilities for involvement in USF's 16 intercollegiate athletic programs.

Check-in begins at 8:45 a.m. at the USF North Campus and activities, including a light lunch and mini-fair with the offices of financial aid, student services, student activities and athletics, will run from 9 a.m. to noon.

A schedule of activities follows:

- 9 a.m. — Welcome by University of Saint Francis President Sister Elise Kriss
- 9:30 a.m. — Discussion of major and meeting with professors
- 11 a.m. — Tour of campus
- 11:30 a.m. — Lunch and informational mini-fair.

To reserve a Spring Campus Visit Day space online or to receive directions to USF, visit [www.sfu.edu/visit](http://www.sfu.edu/visit). For more information call (260) 399-8000 or (800) 729-4732.

## Indiana winner in longest married couple project

NEW HAVEN — Jack and Thelma Flory, members of St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, have been selected as the state winners of the Longest Married Couple Project sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. The Florys have been married for 69 years. Their wedding anniversary is May 9, 1942.

"It is an honor to announce that Jack and Thelma are the Indiana winners," explained Rick and Julie Nill, Northern Indiana area leaders for World Wide Marriage Encounter. "We plan on surprising the Florys by recognizing them on March 3 with their children present. What a wonderful story of love and commitment."

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering weekend experiences for over 42 years and is considered the original faith-based marriage enrichment program. It offers married couples the opportunity to spend time together away from the busyness of the world to focus on each other and provides tools for building and maintaining a strong, Christian marriage in today's world. To learn more about the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends online, visit [www.wmme.org](http://www.wmme.org).

## NICHE to host annual Curriculum Share

FORT WAYNE — The Fort Wayne area Catholic Homeschool group NICHE (Northeast Indiana Catholic Home Educators) is hosting its annual Curriculum Share



MAUREEN WITTMANN

on Saturday, March 17, from 9 a.m. to noon in Achatz Hall on the University of Saint Francis campus. All current and prospective homeschooling parents are invited to attend this free event.

Keynote speaker for the event will be homeschooling mother, author and curriculum provider Maureen Wittmann, who will offer ideas to enhance learning with her talk "For the Love of Literature."

Wittmann is co-founder of Homeschool Connections, a Catholic homeschool curriculum provider.

Breakout sessions will include, "Finding Grace and Joy in your Homeschool," "Religious Ed Guidance from our Bishop," "Parent Pow-Wow" (question and answer) and can learn how to get started by attending the "New to Homeschooling" session.

Samples of curriculum will be available for review and used curriculum materials will also be available for sale.

For more information, visit [www.nichefw.info/curriculum-share](http://www.nichefw.info/curriculum-share).

## USF offering home school students unique learning experience

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF) will offer a unique learning experience for home schooled high school students on Thursday, March 22, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Achatz Hall at the University of Saint Francis.

USF Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Andrea Geyer, and senior honors undergraduate Lauren Mey will present "Water Quality Analysis by Fire," an exploration of the chemical characteristics of the local waterways.

The hands-on workshop will demonstrate the collection and testing of water samples, and the analysis of the samples with state-of-the-art instrumentation, including a flame atomic absorption spectrometer.

Students will meet in the Achatz Hall atrium before moving on to labs and classrooms. Application is online. For more information, contact Geyer at [ageyer@sf.edu](mailto:ageyer@sf.edu) or (260) 399-7700, ext. 8225 or Mey at [meylauren@yahoo.com](mailto:meylauren@yahoo.com).

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# Nun Laments Booming Business In Coffins for Babies

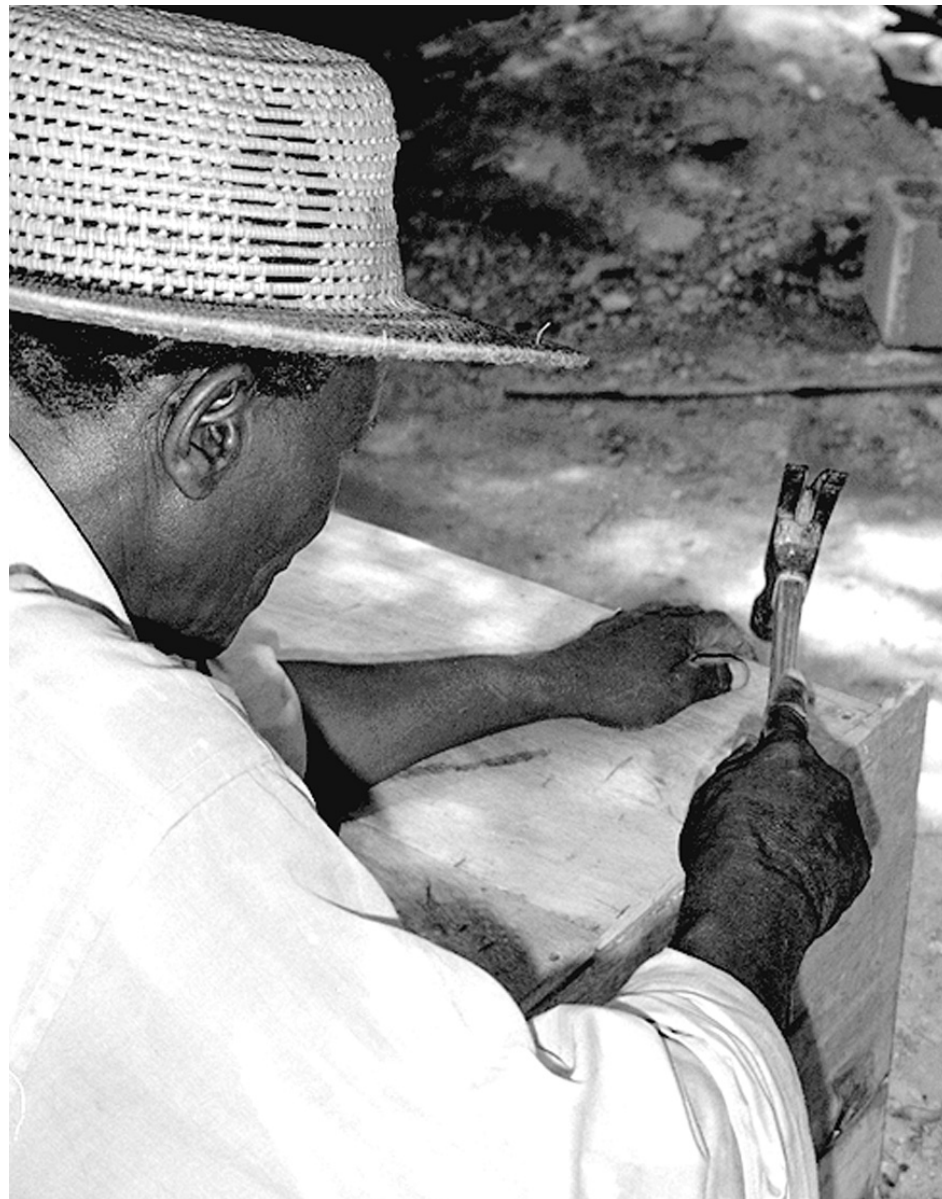
Sister Mary Ann has lived and worked in Jeremie on the remote southwest coast of Haiti for many years. She knows the poverty of her area well, but she still feels the pain of its terrible impact on the local people.

"When a baby dies, and they build the rough wood coffin, I feel the pain of the mother — of the whole community," she said. "Life is too precious — too valuable."

And still, the local carpenter has another coffin in his shop and one on his workbench ready for his saw and hammer. As long as the children die, the coffins must be made.

"Fortunately, we do have reason for hope. We have developed a medical outreach to this community and it's beginning to work — we are able to save the lives of these little ones," she added. "Sometimes we laugh, 'we will put these carpenters out of business. No more coffins for our babies.'"

The president of Cross Catholic Outreach, Jim Cavnar, shares Sr. Mary Ann's sense of hope. While meeting with key staff from the Haitian Health Foundation, he was impressed by the determination and success of the outreach. With the help of contributions from



As long as children die, the coffins must be made. These small wooden boxes are a terrible symbol of how Haiti's crushing poverty is impacting the most vulnerable in the society.

American Catholics, Cross Catholic Outreach will be able to supply Sr. Mary Ann's program with urgently needed medical supplies.

The help, Cavnar knows, will be meaningful — not just a token gift.

"I met a boy just today who illustrates the impact of Sr. Mary Ann's work," he said. "Because of the Haitian Health Foundation, he could be treated for typhoid in time. We drove him home today. There won't be a coffin built for Makendy Louis. He will be back in school soon with a future ahead of him."

"The question is... will the next child receive the same life-saving help?" he added. "Will that next child live or die? Our actions now will answer that question."

To provide Sister Mary Ann and the Haitian Health Foundation with as many medicines as possible, Cross Catholic Outreach is now seeking financial contributions from American Catholics.

"Our goal is to help fulfill Sister Mary Ann's dream — by ending Haiti's booming business in coffins for babies," Cavnar said. "If American Catholics will join with us in this effort, I know it can be done."

"And don't underestimate the impact your individual gift can have," he added. "In countries like Haiti, a \$10 donation can literally save a life. There are scores of children that die because their mother or father couldn't obtain a simple anti-diarrhea medication — something we could supply with a donation of a few dollars. Imagine, saving a life. You can have that kind of impact with even a modest contribution to this outreach."

To contribute to the ministry's efforts in Haiti, either use the tear-off envelope in the brochure found this issue of the newspaper or mail your gift to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00861, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.

## Cross Catholic Outreach Now Endorsed by More Than 60 Bishops, Archbishops

As Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO) 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. and abroad.

"We've received an impressive number of endorsements from Bishops and Archbishops — more than 60 at last count," explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. "They're impressed by the fact that we've done outreaches in almost 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 Catholic Outreach does and elicit their prayerful and financial support for the service you provide to the

less fortunate around the world."

In addition to praising the work CCO accomplishes, many of the Bishops and Archbishops are also impressed by the unique collaborative relationship Cross Catholic Outreach 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 CCO, **Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati** underscored this unique connection.

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

CCO 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 situations."



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## “Cross” Program Can Turn \$50 Donation Into \$4,250 Worth Of Aid For The Poor

James Cavnar, the president of Cross Catholic Outreach, looks at a \$50 gift differently than most charity leaders.

“When I’m handed a \$50 donation, I see a \$4,250 shipment of material aid on its way to the poor. That’s the end result of the gift when I use it to deliver donated goods overseas,” Cavnar explained. “For example, we may convince a medical organization to donate life-saving medicines or nutritional supplements, but we can only deliver those items overseas if we have cash donations to pay for the shipping costs. For every \$1 donated to our shipping program last year, we were able to send more than \$85 worth of goods to the needy in Haiti and other third-world countries.”

Of course, the same formulas apply to other gifts. A donation of \$25 allows

Cross Catholic Outreach to supply the poor with more than \$2,000 worth of aid and **a \$100 gift can yield nearly \$10,000 in food, medical supplies and other life-saving materials** — an amazing multiplication of the donor’s contribution.

“This program is popular because it produces more bang for the buck, as the saying goes. It also rescues goods that might have been wasted and puts them to good use — helping the poor,” Cavnar said. “That’s a win, win situation.”

To contribute to the ministry’s efforts in Haiti, either use the tear-off envelope portion of the brochure in this issue or mail your tax-deductible gift to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00861, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.



Cross Catholic Outreach’s president, James Cavnar, with a shipment of food destined for Haiti.

## “What is a child’s life worth — certainly a few dollars...”

Catholic lay leaders and clergy in Haiti’s Central Plateau are frustrated. In the isolated village they call home, children are dying and families are suffering for reasons they do not understand — reasons that test their spirit and their faith.

They recall one recent and painful experience.

“I will never forget it. I was called to the home of Madame Wilner, a woman who lived in a rural area outside the village. She was poor — very poor. Living in a shack with very little food and almost nothing for her children.

“When I arrived, she came out to meet me, frantic about her baby, Gason. ‘I have tried to help him... made a cure... he is dying... help me,’ she cried. I knew the cure she had made for the baby was some ineffective concoction of herbs that rural people often try in their desperation. Such things never work, but they are tried because there is no other choice.

“I gasped when I stepped inside the dreary shack and saw the baby. His body was covered with some kind of terrible skin infection. He was obviously suffering, and his tiny body also showed the disturbing signs of other trauma. I could clearly see his rib bones heaving with labored breaths, and his hair was orange from malnutrition. Sobbing, his mother begged for my help. ‘Anything... please... do anything,’ she cried. ‘I have nothing... no way to save him.’

“Because the local clinic had been closed for lack of supplies, I knew that the baby’s only hope was a mission hospital nearly 3 hours away by car. I carefully lifted the baby up, placed him into my automobile, and set out for help.

“I drove as quickly as I could over the rough dirt roads, but two hours into the trip, my spirit dropped. Something was wrong. I could see that Gason Wilner was slipping away. Suddenly, his body began to convulse — first slowly, then more violently. My eyes welled up with tears, and I began to pray. As if in merciful response, the baby’s tormenting convulsions stopped. I drove on, tears running down my cheeks, as God gently took tiny Gason away.

“I will never forget it. It is yet another reason I beg on behalf of the poor. For Gason Wilner, and for the other children here who die needlessly. Something must be done.”

James Cavnar agrees, and his meetings with clergy and lay leaders have already produced progress. Through Cavnar’s organization, Cross Catholic Outreach,

medical supplies will be obtained for shipment to clinics that serve Haiti’s poor. Cavnar is asking other American Catholics to join him in this endeavor.

“Frankly, we need your help. We need the help of American Catholics who want to assist priests to be part of the solution. The medicines that could have saved Gason Wilner would have cost a few dollars. What is a child’s life worth — certainly a few dollars!? We need to see that these people are helped,” Cavnar said. “The more people who contribute, the more we can do.”

And, Cavnar pointed out, every donation contributed is important because it only takes a few dollars worth of medicines to save a life in many cases.

“On behalf of the priests, nuns and laypeople who are trying to help the poor of Haiti, I ask you to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial contribution to this cause,” Cavnar said. “Your actions may save the life of a child. Your gift may be the gift of life for a little one like Gason.”

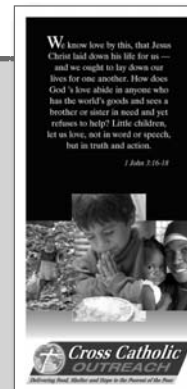


Another child victim of Third World poverty. This young girl survived. Others are less fortunate. Even when children are given an initial treatment, they rarely receive follow-up care. Many are forever marked with terrible scars. Cross Catholic Outreach makes the needs of children its highest priority, and it has launched special programs to supply aid. Read about it on the ministry’s web site: [www.CrossCatholic.org](http://www.CrossCatholic.org).

## Please, Help Now

Your help is needed for Cross International to bring Christ’s mercy to the poorest of the poor. Use the enclosed postage-paid brochure to mail your gift or send it to Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00861, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.

**God bless you.**



# EVANGELIZATION THEME OF ALL SCHOOL MASS

BY KAREN

NOTRE DAME — “Go and make disciples of all nations,” proclaimed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades as he echoed the words of Jesus Christ’s great commission to His Apostles.

The theme of evangelization was heralded by the bishop at the All School Mass at the University of Notre Dame’s Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center on Feb. 27. Students, teachers and administrators of 21 South Bend area and Western Michigan schools, along with 20 parish priests participated in the 20th year of this annual Mass.

Bishop Rhoades explained that the Apostles first went out in the streets of Jerusalem to teach and baptize people in the name of Jesus. Persecution of the Apostles followed and they set out for other destinations including the city of Antioch. It was here that the name “Christian” was first used to describe a follower of Jesus.

While early Christians preached only to the Jewish community, they remembered Jesus’ call for discipleship to all nations, and began to include the gentiles in their proclamation of Christ’s teachings, the bishop added. The expansion of their evangelization led the Apostles Peter and Paul to the pagan city of Rome where both were martyred and buried.

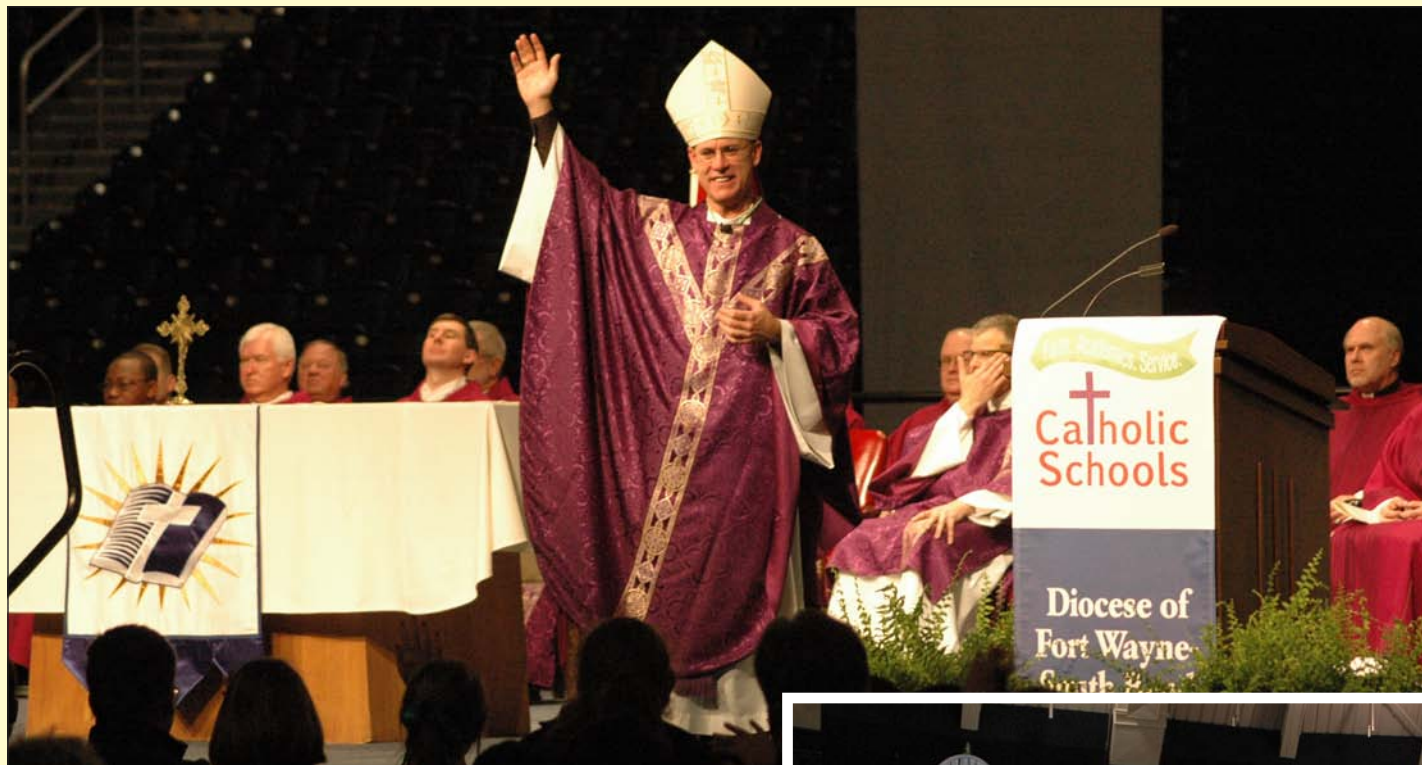
Peter was martyred and buried on a hill in Rome called the “Vatican.” Eventually St. Peter’s Basilica was built over Peter’s remains and is part of the Holy See, also referred to as the Vatican, where the pope resides.

Bishop Rhoades told the audience that he had recently returned from a 10-day visit in Rome with other bishops from Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

He explained that all bishops are obligated to go to Rome every five years to pray at the tombs of Sts. Peter and Paul. In addition, the bishops are required to meet with the Holy Father during their visit.

On Feb. 9, Bishop Rhoades met with Pope Benedict XVI and they both discussed the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the young people of the diocese. Bishop Rhoades noted that the pope was very interested in the diocese’s Catholic schools in particular.

“Our Catholic schools are one of the strengths of the Church in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend,” Bishop Rhoades told the pontiff. The pope, pleased by what the bishop had told him, responded, “Please give my blessing to



the children of the Catholic schools.”

Pope Benedict spoke to all of the bishops during their “ad limina” visit about a new evangelization that is needed in the Church. The pontiff explained that many Catholics do not go to Sunday Mass anymore and need to be more active in their faith. The pope indicated that Catholic schools are a way of showing this new evangelism.

“The whole Church is universal and we have brothers and sisters in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. The pope said the youth of America have a special responsibility (in evangelization) because they have been blessed in many ways,” Bishop Rhoades emphasized.

The bishop explained that Catholic School students could serve as missionaries to other countries by becoming a part of The Holy Childhood Association, which helps the world’s poorest children.

“I have a dream that every Catholic school in our diocese has a strong and active Holy Childhood Association,” said Bishop Rhoades. He noted that by joining the Holy Childhood Association, students can minister and evangelize to those in needy countries through prayer and financial support. The bishop suggested that financial support could be achieved by sacrifice, such as foregoing a special treat at lunch and donating the cost of the treat towards a classroom fund for the Holy Childhood Association.

The view of a universal Christian body resonated for many of those in attendance at

the All School Mass. Two parish priests expressed that the All School Mass was a great way for students to understand this concept.

Father David Ruppert, pastor of St. Anthony de Padua Parish in South Bend, remarked, “It’s important for the children to know that they are more than their classroom, school or parish.”

Father Terry Coonan, parochial vicar of St. Pius X Parish in Granger, added, “As the body of Christ we are each slightly unique but are all connected in organic ways.”

Jennifer Sosinski, a fourth-grade teacher from Holy Cross School in South Bend, observed that students often see each other in sporting events or groups such as quiz bowls during the school year. “Here (at the All School Mass) they are able to see the bigger community of all the children coming together and praying to Jesus together,” Sosinski said.

Students Annalise Hernandez of St. Matthew Cathedral School, and Wyatt Toothacker of St. Pius X School, remarked that the joyous music and prayer increased the All School Mass appeal.

Near the conclusion of the Mass, Bishop Rhoades thanked Quality Dining, the sponsor of the All School Mass, and the clergy, administrators, teachers and students for their efforts in making the annual event a success.

Before dismissing the students the bishop shouted to the enthusiastic crowd, “I’m proud of you, bear witness to the faith, and evangelize!”

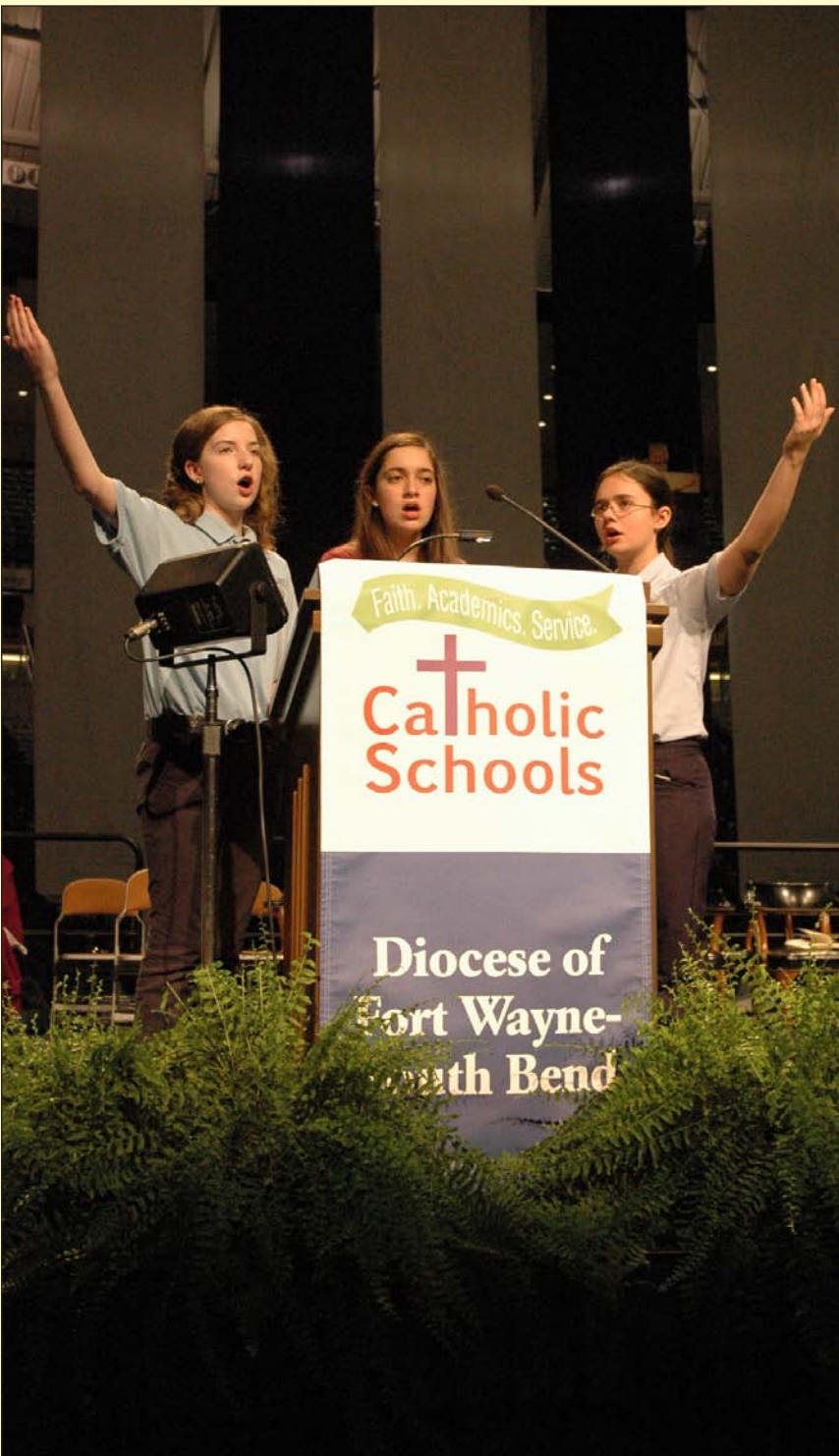


PHOTOS BY KEVIN

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the All School Mass at the University of Notre Dame Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center on Feb. 27. Two schools from the South Bend region participated.

# SS FOR SOUTH BEND AREA SCHOOLS

CLIFFORD



HAGGENJOS  
 All-School  
 's Purcell  
 twenty-one  
 participated.

# St. Patrick, patron of Ireland and parades

BY VINCE LABARBERA

St. Patrick is one of the world's most popular saints. He's the patron of Ireland, engineers, Nigeria, the Diocese of Norwich, Conn., parades and all things green.

St. Patrick's Day is observed on March 17, the date of his death, circa 461. It's celebrated in and outside of Ireland, as a liturgical and non-liturgical holiday. In the dioceses of Ireland it is both a solemnity and a holy day of obligation, and outside of Ireland, it can be a celebration of Ireland itself. It's a day when everyone claims or wants to be Irish. And it announces the death of winter and the coming of the green of spring.

There are many stories surrounding St. Patrick. A popular folk tale claims he chased all snakes from Ireland. But the story has no historical basis. Another legend, that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Holy Trinity, also generally is agreed to be a myth. He is said to have stood in ice water up to his armpits while reciting all 150 Psalms by heart. Also, he's recognized for introducing the Easter fire into the liturgy of Holy Saturday.

In his "Confessio," in which he

wrote of his love for God, Patrick says he was born in a village called Bannavem Taberniae. That village no longer exists, and the location is unknown. It's widely guessed to be somewhere on the western shore of Great Britain. Other sources say he was born at Kilpatrick, near Dumbarton, Scotland, circa 387, or in Cumberland, England. His parents were Calphurnius and Conchessa. The former belonged to a Roman family of high rank and held an important office in Gaul or Great Britain in charge of the colonies. Conchessa was a near relative of the great patron of Gaul, St. Martin of Tours.

Two authentic letters from St. Patrick, written in Latin, survive, from which come the only universally accepted details of his life. As a boy of 16, Patrick and others were captured by an Irish raiding party and taken near the modern town of Ballymena, Ireland, as slaves to herd sheep. Ireland at this time was a land of Druids and pagans. Patrick learned the Celtic language and practices of the people who held him. During his captivity, he often turned to God in prayer.

Patrick's captivity lasted for about six years. He escaped after having a dream from God in



which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast, probably to France. There he found some sailors who reportedly took him back to Great Britain, where he reunited with his family.

He began his studies for the priesthood in the schools of Tours and Lerins, off the French coast. During this time Patrick had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling him to return. He was ordained by St. Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre,

whom he had studied under for years. Later Patrick was ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland.

He arrived in Ireland on March 25, 433, at Slane. There he suffered much opposition. One story says he met a chieftain named Dichu (or Milchu) of one of the tribes, who tried to kill him. Patrick converted the chieftain after he was unable to move his arm until he became friendly. Patrick's strategy was to convert

chiefs first, who then would convert their clans through their influence.

Patrick preached the Gospel throughout Ireland. He had many disciples, who preached and converted all of Ireland for nearly 40 years, urging the people to greater holiness in Christ. Patrick ordained many priests, divided the country into dioceses, held Church councils, founded several monasteries and began building churches throughout the country.

Patrick worked many miracles. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering, he died in a monastery, ironically in strife-torn Ulster, County Down, in Northern Ireland where he had built the first church.

Patrick really isn't a saint with a capital S, having never been canonized officially by Rome. That's because there was no formal process for canonization in place when Patrick died. For the first millennium of the Church, canonizations were done at the diocesan or regional level. When exceptionally holy people died — martyrs were considered saints for having given the ultimate sacrifice — the local Church affirmed liturgically they could be celebrated as saints. That was the case with St. Patrick, whose feast has not been dropped from the Church's universal calendar.

**Vince LaBarbera** is a freelance writer living in Fort Wayne. He is twice retired from careers in corporate and diocesan communications.

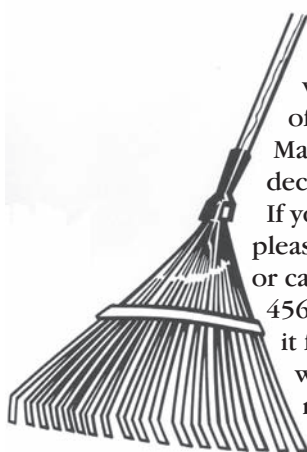
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# The sign of the cross calls on God's presence

## Edward Sri offers a biblical walk through the Mass at workshops in Mishawaka, Fort Wayne

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — “The Mass is the most biblical way to worship God,” noted Dr. Edward Sri, a nationally-known, dynamic Catholic speaker who appears regularly on Eternal Word Television Network and has authored many books.

Sri offered those attending his recent workshops in Mishawaka and Fort Wayne a unique tour of the liturgy and traced the biblical roots of the prayers of the Mass.

He began with the first prayer of the Mass — the sign of the cross, and spoke in depth on its biblical roots.

“It is a prayer (the sign of the cross) that has tremendous roots in Scripture,” Sri said.

He explained, “In the Bible, when we call on God's name, we are invoking His presence.”

“We are calling on God's presence, and His name, and our help,” Sri told Catholic teachers who were attending the Institute for Catechetical Formation day, organized by the Office of Catechesis and held at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne on Feb. 24.

Sri related how the sign of the cross goes back to the Old Testament Prophet Ezekiel.

In Ezekiel's time, he was living in a cultural crisis in Jerusalem. The majority of Jews were no longer

truly following God's ways. They were Jews who went to temple, but they were formed more by the pagan culture around them.

At the time, they were living immoral lives and worshipping false gods. God announced to Ezekiel that there would be a judgment on the city unless the people repented, and the Babylonians would take the Jewish people away and make them slaves.

Things were bleak, but God showed Ezekiel that there were some who wanted to remain faithful and this way of life was not working.

“And these faithful ones are going to be given a mysterious spiritual mark on their forehead. And this mark is going to be a sign of protection, a sign of fidelity,” Sri related.

This sign that God gave is the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet, the “taw,” which happens to look like a cross.

“The earliest Christians saw that (“taw”) as a prophetic foreshadowing of the ritual sign of the cross that we make,” Sri explained. “And that background from Ezekiel 9 can shed light for us when we make the sign of the cross.”

“This isn't just some ritual,” Sri said. “It is a powerful thing.”

“Just like in Ezekiel's time, we live in a period of cultural crisis,” he noted. “There are many people today who don't want to go along with the immoral ways of living in the world around us. And we desire to follow God. We want to have strong marriages. We want to raise godly children, virtuous children. We want to form children in Catholic schools to live differently, to be light in this world, salt of the earth.”

“When we make the sign of the cross,” Sri related, “one of the things



TIM JOHNSON

**Dr. Edward Sri was the keynote speaker at the Institute for Catechetical Formation for Fort Wayne area Catholic schoolteachers on Feb. 24. The event, held at Bishop Luers High School, was coordinated by the Office of Catechesis and included Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. Sri is the co-founder of FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, and serves as the provost and professor of theology and Scripture at the Augustine Institute's Master's program in Denver, Colo.**

we are ... saying (is), ‘Lord, God, I want to follow You. I want to follow Your standards to happiness.’

... ‘And I want to follow Your standards for marriage and family life, not what the world says family life is going to be like, because we know that's not working.’”

Sri pointed out two things that we do when we make the sign of the cross.

First, “We are saying, ‘God, I love You. I want to be faithful to You, not in the ways of this world,’” he said.

“Secondly, when we make the sign of the cross, we are saying, ‘God, I want to call on Your help and protection in my life,’” Sri said. “Protect me in my life. Protect me from all harm, from danger, from sin, from temptation.”

One of the very practical things that the faithful can take away from the sign of the cross, Sri related, comes from looking at what the early Christians did.

“When the early Christians made the sign of the cross, they didn't do it just before prayer, or Mass, or just before they said, ‘bless us O Lord,’” Sri said, “They prayed the sign of the cross all throughout the day.”

One early Christian said the sign of the cross should be made on all occasions: “Over the bread we eat, over the cups we drink, in our comings and our goings, in our sleep, in our lying down, in our rising up.”

“The sign of the cross is a powerful safeguard, for it is a grace from God, a badge of the faithful and a terror to the devils,” the early Christian added.

“In other words, it is that sign of faithfulness, but it is also a mark of protection,” Sri said.

He offered some practical advice to those attending the talks.

“The sign of the cross is something you can turn to throughout your days whenever you are facing a struggle, a trial or a temptation,” Sri noted.

When those difficulties arise throughout the day, Sri encouraged the teachers gathered at the formation day to make the sign of the cross.

“That's what the early Christians did,” he said. “They turned to the sign of the cross to find strength, to persevere in their sufferings and trials.”

When faced with temptations, or struggles with certain sins, “It is a great time to turn to the sign of the cross for Jesus' help,” Sri said. When one catches himself in these struggles, “say Jesus' name in your head, and trace the sign of the cross over your heart very simply,” encouraged Sri, “and find God to help you not go down that road. ...”

The second practical point Sri encouraged was for parents to trace the sign of the cross over their children's heads. “It's a beautiful thing every morning to bless your children and every night before they go to bed,” Sri, a father of six, shared.

Sri's talk continued with the rich biblical background of the Mass, especially with the new translation that has been recently implemented in the English-speaking countries.

Sri, who has authored “A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say and Do In the Liturgy,” which explains this background of the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, is available through Ascension Press.



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# The Diaper War: Students helping Women's Care Center

BY TRISH LINNER

SOUTH BEND — The second annual "Diaper War" between Marian and Saint Joseph's high schools was held Friday, Feb. 24. The students collected diapers to be donated to the Women's Care Center.

"Last year, between both schools, we collected a three-to-four month supply for the Women's Care Center," said right to life teacher and co-moderator Tom Dlugosz from Marian High School. "We are so happy to do this; we are committed to supporting their efforts to help women and their children."

The students who bring diapers in on collection day get to enjoy a "dress down day," and the right to life group advertises the collection day through posters and announcements for a couple of weeks to help get the word out.

"It's a fun competition between the schools, but in the end it's really about how many diapers we collect to help women in our community," said senior Ellen Nagy, one of the officers of the Marian High School Right to Life group.

Another officer, senior Jenny Seng agreed saying, "We have a really active group here at Marian. When I joined it was a lot of seniors only. Now we have a lot



Marian High School right to life members stand with the diapers collected during the "Diaper War" with Saint Joseph's High School that they will deliver to Women's Care Center in South Bend.

of freshmen and sophomores and have about 50 members. This event has great student support for a great cause."

Both schools have energetic right to life groups and actually stayed at the same hotel in Washington, D.C., in January when they traveled to the annual National Right to Life March at the capital. "The kids got to hang out and get

to know each other. It was really nice," said Dlugosz.

The gathering and counting of the diapers are done by the right-to-life student members. Then the diapers are bagged and delivered to the Women's Care Center by the administrations. The winner of the diaper war is announced during the annual basketball game between Marian and Saint Joseph's. This

year that game took on special significance as it was the last game played at the Saint Joseph's Alumni Gym.

"We may be rivals on the court," said Marian Principal Carl Loesch, "But we are friends off the court and we are honored to join efforts with Saint Joseph's to support this great organization." Marian went on to win the bas-

ketball game over Saint Joseph's, 64-49.

Saint Joseph's won the diaper war last year, but it was a double victory for Marian this year, which collected 26,794 diapers. In total the schools donated 49,764 diapers.

"We are so thankful to our students' generosity to Women's Care Center," said director of development at Marian, Alicia Redinger.

According to Bobby Williams, the director of the Women's Care Center Foundation, 40 percent of all babies born in St. Joseph County receive some sort of assistance from the Women's Care Center.

"We distribute, free of charge, hundreds of thousands of diapers each year. We are always in need of additional contributions to fill this tremendous need. It is a blessing that the students of Saint Joseph's and Marian put their hearts and souls into this friendly competition each year. Their efforts are truly pro-life "in deeds" ... and not just words. Our volunteer President Ann Manion and I are especially grateful to Principal Carl Loesh and Principal Susan Richter for their incredible support and leadership as well," said Williams.

The Women's Care Center now has 18 locations in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. To help them help area women choose life visit [www.womenscarecenter.org](http://www.womenscarecenter.org).

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# Our spiritual journey to the empty tomb

## Fasting

Now that the Lenten season is in full swing, and we have entered fully into the 40-day desert journey, I feel I've gotten a deeper sense of where I'm headed with my commitment to connecting with God through daily prayer. Each year during this penitential season we hear so much about the conversion of heart — the interior change that is manifested by our desire to come closer to God. I believe that to have that interior change of heart, we must choose to "do" some things differently.

In my last Lenten reflection I wrote about the three pillars of Lent with a focus on prayer as a springboard to deepening our relationship with God. Prayer, as a form of daily communication with our Creator, can lead us to inspired ideas of where His love is leading us. But how do we put

that leading into practice as we act to make positive changes in our lives?

When I was a child my Lenten practice revolved around giving up something I enjoyed. I fasted from chewing gum or drinking soda. As an adult I continue with the practice of fasting — the second pillar of Lent — which I've found can be a fruitful endeavor in my Lenten efforts to open myself to that desired change of heart.

Fasting is one of the oldest practices associated with the season of Lent. Scripture is packed with the benefit of fasting from the Old Testament to the New. Throughout history the faithful have not only abstained from eating meat but have fasted from all food for days in an attempt to empty themselves before the Lord in repentance.

I believe there is a sacrificial

## OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

KAY COZAD

beauty to the rhythm of fasting — the emptying and filling, and back again. When we physically fast from food, with a contrite heart, we allow our bodies to empty of matter so that a space opens that can be filled with the indwelling spirit of God.

Of course, the act of fasting can help us bring our passions under control and develop that sometimes hard won self-discipline — another important

JOURNEY, PAGE 16

# Contraception, abortion, and the battle for the heart of the woman

## GUEST COMMENTARY

FATHER MARK GURTNER

On Saturday, Feb. 25, a political cartoon was featured in the *Journal Gazette*, which showed a husband holding a newspaper, which said "Santorum: America is at War with Satan" and the husband says to his wife, "Yes, and apparently the front line is your uterus." While crass in its wording, I could not help but think that there was an ironic truth expressed.

In many ways, the sexual revolution of the 1960s and '70s was built on a premise of giving new freedom to women. Childbearing came to be seen as a kind of shackle, especially keeping women from pursuing the same sorts of career opportunities that men seemed to have.

The solution that the culture offered to women, the savior meant to liberate women from the shackles, which childbearing perceivably imposed on them, was contraception and abortion. No more would women be enslaved by their biology. They were now free to control their lives without unwanted pregnancy getting in the way.

Some years later, after the use of contraception and abortion became mainstays of our culture, Pope John Paul II asked an important question, "These things which were meant to liberate women, have they liberated her? Or have they not rather made her a slave?" (to the bishops of the Midwest, "ad limina" visit, 1987). What did the pope mean by this?

I would offer these thoughts. In marriage, contraception has a way of divorcing sex from love. When sexual relations between spouses loses part of its full power, that is, the ability to procreate, what is also lost is the power to communicate "I love you, and I give my whole self to you." When this happens, rather than a spouse who is embraced and loved as the *person* that she is, more and more the woman becomes simply the object of sexual pleasure for the man. By God's design, women are especially sensitive and perceptive to this reality. A woman intuitively knows when she is being used. So the use of contraception in marriage has not liberated the

woman, but rather leads her to enslavement, leads her to being an object to be used, even by her husband.

This enslavement becomes an even starker reality when abortion becomes involved. Again, touted as a liberator of women when faced with an unwanted pregnancy, in reality it rips at her motherly heart, enslaving her in a reality of regret and sorrow at her lost child. Abortion's ready availability also only expands the ways in which the woman can become enslaved by men as access to abortion makes it even easier for men to use women without the thought of any consequences.

Indeed, Pope John Paul's question has become as poignant today as ever: has the woman really become liberated or has she not rather become enslaved?

It is not hard to see the hand of Satan behind this, tempting women with the promise of freedom when in reality she is being offered enslavement. And Satan knows what he is doing. To enslave the culture of our age, it is enough to enslave the woman. Pope John Paul II also pointed out that the culture flows through the heart of the woman so important is the role of the woman in family life, in raising children, in society in general (see "On the Dignity of Women," No. 30). If the woman is enslaved, the result is death, death of the culture, death of marriage, death of true love, the death of life itself.

Satan is on the attack in our age, and the battle line is indeed the heart of the woman.

**Father Mark Gurtner**, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, Fort Wayne.

# Jesus alone has the way to eternal life



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

## 3rd Sunday of Lent Jn 4:5-42

The Book of Exodus is the source of the first biblical reading this weekend.

In Hebrew history, the Exodus virtually was unsurpassed as an event of great significance, unless perhaps this distinction goes to creation itself. In the Exodus, the Hebrew people, enslaved and dreadfully mistreated in Egypt, escaped. Eventually, they found their new homeland.

None of this good fortune happened because of luck or human strategy. Rather, God's power led the Hebrews to a successful escape from Egypt. Moses, their leader in this endeavor, was chosen by God for the task.

As the flight was underway, Moses received from God and then gave to the people what long has been called the Ten Commandments.

These familiar commandments formed the essential requisites for the relationship between God and the Hebrew people. By observing these commandments, the people fulfill their obligations under the Covenant. It was as if the commandments were a legal contract, solemnly binding both parties.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians goes to the heart of the Christian message. Christianity preaches Christ. In this reading,

Paul asserts that Jesus is the key to salvation. So, the apostle declares, he preaches, "Christ crucified." It is a "stumbling block for the Jews, and an absurdity for the Gentiles." (The Jews, suffering under Roman oppression, and enduring so much, were inclined to regard Jesus as an imposter and blasphemer. Others, "gentiles," would have seen Jesus as a convicted felon, found guilty by the jurisprudence of Rome that proclaimed its wisdom and perfection.)

For its Gospel reading, the Church this weekend furnishes us with St. John's Gospel.

This weekend's reading is one of the most familiar sections of the New Testament. It recalls the time when Jesus, shortly before Passover, entered the temple precincts and found underway a brisk traffic in the things needed for ritual sacrifice. Furious, the Lord drove the merchants away.

He then predicted that the temple would fall, in itself a virtual blasphemy for many who witnessed this event, and then made the astonishing announcement that he would rebuild the colossal structure in three days. It had taken many people many years to build the temple in the first place.

The Gospel reading sets the stage for Good Friday when the accusers of Jesus would refer to the Lord's prediction that the temple would fall, claiming that Jesus was a blasphemer and a troublemaker. The Lord's prediction regarding the re-building of the temple in three days looked ahead to the Resurrection.

The reading establishes Jesus as God's voice, and God's agent. He is very outdone at the misuse of the temple. The reading also looks forward to Calvary and to the Resurrection, the climactic moments in Redemption.

This reading also reveals much about the bystanders. The Lord's

reaction to the money changers and peddlers reminds them of the Scriptures, yet they fail fully to grasp the Lord's identity or message.

## Reflection

Lent reminds us of our humanity. Despite all the differences in lifestyles and scientific knowledge, nothing removes us from the condition in which the contemporaries of Jesus lived. We, as were they, are humans, subject to human limitations.

Being human has its bright side. We congratulate ourselves, for example, on the brilliant design of spaceships. The dark side is that we, as did the accusers of Jesus, fail to see reality in full perspective. When it comes to right or wrong, too often we choose the wrong side.

Sin brings, and has brought, such injury to people. Stubbornly, we hold onto sin. Lenten discipline calls us more sharply to focus, better to see sin in its reality.

God never deserts us, even in our folly. He forever gives us life. Jesus is our Savior and example. He alone has the way to eternal life.

## READINGS

**Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17 Ps 19:8-11 1 Cor 1:22-25 Jn 2:13-25 or Jn 4:5-42

**Monday:** 2 Kgs 5:1-15b Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 Lk 4:24-30

**Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35

**Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Lk 11:14-23

**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17 Mk 12:28-34

**Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b Lk 18:9-14

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



## Gabriel Possenti

1838-1862  
February 27

The 11th of 13 children of a distinguished Italian lawyer who served the Papal States, Francesco Possenti was a bright, joyful youth, despite losing his mother when he was 4. Educated at the Jesuit college in Spoleto, he was seriously ill twice and vowed to become a religious if he recovered. He entered the Passionist novitiate in 1856, taking the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows. He served dutifully, with great piety and cheerfulness, dying from tuberculosis at the age of 24.

# The contraception mandate and 'cooperation with evil'

The Affordable Care Act that Congress passed in 2010 directs employers to provide health insurance or pay a fine. New regulations adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services will also require employers to provide full coverage for contraceptives, abortifacient drugs and sterilization procedures that the Catholic Church teaches are gravely immoral.

There is a modest exemption for some religious groups (churches and religious orders), but most of them still have to comply.

This is a religious freedom issue, but some doubt its importance. After all, when we provide health insurance at The Catholic University of America, are we morally responsible for all of the procedures it covers? Why would we be more responsible than we are for the wages we already pay? Perhaps one of our employees or contractors spends that money in strip clubs or on cocaine.

Just what are we morally responsible for? It cannot be for every result of every action we perform. It would be absurd to blame me for a hot dog vendor's extramarital affair, just because my lunch purchase helped finance it.

At the other extreme, it seems equally absurd to maintain the innocence of Pontius Pilate, who allowed a grave miscarriage of justice with his feigned and strategic

indifference to Jesus' fate.

Catholic moral theology calls this the problem of "cooperation with evil."

When C (the Cooperator) assists A (the Actor) to do some immoral act, intending to advance A's wrongful purposes, we have a case of formal cooperation. Formal cooperation is intrinsically wrong.

Think of a getaway driver: He does not rob the bank, but he deliberately assists the robber to escape with the money. The driver cannot claim that he is merely driving a car, a lawful act. He is guilty of formal cooperation because he intends to advance the robber's purpose.

This is the most obvious reason why Catholic institutions should decline to provide insurance for contraception, abortion and sterilization. The insurance policy is a way of paying for immoral drugs and services — as a criminal financier might pay for the bank robber's gun, mask, satchel and car.

It is no excuse to say that one is fronting the money, and that what the robber does with the gun, etc., is his moral responsibility. The health insurance provider, like the robber's financial backer, intends to advance the principal actor's ends.

There is a second, distinct reason why institutions like ours object to covering contraception, abortion and sterilization in our health insurance policies. Our mission as a Catholic



JOHN GARVEY

## INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

university is not just to teach students microeconomics and Spanish literature. We are concerned with their growth in grace as well as wisdom.

We teach them in class, in the sacraments, in the activities of student life, that these activities are immoral. Most, we hope, heed the lesson. To pay for these same activities in one office while we condemn them elsewhere will inevitably cause the virtuous to doubt the truth or the sincerity of our teaching.

Herein lies the fundamental wrongness of the health care mandate. Thomas Jefferson's "Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom" proclaimed "that to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical."

How much more wrong it is to compel financial support for putting those opinions into practice. (The recent solution announced by the president — ordering insurance companies to make the payment — does not solve the problem. They will make the payment out of our account.)

It would be a feeble defense to claim that we do not really intend to cooperate in immoral practices because the government is making us do it.

John Garvey is the president of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

me the day before a scheduled surgery to ask how I was doing. After hearing of my anxiety concerning the whole ordeal, she gently offered to fast during the time I was scheduled to be under the knife. Her heartfelt sacrifice had a powerful impact on my understanding of the grace that comes from emptying self and filling others with hope.

Physical fasting can cleanse the body of its impurities and can assist us in the purification of our souls as we grow in spirit and truth. But I've learned that there is another course of fasting that can be taken in our desire for conversion of heart — that of spiritual fasting.

The practice of spiritual fasting can be every bit as challenging as fasting from food. And perhaps it is even more difficult because it draws our attention to our thoughts and actions.

What common thoughts or

emotions keep us from realizing God's grace in our lives? Are we anxious, fearful or worried? Try fasting — emptying yourself of them, and fill yourself with a belief in God's love and protection. Fast from judging others and choose to see Christ's presence in them instead. Fast from complaining and increase your appreciation. Fast from anger and develop the practice of patience. You get the idea.

During this Lenten season, this precious time of repentance and change, let's take the time to ask ourselves what we can fast from to make this world a better place.

I believe that through genuine and steadfast prayer, God will show us how and from what to fast. And whatever we choose to empty ourselves of this Lenten season in hopes of a change of heart, I believe He will bless us for our efforts and fill us with the joy of His Resurrection.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for March 11, 2012

John 2:13-25

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle B: the purification of the Temple by Jesus. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	WENT UP	JERUSALEM
HE FOUND	SHEEP	DOVES
(HE) MADE	DROVE	TEMPLE
MONEY	OVERTURNED	WHO SOLD
OUT OF HERE	HOUSE	MARKET
ZEAL	CONSUME ME	DESTROY
RAISE IT	THREE DAYS	HIS BODY

## FORESHADOW

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

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## JOURNEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

step in growing closer to our Savior. But it also brings us grace and clarity of mind in the presence of suffering.

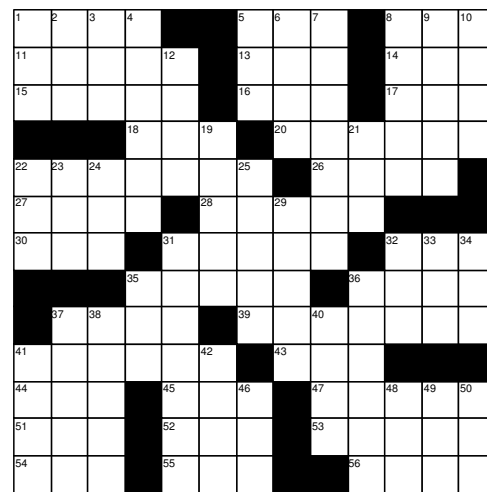
The physical hunger we feel while fasting not only reminds us of our souls' experience of hunger for God but can unite us to the suffering of others who are less fortunate. Our greatest desire during the emptying of fasting is to be filled with new insights and develop new behaviors that will deepen our relationship with God and benefit Him and His people.

Remember what Jesus said in chapter four of John's Gospel, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish His work."

Years ago, a friend approached

## The CrossWord

March 4 and 11, 2012



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Based on these Scripture Readings: Gen 22: 1-18; Mk 9:2-10 and Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

### ACROSS

- 1 Secondhand
- 5 Expression of surprise
- 8 Madagascar franc (abbr.)
- 11 Mouse
- 13 Part of a min.
- 14 Card game
- 15 Power controlling device
- 16 \_\_\_-life
- 17 Hoopla
- 18 Internal Revenue Service
- 20 In league with
- 22 Where ram was caught

### DOWN

- 26 Yowl
- 27 Don't use God's in vain
- 28 Jesus' clothes color
- 30 Cooking measurement
- 31 Curt
- 32 Angry
- 35 Asian nation
- 36 Gospel writer
- 37 Adolescent
- 39 Wagon driver
- 41 Woeful
- 43 Dog
- 44 Big truck
- 45 We believe in \_\_\_
- 47 Golden king

- 51 Peter's mother-in-law was
- 52 Garden tool
- 53 \_\_\_ of the seashore
- 54 Bullfight cheer
- 55 What a nurse gives
- 56 Mist

### DOWN

- 1 Ship initials
- 2 That girl
- 3 Sin
- 4 Contraption
- 5 Viper
- 6 Juno
- 7 Altar server
- 8 Pharaoh's whip
- 9 Mold
- 10 "Teacher, it is \_\_\_ we are here."
- 12 Don't do on Sabbath
- 19 Needle worker
- 21 Downwind
- 22 Explosive
- 23 Owns
- 24 Demon
- 25 Hurler
- 29 Abraham's son
- 31 This evening
- 32 Adam
- 33 Is
- 34 Danish *kroner* (abbr.)
- 35 Barrel
- 36 Mountain of sacrifice
- 37 Quaver
- 38 John's animal symbol
- 40 Teeth holders
- 41 Three
- 42 Chilled
- 46 Christmas month
- 48 Genetic code
- 49 Tool
- 50 South southeast

Answer Key can be found on page 19



# Sports

**BISHOP DWENGER CLAIMS GYMNASTICS SECTIONAL TITLE** The Bishop Dwenger Saints claimed a fifth consecutive sectional gymnastics title on Saturday, March 3, at Concordia High School. The four-time state champions and 2011 state runner up will advance to regional competition on Friday, March 9, at Huntington North. Individual firsts for the Saints were Katy Linvill on the balance beam, Carrie Brown on the bars, Kaitlyn Coffee on the floor exercise and Brittany Trahin on the vault. Linvill and Brown placed first and second in the all-around competition. — *Michelle Castleman*

## St. Vincent, St. Joseph claim CYO league titles

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne took home two of the three Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) league titles on Feb. 25 claiming both the seventh-grade division and the eighth-grade large school division for the 2011-2012 season.

In the White League (seventh-grade) tournament, the No. 1 seeded Panthers finished their season with an impressive 23-1 season beating St. Charles for the championship.

Coach Courtney Paul, who alongside her brother-in-law, coached the 12 young Panthers to an undefeated league finish, credited "defense and the boys' camaraderie" as team strengths.

Stepping into the head position for a good part of the year and the final tournament, Paul was very pleased with her team's overall season, and said, "They played hard every time they hit the floor."

The same group also won the CYO championship as fifth graders and sixth graders thus far.

In the Gold League, the older Panthers downed St. Jude, 42-37, in a hard-fought battle after losing to the Eagles during the regular season. This marked the fourth title for this group in their CYO careers. Led by their ace, Jake Graham, the Panthers went on to battle for the diocesan cham-

pionship on Sunday, Feb. 26, when they were victorious over the Mishawaka Catholic Saints, 40-25.

The other CYO title for the day was claimed by St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, which won the Blue League (small school) championship for the fifth straight year. Dominating the hardwood season after season, the Squires (25-4) squeaked by with a four-point victory over a talented group from St. Therese, 31-27.

Coach Jim Knapke marveled, "It was close. It was exciting. It was a lot of fun. It could have gone either way. As usual when we play Mike Palmer and St. Therese, it was a great game. They always 'bring it' when we play them. We were very fortunate to come away with the win."

In the championship, eighth graders Jack Johnston, Mark Saalfrank and Seth Wyss paced the Squires. Luers-bound, Johnston led the scoring with 13 points. Saalfrank came up with some crucial buckets to hold off the many St. Therese runs. He and Wyss added another dozen points in the scoreboard.

For the Crusaders, Brandon Diss topped all scorers with 14.

Both groups trekked to South Bend for the much-anticipated showdown against the Inter-City Catholic League finest.

St. Therese won over South Bend St. Joseph, 41-35, while Hessen Cassel came up short against Holy Cross, 41-31.

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[www.diocesefwsb.org/cso](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/cso).

Applications will be reviewed upon completion.



## Knights come up short in overtime

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The teams and the fans were the same. But the sport and the outcome were different. Once again this school year, Fort Wayne Bishop Luers High School went head to head with Evansville Mater Dei — this time for a girls' basketball state championship at the Hulman Center in Terre Haute.

The Knights were making a third straight appearance and vying for a record-breaking seventh title. Bishop Luers (21-5) sailed through the post-season, virtually untouched.

Denny Renier's Knights entered the contest ranked No. 2 facing the No. 1 Wildcats (26-1) in a classic match-up. But 0.02 seconds was not enough time for the Class 2-A defending champs to catch and shoot for a victory in an evenly matched battle that saw the score tied seven times.

Just the eighth time in the history of the Indiana tournament, the champion was declared in overtime. Unfortunately for Bishop Luers, the Knights have come up short two of those times. However, it was an outstanding effort by Bishop Luers who trailed at the end of each of the first three quarters.

Led by Allison Butler's string of buckets, the talented Knights made a 12-8 surge in the fourth period to force the extra minutes when the scoreboard read 49-49.

During the final time-out in regulation, the Knights attempted to set up an out-of-bounds play under their own basket with 3.1 seconds but senior Brooke Ridley's potentially winning shot was blocked by the Wildcats' Tori Schickel. Ridley answered back with a clean swat of her own against Schickel in the overtime, but Mater Dei's Maura Muensterman went on to hit the clincher.

Winning their first ever state title, Steve Goans' Wildcats were



Senior members present Principal Mary Keefer and Bishop Luers High School with the IHSAA Class 2-A state runner up trophy.

sparked by deadly three-point shooting. Ashlynn Spahn finished with 15 points — all treys. The final outcome was 56-52.

Butler finished with 13 points for the Knights, while the runners-up were anchored, as they have been all season, by their 6 foot-1 inch senior center, Miracle Woods. Woods finished her high school career netting 17 points and pulling down 9 rebounds.

The Knights celebrated a red medal ceremony on Monday afternoon, March 5, at an all-school assembly.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy, bishop emeritus, was on hand to assure his support of the basketball program both in the good times and the bad.

He quoted Lou Holtz when referring to heartbreaking losses, "If it doesn't kill you, it strengthens you."

The loyal fan continued with a prayer and affirmed his pride in Bishop Luers, "I have celebrated many championships with this school and have never been so proud of any team as this one."

Both the superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Mark Myers, and assistant superintendent of Catholic Schools, Marsha Jordan,

were in attendance. Dr. Myers offered his congratulations and thanked the team for representing the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with such character.

"We are not called to be successful, we are called to be faithful. Thank you, for being faithful," he concluded.

Coach Denny Renier was next to address the convocation. "In basketball, as in life, there are going to be losses. I hope that these girls, especially our seniors, can separate this extremely difficult time with their incredible accomplishments this season and throughout their careers," he willed.

Next Renier honored his top pair with commemorative basketballs. Both Miracle Woods and Brooke Ridley scored over 1,000 points and a record-breaking number of rebounds during their four years of duty at Bishop Luers.

Woods tallied up 1,123 points and 678 rebounds, while Ridley netted 1,048 points and a shattering 780 boards. A solemn Ridley detailed she will always remember how her team stayed together, "We fought hard but came up short."

## Business Manager Position Opening

Christ the King Parish in South Bend, IN seeks a Business Manager. The Business Manager is a full-time, salaried member of the Parish Staff who reports to the Pastor and works closely with the Pastoral Team. The Business Manager administers all parish finances, oversees all personnel functions, and supervises the maintenance and operation of parish facilities and grounds (including the school). The qualified candidate has degree in business or equivalent experience, strong interpersonal, supervisory and organizational skills; knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles; and a familiarity with the structure and teachings of the Catholic Church. Please send your resume by March 16, 2012 to:

Christ the King Catholic Church  
52473 State Route 933, South Bend IN 46637  
Attn: Fr. Neil Wack, CSC, Pastor

## CHEERLEADERS RECEIVE ACCOLADES



PROVIDED BY BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

The Bishop Dwenger cheerleaders took home the title of National Grand Champion after competing against over 70 teams at the National Championships in Orlando, Florida, Feb. 25-26. The squad also won the sportsmanship award for representing the spirit of support to other teams and positive interaction with their own team. The squad includes eight seniors: Katie Dillon, Delaney Eggleston, Katie Houser, Kendra Giant, Kelsey Lee, Allie Kostoff, Erin McTague and Rose Lowery; 10 juniors: Claire Schenkel, Erin Grutsch, Paige Didier, Alex Yoder, Becca Paladino, Bri Campbell, Morgan Pearson, Rachel Venderley, Nicole Gulachek and Lindsey Noye; five sophomores: Emily Budzon, Elizabeth Budzon, Lauren Didier, Haley Enrietto and Mariah Tippmann; and three freshmen: Alexis Eddy, Dominique Effinger and Lucy Schenkel. The Saints are coached by Amy Gonzagowski, Vicki Kuker and Doris Derheimer.

## Marian wins sectional

BY CHUCK FREEBY

MISHAWAKA — Marian basketball coach Robb Berger was just an infant the last time the Knights won a boys' basketball sectional. Saturday night though, Berger was on the sidelines guiding Marian to another title.

For the first time since 1969, Marian earned one of Indiana's heralded crowns, downing John Glenn, 61-56, to win the Class 3-A sectional at Plymouth.

"When they won the last sectional in '69, I was five months old," noted Berger afterwards. "I'm 43 now, so this was a long time coming. We're just happy to get out of here with a win."

The Knights, ranked seventh in the Class 3-A poll, had all they could handle from John Glenn. Nathan Stegemiller hit six three-pointers in the first half for the Falcons, who trailed by just a 31-29 count at halftime.

With Notre Dame basketball coach Mike Brey watching from the stands, Marian star Demetrius Jackson caught fire in the second half. Jackson drilled three three-

pointers in the stanza, including one at the buzzer that gave Marian a 48-41 lead.

Marian couldn't pull away though. Freshman Jake Strong buried a pair of threes in the fourth quarter, as Glenn would pull within two with just over three minutes remaining.

Freshman Devin Cannady hit a key shot to pad the lead to three. After a missed three-pointer by John Glenn in the waning seconds, Marian's Robert Mischler made a steal and calmly hit two free throws to provide the final margin.

"I take my hat off to John Glenn," noted the Cornell-bound Mischler in the midst of the celebration. "They played a heckuva game. We have to play better defense next week."

Jackson's 22 points led the Knights' attack. Senior Drew Hasler provided Marian with a solid game inside, scoring 14 points with 12 rebounds.

Marian returns to Plymouth Saturday for regional action. The 18-3 Knights face Gary Wallace in the semifinals at 10 a.m., followed by Andean and Western. Winners return for the regional final at 8 p.m.

## WNIT presents 'Catholicism'

SOUTH BEND — WNIT Public Television will present "Catholicism" on Monday, March 11, and Friday, March 16, on channels 34.1 and 34.2. In this moving and epic documentary series, Father Robert Barron tells the story of Catholicism around the world — using art, architecture, literature, music and all the riches of the Catholic tradition.

The four-part series include the following topics: "Catholicism: Amazed and Afraid" — Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m. and Friday,

March 16, 8 p.m.; "Catholicism: That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought" — Sunday, March 11, 4:30 p.m. and Friday, March 16, 9:30 p.m.; "Catholicism: Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast" — Sunday, March 11, 6 p.m. and Friday, March 16, 11 p.m.; and "Catholicism: The Indispensable Men" — Sunday, March 11, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 17, at 12:30 a.m.

For a complete listing, please visit the WNIT website, wnit.org.

## Marriage conference schedule released

SOUTH BEND — The Office of Family Life has released the complete and final schedule for its second Diocesan Marriage and Family Conference, which will take place at the Notre Dame Conference Center on Saturday, March 24. The schedule is the following:

- 8:30 a.m. — Registration and continental breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- 10 a.m. — Welcome by Fred and Lisa Everett

Plenary Session One:

- "What the Theology of the Body Means for Marriage" with Father Bob Lengerich

- 11:25 a.m. — Workshops, Session One with the following topics and speakers:

- "Teaching Teens the Theology of the Body," John and Monica Sikorski

- "Family, Work and Celebration," Lisa Everett

- "Parenting in Truth and Love," Fred Everett

- "Dealing with Infertility,"

Dave and Suzy Younger

12:15 p.m. — Lunch

1:05 p.m. — Plenary Session

Two: "The Mission of the Christian Family" with Franciscan Father David Mary Engo

2:25 p.m. — Workshop Session Two with the following topics and speakers:

- "The Christian Family as the Church of the Home," John Sikorski

- "Prayer in Marriage and Family Life," Lisa Marino

- "Parenting Teenagers in the Virtues," Cindy Black

- "Dealing with Divorce," Lisa Everett

3:40 p.m. — Workshop Session Three with the following topics and speakers:

- "The Christian Family as the Church of the Home," John Sikorski

- "Family, Work and Celebration," Lisa Everett

- "Prayer in Marriage and Family Life," Lisa Marino

- "Dealing with Homosexuality," Dr. Phil Sutton

To register for the conference, visit [ccc.nd.edu](http://ccc.nd.edu) or call (574) 631-6691 for more information. The cost for the conference, which includes continental breakfast, a boxed lunch and afternoon snacks, is \$35 per person.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**WHAT'S HAPPENING** carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or email: fhogan@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.

**Holy Name Society fish fry**

New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 9, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$7.50, children 5-12 \$4 and children under 5 free.

**Mishawaka Catholic School to host Jonah fish fry**

Mishawaka — Mishawaka Catholic School Home and School Association will host a Jonah fish fry at the St. Bavo campus gymnasium on Friday, March 16, from 4-8 p.m. Tickets prior to the event available after all Masses are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$5 for K-8 and preschoolers are free. Tickets at the door are \$9 for adults and seniors, \$5 for grades K-8 and free for preschoolers. Carryout is available. Beer and wine will also be served.

**Fish fry**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 553 will have a fish fry Friday, March 16, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Knights hall, 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$4 for children 12-5 and children under 5 free.

**Knights plan fish fry**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, March 16, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$8 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

**Sacred Heart Parish fish fry**

South Bend — Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 63568 U.S. 31 South, will have a Tyner IOOF fish fry, Friday, March 16, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children 6-12 \$3 and children 5 and under free. Call (574) 291-3775 for information.

**St. Patrick's Day celebration**

Lagro — St. Patrick Oratory, 950 Main St., will have a St. Patrick's Day celebration Saturday, March

17, with lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lagro United Methodist Church Hall followed by Mass at St. Patrick at 1:30 p.m. with celebrant Father Don Sextus.

**St. Patrick Parish plans celebration**

South Bend — St. Patrick Parish will have a day of celebration with Mass at 9 a.m. followed by guided tours of the 150 year-old church on Saturday, March 17. Refreshments will be offered in the parish center. A parade will begin at 11 a.m. on Jefferson Blvd. combined with the Greening of the East Race at Seitz Park. The celebration will continue at the St. Patrick Center at 1 p.m. with live Celtic music and dance. Tickets for a traditional Irish meal will be sold at the door for \$10. A children's meal will be \$3 for children 4-11 years. Children under 4 eat free. A cash bar will be available. Call (574) 233-9200 for information.

**Card party and euchre tournament**

Yoder — St. Aloysius will have a card party and euchre tournament Saturday, March 17, in the school basement. \$5 fee. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call (260) 638-4882 for information.

**Goshen College Chamber Choir performs**

Elkhart — St. Vincent de Paul Parish will host the Goshen College Chamber Choir in a Lenten choral concert on Sunday, March 18, at 7:30 p.m. Repertoire includes excerpts from Faure's Requiem and Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass. This event is free.

**Theology for Generation X**

Fort Wayne — Theology for Generation X will meet Monday, March 12, from 7-9 p.m. at Don Hall's Gas House, 305 E. Superior St., to discuss "Catholic Apologetics: How to Defend Your Faith," with Dr. Thomas McGovern. Contact John Beguette (260) 436-8704 or jbequette@sf.edu for information.

**Theology on Tap plans gathering**

Fort Wayne — Theology on Tap will meet Thursday, March 15, from 7-9 p.m. at Calhoun Street Soups, Salads, & Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., to discuss the topic: "Catholics say YES to sex" as part of Blessed John Paul II's "Theology of the Body." Cindy Black, director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries is speaker. For information contact Allison at asturm@diocesefwsb.org or call (260) 422-4611.

**Garage sale planned for SJSE**

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School will host a garage sale Saturday, March 17, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the St. Joseph campus, 2211 Brooklyn Ave. All proceeds benefit the eighth-grade class trip.

**Trivia night at St. Charles**

Fort Wayne — A trivia night will be held at St. Charles Parish, corner of Reed and Trier roads, Saturday, March 17, from 6-9:30 p.m. — enter cafeteria door No. 9. Tables are \$80 for a table of 8. Must be 18 or older. Bring your own food and drinks to enjoy. Call to register at (260) 482-2186 or email stcparishoffice@yahoo.com

**Lenten retreat at St. Jude**

Donaldson — The St. Jude Parish Rosary Sodality will have a Lenten retreat for men and women with guest speaker, Jim Murphy, Saturday, March 17, at the Lindenwood Retreat Center. Topic is "Being Catholic is not a spectator sport." The cost is \$25. The day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. with lunch following. RSVP to (574) 291-0570 or email Mary Huszar at me.huszar@comcast.net by March 13.

## REST IN PEACE

**Bremen**

Jose Alvarado, 70, St. Dominic

Edna H. Garringer, 86, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

**Monroeville**

Patricia J. Castle, 71, St. Rose

**Bristol**

Elizabeth J. Jozwiak, 86, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Roseanne Roemer, 85, St. Charles Borromeo

**Notre Dame**

Brother Eduardo Michalik, CSC, 91, Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel

**Fort Wayne**

Lawrence L. Brost, 69, St. Charles Borromeo

Georgette C. Rousseau, 96, St. Charles Borromeo

Sister M. Theodora Abreu, CSC, 90, Our Lady of Loretto

Adelaide L. Wilkinson, 93, St. Charles Borromeo

Margaret M. Moeller, 83, Most Precious Blood

**South Bend**

Marlin L. Gillen, 84, St. Matthew Cathedral

William H. Bentz, 87, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Leona Victoria Quilty, 94, St. John the Evangelist

Bela Nagy, 85, Our Lady of Hungary

Wanda Marvine Hageman, 87, St. Therese

Virginia V. Brambert, 84, St. Pius X

Clement L. Stevens, 84, St. Anthony de Padua

Denis Mockenhaupt, 71, St. Vincent de Paul

Tina H. Brady, 86, St. Pius X

**Yoder**

Donald W. Borne, 90, St. Aloysius

Avis L. Weisenburger, 101, St. Therese

Ruth A. Conrad, 87, St. Joseph

Anthony Myers, 73, St. Vincent de Paul

Marie J. Housand, 101, St. Joseph

Gilbert Joseph Berghoff, 81, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Edith Roelandts, 95, St. Bavo



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**March**

- 2 St. Aloysius Church 14623 Bluffton Road
- 3 Mt. Calvary Lutheran 1819 Reservation Drive, Fort Wayne
- 9 St. Joseph Church Brooklyn/Hale Avenues, Fort Wayne
- 16 HAAA- Hoagland Pavilion Hoagland, IN
- 18 Sunday at St. Louis Besancon  
Drive thru Broasted Chicken Dinner **11:00 a.m.**
- 23 Cornerstone Youth Center 19819 Monroeville Rd., Monroeville
- 24 Emmanuel Lutheran Church 9909 Wayne Trace, Fort Wayne
- 30 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Ch. 10700 Aboite Ctr Rd, Fort Wayne

## Got questions ?



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## The CrossWord

March 4 and 11, 2012

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SERVO		PRO		ADO
	IRS		ALLIED	
THICKET				YELL
NAME		WHITE		
TSP		TERSE		MAD
	KOREA			MARK
TEEN		WAGONER		
TRAGIC		CUR		
RIG		GOD		MIDAS
ILL		HOE		SANDS
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The exterior of St. Felix Oratory is shown in the left top photo. At top right, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades stops to pray in the dormitory room of Venerable Father Solanus Casey, a simplex Capuchin priest who lived in Huntington for 10 years at the friary. Bishop Rhoades prayed for the sainthood cause of Father Solanus. At left, Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist tour the beautiful religious choir — where the Capuchin friars had prayed Morning and Evening Prayer — within the St. Felix Oratory.

PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

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## *In appreciation...*

In a recent issue of Today's Catholic, a request was made for financial support to help cover production and mailing costs of the newspaper. If the request was a quiet one, the response was a roar of approval. Checks from all over the diocese came in... and each signature represented more than a name. Each one was a statement of faith, of confidence, and a call for continued spiritual care and guidance.

Your assistance is deeply appreciated and your response demonstrates a willing involvement in our intention to deliver the clear voice of truth and leadership. So thank you again...

*"But thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph of Christ."*

**TODAY'S CATHOLIC**

*Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend*