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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod offers solidarity in defending religious liberty

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Church leaders, students and members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations in Fort Wayne expressed their solidarity with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Catholics of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to “stand together for religious liberty.”

Gathering April 17 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, just a few blocks from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod held a procession to the cathedral. There they gathered in prayer and song with Catholics and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on the plaza in front of the cathedral and presented letters of support and encouragement “as we stand together with (the bishop) on this issue of religious liberty,” noted Rev. Charles Gieschen, academic dean of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, one of two Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod seminaries in the U.S.

Gieschen shared encouragement from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, “with our brothers and sisters in Christ, these letters and these signatures and also to assure them of our prayers in light of the recent U.S. Department Health and Human Services mandate.”

Rev. Daniel P. May, president of the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, announced at the presentation, “We are gathered here today to stand in defense of the religious liberty and freedom of conscience that individuals and institutions should enjoy unobstructed by government intrusion or coercion as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America.”

“We understand our spiritual and civil responsibilities and we cherish the role each plays in the health and well-being of this nation,” Rev. May said. “As

LIBERTY, PAGE 2



JOE ROMIE

Ministers and representatives of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod present 112 letters with 1,396 signatures in support of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Catholics to “stand together for religious liberty” at a gathering on the plaza of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on April 17. Msgr. Robert Schulte, rector of the cathedral and diocesan chancellor, stands at the right.

BABY KISSED BY POPE



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

A baby reacts after being kissed by Pope Benedict XVI as the pope leaves his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 18. Looking on is Msgr. Georg Ganswein, the pope's personal secretary.

Huntington-based Our Sunday Visitor celebrates 100 years

National Catholic company hosts open house May 5, 2012

HUNTINGTON — Our Sunday Visitor is celebrating its centennial in 2012, starting with an open house at its Huntington headquarters 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 5. The company serves millions of Catholics worldwide through its publishing, offer-tory, curriculum and communication services.

Established in 1912 by a local parish priest, *Our Sunday Visitor* has grown into the nation's largest supplier of offering envelopes, online giving, websites, parish and diocesan

mailings, books, periodicals, curriculum and stewardship services. Our Sunday Visitor is a not-for-profit organization, returning a portion of net earnings back to the Catholic community through the Our Sunday Visitor Institute.

“Catechetically, formationally, Our Sunday Visitor is a great treasure trove,” said Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, D.C. “I think there is something wholesome about *Our Sunday Visitor*. It doesn't apologize for what we believe. It simply presents it clearly and in a refreshing manner.”

The date of the open house was chosen to coincide with the first publication of the *Our*

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Our brothers and sisters in Christ



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

On Tuesday, April 17th, in front of our Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, pastors and members of several congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod gathered to present me with greetings and letters of support for the Catholic Church's stand against the unjust mandate of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that violates our religious liberty.

I was deeply moved by this wonderful gesture of solidarity from our Lutheran brothers and sisters. I thank them for their strong stance in defense of religious liberty and for their commitment to stand together with us in this important matter.

In front of our cathedral, Reverend Daniel May, the Indiana District President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and Reverend Charles Gieschen, Academic Dean at Concordia Theological Seminary, delivered eloquent speeches in support of our religious freedom in the face of the HHS mandate. Many area Lutheran pastors and others came forward with letters of support signed by members of their congregations and schools and presented them to me. It was a great public witness.

LIBERTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

American Christians we give proper honor and respect to those in authority. We always pray for our leaders. We strive to obediently carry out our responsibilities. We pledge our allegiance to the United States of America, but our higher and greater allegiance is to the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords."

Rev. May said the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod representatives and other leaders were there to "demonstrate against the erosion of our civil liberty."

"We stand with those working for the continued freedom to act according to the principles of faith and conscience as they care for their fellow man and cherish society's most vulnerable without being discriminated against by government mandates," he said. "To require religious organizations to provide these services violates consciences and principles of religious liberty as they are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution."

The history and heart of America is that citizens are free to follow their consciences in matters of faith. "We urge our leaders to honor and respect this liberty, so that together we may be a nation that is under God and a shining light on the hill," Rev. May said.

"In the end we are conscience-bound to obey God rather than man," Rev. May said.

Rev. Gieschen read a statement posted on the Concordia Theological Seminary website, www.ctsfw.edu, on how to respond to the mandate: "For one, we must stand in solidarity with those under assault. We must support those who put themselves on the line in defense of this liberty.



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades shakes hands with Rev. Charles Gieschen, academic dean of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, at the "stand together for religious liberty" gathering on the plaza of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on April 17. Next to Rev. Gieschen is Rev. Daniel May, Indiana District president. Members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod expressed their solidarity with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Catholics of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend by signing and presenting letters at the gathering.

In response to this wonderful initiative of our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Christ, I expressed my heartfelt appreciation. I shared how we are all rightfully worried that religious liberty in our country is being weakened, the most glaring example being the coercive action by the HHS to force religious institutions and individuals to facilitate and to fund products that are contrary to our moral teaching. I also shared how wrong it is for the government to purport to define which of our religious institutions are "religious enough" to merit protection of their religious liberty.

In thanking our Lutheran friends, I stated that we must stand together in defense of our first liberty that is enshrined in the very first amendment of our U.S. Constitution. Religious liberty, protected in our Constitution, is a God-given right, a gift granted to us by God. The support of the

Lutheran community has given me hope for the new birth of freedom we pray for in our beloved country.

I encourage all to read the recent Statement of our USCCB Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty entitled *Our First, Most Cherished Liberty* (<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/our-first-most-cherished-liberty.cfm>). In this statement we write: "As Catholics, we are obliged to defend the right to religious liberty for ourselves and for others. We are happily joined in this by our fellow Christians and believers of other faiths." In our diocese, we are happily joined by our fellow Christians of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and many others. Together "we affirm that our faith requires us to defend the religious liberty granted us by God, and protected in our Constitution."

While we do this, we will continue to be good citizens."

"That is what we are doing today, Bishop Rhoades," Rev. Gieschen announced, "standing peacefully, with those under assault, and continuing to be good citizens, to pray for our leaders who serve in our communities."

"Even as the Lutheran faculty and students of Concordia Theological Seminary have peacefully stood and walked with Roman Catholics in this community for many years in upholding the sanctity of human life, we again stand with you on the issue of protecting the free exercise of religion in our great nation so that Christians may be about the mission that Christ has given to His Church," Rev. Gieschen said.

"Your gesture of solidarity with the Catholic Church in the defense of our religious liberty is a beautiful witness for which I am deeply grateful," Bishop Rhoades said. "Your letters of support and your public testimony highlight the importance of defending our first and most cherished liberty as American citizens."

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod presented 112 letters with 1,396 signatures from members of churches and Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod institutions.

Bishop Rhoades has championed religious freedom rights since the Obama administration announced the Health and Human Services' mandate requiring Catholic institutions to cover contraceptive drugs, sterilization and abortifacient drugs in insurance plans for its employees.

"We are rightly worried that religious liberty in our country is being weakened," Bishop Rhoades said. "The most glaring example of this is the mandate of the Department of Health and Human Services, an unprecedented coercive action by the federal government to force religious institutions and individuals to facilitate and to fund products that are contrary to our moral

teaching."

"It is also appalling that the government purports to define which of our religious institutions are 'religious enough' to merit protection of their religious liberty," Bishop Rhoades added in his remarks. "Because we serve and employ people of different faiths in these institutions, they have been deemed non-exempt from the government's mandate."

Bishop Rhoades noted that when the Church helps the poor, educates young people or cares for the sick, "we do not restrict our service to those who are Catholic or Lutheran. If we did, we would not be subject to the mandate."

"In effect, the government is dismissing our liberty when we are engaged beyond the sanctuaries of our churches and doing the good works our faith calls us to do, contributing to the common good," Bishop Rhoades said.

"Religious liberty is more than freedom of worship — it includes the freedom to practice our faith in society without coercion from the government to violate our consciences," he said.

Bishop Rhoades encouraged those gathered: "We must stand together in defense of our first liberty, which is enshrined in the very First Amendment of our Constitution, which indeed guarantees that 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.'"

"Religious liberty is a God-given right, a gift granted to us by God," he added.

"We stand together as Lutherans and Catholics today in opposing the attack on our religious liberty by the federal government," Bishop Rhoades said.

Bishop Rhoades offered his heartfelt thanks and concluded, "I thank God for you and for your dedication. You give me hope that, with the help of God's grace, we will see a new birth of freedom in our beloved country."

Monroeville Elementary School building sold to diocese

MONROEVILLE — The East Allen County Schools (EACS) Board of Trustees at the public meeting on April 17 unanimously voted to approve the sale of Monroeville Elementary School to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on behalf of St. Rose of Lima Church, Monroeville.

St. Rose of Lima Church through the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend had submitted a purchase offer of \$189,000 that met the initial price required by the East Allen County Schools' school board.

"The way is now paved for the St. Joseph School (SJS) to look forward to start their classes in the fall of 2012, the centenary year of SJS, in the new facility," Father Lourдино Fernandes, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish, reported in an email message to *Today's Catholic*.

"This was the 'Dream Centenary Project' adopted by St. Joseph Centennial Committee and bravely embraced by the parishioners of St. Rose of Lima," he added.

St. Joseph School (SJS) in Monroeville is celebrating 100 years of excellence in Catholic education this year.

"The acquisition of a new building for St. Joseph's in Monroeville could not be more timely," said Dr. Mark Myers, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

He added, "The continuation of an active Catholic school will be a great benefit for the entire community of Monroeville."

Psalms 118, "This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it," has been St. Joseph School Principal Carolyn Kirkendall's motto throughout the centenary celebration. Now the retiring principal is moved beyond words as the purchase of a larger, updated building will make history for the school she has served for over a quarter of a century.

"I truly believe the power of prayer has made this moment possible," Kirkendall said.

"Hallelujah, our prayers have been answered," she added.

To mark the historical event, Father Lourдино declared Thursday, April 19, a day of celebration for the St. Joseph School students.

Kirkendall, along with the seventh- and eighth-grade students planned out the details of the day, which began with Holy Mass.

"We have had prayers of petition for many months, now it is time for prayers of thanksgiving," Kirkendall shared.

"The parishioners were determined to look forward to building a confident future for SJS — one that would ensure that all their children had access to Catholic education of the highest quality," Father Fernandes said.



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

The Monroeville Elementary School building was sold by East Allen County School to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for St. Rose Parish, Monroeville. St. Joseph School in Monroeville will relocate to the former Monroeville Elementary School in the fall with the fanfare of a ceremonial procession from the old school to the new led by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. St. Joseph School is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

"The SJS Centenary Committee resolved that a fitting tribute to the SJS Centenary accomplishments would be to commit themselves to restore and preserve and take forward the rich legacy of SJS and make St. Joseph School a beacon of excellence in Catholic education for generations of students for the next 100 years," Father Fernandes said.

The committee felt the purchase of the Monroeville Elementary School would help St. Joseph School have appropriate facilities conducive to good education.

"They strongly believed that 'nothing would be more worthy of contribution and improvement than the means to encourage our children to achieve full development as creative, intellectual beings for the satisfaction of their own and mankind's aspirations,'" Father Fernandes said. "The first step in a long journey has been accomplished. The long vigil is now ended. The real work begins."

Members of the parish, school and project campaign have had a prayerful and patient wait.

In November of 2011, Dennis Castleman, whose three daughters attend St. Joseph School, was part of the original walk-through group of the Monroeville School building with Father Fernandes.

Months and hundreds of thousands of pledge dollars later, he and several others nervously sat at the EACS board meeting hoping their bid would be accepted and their dream become a reality.

Members of the committee prayed outside of the EACS administration building prior to the meeting on April 17. Then they joined back at the school grounds to ring the church bells and join again for prayers of thanksgiving and praise.

Castleman admitted, "We were all very relieved when the sale finally came up on the agenda and was approved. It will be a lot of work, but well worth it."

Superintendent Myers said, "We could not be more pleased to see the faith-filled parishioners at St. Rose of Lima plan well for the next century of Catholic education. The children prayed daily for the intercession of St. Joseph in order to fulfill this goal to acquire the building."

St. Joseph School will soon undergo a historical move just a few blocks southeast in the town of Monroeville making their home this fall at 401 Monroe St.

The former Monroeville Elementary School will seem very large for the students and staff as they settle into over 63,000 square feet of space. According to Kirby Stahly, assistant superintendent of administrative services with East Allen County Schools, the building whose original bell tower was erected in 1913 and gymnasium in 1977 had its major addition built in 1977 and boasts a full kitchen and cafeteria area, 17 classrooms with contained restrooms, art room, music room and full media center.

Michelle Castleman and Tim Johnson contributed to this story.



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Friday, April 27 to Thursday, May 3 — Co-Chair Meeting of International Catholic-Reformed Theological Dialogue, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga.
- Friday, May 4, 6:30 p.m. — LuersKnight, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 5, 9:30 a.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for University of Saint Francis, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne

Prepare kids for first Communion with zeal, moderation, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Preparing children for their first Communion must be done with both great zeal and moderation, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Around the world, many children receive their first Communion during the Easter season, he told pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square April 22 for the recitation of the "Regina Coeli," a Marian prayer used in place of the Angelus from Easter to Pentecost.

The pope urged "priests, parents and catechists to prepare for this feast of faith well, with great

fervor but also with sobriety."

"For many of the faithful, this day continues to be memorable as the moment when, even if in a rudimentary way, they first came to understand the importance of a personal encounter with Jesus," he said quoting from his 2007 document on the Eucharist, "Sacramentum Caritatis" ("The Sacrament of Charity").

He stressed the importance of first Communion and prayed that Mary would help everyone listen to God's word with greater attention and "take part worthily" in Communion in order to become "witnesses of the new humanity."

Assignments to Vatican congregations, councils announced

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington to be a member of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and gave cardinals created in February their assignments as members of other Vatican congregations and councils.

The appointments were announced at the Vatican April 21.

U.S. Cardinal Edwin F. O'Brien, grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, which supports the pastoral and educational work of the Church in the Holy Land, was named to the congregations for Eastern Churches and for Catholic Education, as well as to the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, which promotes and coordinates Catholic charitable giving.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, who was tapped by the pope to lead the College of Cardinals in a daylong discussion of the new evangelization

Feb. 17, was named a member of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, as well as being named a member of the Congregation for Eastern Churches and of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Cardinal Thomas C. Collins of Toronto was named a member of the Congregation for Catholic Education, which supports and guides the work of Catholic schools, universities and seminaries. He also was named a member of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Creating new cardinals — including Cardinals O'Brien, Dolan and Collins — Feb. 18, Pope Benedict said they were called to "cooperate closely with him in governing the universal Church."

In supporting the pope's universal ministry, he said, "the new cardinals will be called to consider and evaluate the events, the problems and the pastoral criteria which concern the mission of the entire Church."

Citing doctrinal problems, Vatican announces reforms of nuns' group

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Citing “serious doctrinal problems which affect many in consecrated life,” the Vatican announced a major reform of an association of women’s religious congregations in the U.S. to ensure their fidelity to Catholic teaching in areas including abortion, euthanasia, women’s ordination and homosexuality.

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain of Seattle will provide “review, guidance and approval, where necessary, of the work” of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, the Vatican announced April 18. The archbishop will be assisted by Bishop Leonard P. Blair of Toledo, Ohio, and Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki of Springfield, Ill., and draw on the advice of fellow bishops, women religious and other experts.

The LCWR, a Maryland-based umbrella group that claims about 1,500 leaders of U.S. women’s communities as members, represents about 80 percent of the country’s 57,000 women religious.

In Silver Spring, Md., the presidency of the LCWR issued a statement saying it was “stunned by the conclusions of the doctrinal assessment of LCWR by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Because the leadership of LCWR has the custom of meeting annually with the staff of CDF in Rome and because the conference follows canonically approved statutes, we were taken by surprise.

“This is a moment of great import for religious life and the wider Church. We ask your prayers as we meet with the LCWR National Board within the coming month to review the mandate and prepare a response,” the statement said.



CNS/COURTESY OF LCWR

This is the logo, or identity mark, of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, or LCWR. Citing “serious doctrinal problems,” the Vatican has announced a major reform of the association of women’s religious congregations in the U.S.

A spokeswoman for the LCWR said its leadership would not be granting interviews until after a wider consultation with its members in May.

The announcement from the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith came in an eight-page “doctrinal assessment,” based on an investigation that Bishop Blair began on behalf of the Vatican in April 2008. That investigation led the doctrinal congregation to conclude, in January 2011, that “the current doctrinal and pastoral situation of LCWR is grave and a matter of serious concern, also given the influence the LCWR exercises on religious congregation in other parts of the world.”

Among the areas of concern were some of the most controversial issues of medical and sexual ethics in America today.

“While there has been a great deal of work on the part of LCWR promoting issues of social justice in harmony with the Church’s social doctrine, it is silent on the right to life from conception to natural death, a question that is part of the lively public debate about abortion

and euthanasia in the United States,” the doctrinal congregation said.

“Further, issues of crucial importance in the life of the Church and society, such as the Church’s biblical view of family life and human sexuality, are not part of the LCWR agenda in a way that promotes Church teaching.”

The Vatican also found that “public statements by the LCWR that disagree with or challenge positions taken by the bishops, who are the Church’s authentic teachers of faith and morals, are not compatible with its purpose.”

According to the Vatican, such deviations from Catholic teaching have provoked a crisis “characterized by a diminution of the fundamental Christological center and focus of religious consecration.”

But the congregation’s document also praised the “great contributions of women religious to the Church in the United States as seen particularly in the many schools, hospitals and institutions of support for the poor, which have been founded and staffed by religious over the years,” and insisted that the Vatican “does not intend to offer judgment on the



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain of Seattle is pictured after an interview with Catholic News Service in Rome April 22. Archbishop Sartain will oversee a reform of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, the Vatican announced April 18. The LCWR is an umbrella group that represents about 80 percent of the women religious in the United States.

faith and life of women religious” in the LCWR’s member congregations.

During his tenure as the Holy See’s delegate, which is to last “up to five years, as deemed necessary,” Archbishop Sartain’s tasks will include overseeing revision of the LCWR’s statutes, review of its liturgical practices and the creation of formation programs for the conference’s member congregations. The archbishop will also investigate the LCWR’s links to two outside groups: Network, a Catholic social

justice lobby; and the Resource Center for Religious Institutes, which offers legal and financial expertise to religious orders.

The doctrinal assessment was separate from the Vatican’s “Apostolic Visitation of Religious Communities of Women in the United States,” a study of the “quality of life” in some 400 congregations, which began in December 2008. The visitation’s final report was submitted in December 2011 but has not yet been published.

Reform of US nuns group an opportunity for dialogue

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A newly announced reform of an association of women’s religious congregations in the U.S. offers the sisters and their bishops an opportunity to communicate and work together more closely, said the archbishop named by the Vatican to oversee the reform process.

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain of Seattle spoke to Catholic News Service in Rome April 22, a day after arriving for a periodic “ad limina” visit to the Vatican.

The Vatican announced April 18 that Archbishop Sartain will provide “review, guidance and approval, where necessary, of the work” of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious for a period of up to five years. His tasks will include overseeing revision of the LCWR’s statutes, review of its liturgical practices, and the creation of formation programs for the conference’s member congregations.

Archbishop Sartain said that his main role in the reform process would be to “facilitate relationships and understanding.”

Saying that he hoped he could “help the sisters and the LCWR recognize that we are all in this together,” the archbishop called the reform a “great opportunity” for women religious, U.S. bishops and the Vatican to “strengthen and improve all of our relationships on every level.”

Noting his extensive experience with religious communities in the four dioceses where he has served as a priest or bishop, the archbishop expressed his “personal appreciation for the role of religious women in the United States” and “all the extraordinary things that they’ve done.”

Archbishop Sartain said he expected to meet with the LCWR “very soon,” and declined in the meantime to discuss the reform process in any detail. But he said that he and his two assistants, Bishop Leonard P. Blair of Toledo, Ohio, and Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki of Springfield, Ill., would be assembling an advisory committee to include women religious with expertise in theology and canon law, among other fields.

“We’ll have ample opportunity for conversation and dialogue about all the issues,” the archbishop said.

The archbishop dismissed press reports suggesting that the doctrinal congregation’s action was a response to widespread support by women religious of the Obama administration’s health care reform law, which the U.S. bishops have argued does not adequately protect rights to conscientious objection or guarantee against federal funding of abortion.

“There’s been nothing in any conversation that I have had about the (doctrinal) assessment that would indicate to me that there would be any truth to that,” he said.

All Saints Religious Goods

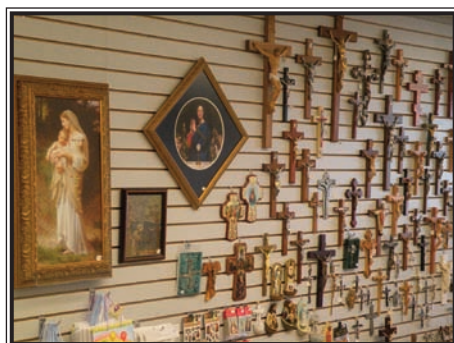
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Former Haitian slave child tells his story at USF

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis and its Formula for Life fundraising event brought professional drummer and former Haitian slave child Bill Nathan to campus on April 12. He performed and told his story of becoming a musician while in slavery for a year as an orphaned child.

His father died two months after Nathan's birth. His mother moved to Hinche, a small town on the St. Joseph Plateau, to find work to support both Nathan and his older sister, Shela. After living in the streets, they were directed to a community of Catholic Sisters and met Sister Caroline, head of the congregation, who found them a house and some furniture. To pay back their generosity, Nathan's mother worked in the garden and did chores for the sisters. Eventually, she found a job cooking, cleaning and ironing to pay the rent and schooling of her children.

One night Nathan's mother cried out that she was dying, even though she had not been sick. And while the three of them held hands, praying and singing, she died, leaving the children alone with no family or support.

Fortunately, a neighbor told the sisters what happened. Sister Caroline arranged for the funeral and took in the children for a couple weeks while searching for a foster family. Two families agreed to take the children, but separately.



VINCE LABARBERA

Professional Drummer Bill Nathan of Haiti performs prior to his remarks April 12 at the amphitheater outside the Pope John Paul II Center on the University of Saint Francis campus. Nathan, 25, performs at churches and universities in the United States to raise awareness of the needs in Haiti.

"Sister Caroline made it very clear," Nathan said, "that we were not to be treated as a 'restavek,' a French word meaning 'slave child.'"

Even though both families initially agreed to treat them as their own children, "everything changed," he emphasized. Nathan was kicked

out of the house at age 7 and made to sleep on a piece of cardboard in a summer kitchen. He was not allowed to attend school or play with the children. His only job was "to stay at the house and work."

Nathan could not eat at the same table as the family. "I was permitted the scraps from the plates if I did all my chores! Not only that," he added, "for no reason I would get beat up with a whip made of cowhide."

Nathan's main job was to get water for the family, filling a five-gallon bucket after walking miles to the water fountain. While

he waited for water, he began drumming on the bottom of the bucket. "Oh Bill, you're a good drummer!" many exclaimed. Encouraged by their support, he was last to fill his bucket and "late" getting back to the family. "That meant another beat-

ing," he said, pointing to scars on his arm.

"I knew one day God would get me out of that situation," Nathan related. And at age 8, his mistreatment drew the attention of Sister Caroline. He was rescued from the house and sent to St. Joseph's Home for Boys in Port-au-Prince where he lived in a family atmosphere with his own room and bed, eating together with orphans like himself.

"I returned to my schooling where I achieved what I wanted to be," he said. At age 21, Nathan became St. Joseph's director.

"St. Joseph is not only a place for kids who come from the street and have been in a 'restavek' situation," Nathan related, "but it's also a guest house. That's how we generate income to support our home."

They also ran Wings of Hope, a facility for more than 50 physically- and mentally-handicapped children. In Haiti, many see these children as manifestations of evil and are rejected by society, explained Nathan. "Nobody wants to be involved," he added. "They are like living pieces of furniture!"

On Jan. 12, 2010 — at eight minutes to five in the afternoon — everything changed when a massive earthquake struck Haiti. Both buildings were lost.

"The miracle thing is that none of our kids died," Nathan exclaimed.

On that day, he was on the roof of the seven-story St. Joseph's building, urging children playing up there to go downstairs, finish their chores and

come to chapel. Nathan was alone on the roof when he felt the building and ground begin to shake. As he held tightly to a railing, he prayed, "God, my life is in Your hands!" He fell 75 feet into a garden. An oak tree kept the building from falling directly upon him. Eventually, Nathan was airlifted to the United States where he spent three months recovering from broken ribs, cracked vertebrae and other internal injuries.

Upon his return to Haiti, he discovered "not much had been done," because machinery was too expensive to bring in. Nathan suggested that his "best friend" — the five-gallon bucket — be purchased to start collecting the rubble. "We took the rest of the building down, bucket by bucket," he said.

"It took us nine months, but we did it; now, a year later, we're about to finish rebuilding our home. "This building is a sign of hope, so we painted it with many beautiful colors, like the sunrise. We put butterflies on it because it's a sign of resurrection!"

"Please, come to Haiti," Nathan urged the listeners. "We are people full of joy who open their arms, welcoming people in. Our kids will love to take your hand and lead you to enjoy the ocean. It's a beautiful country with beautiful people. Haitians are resilient! In Haiti we do the best we can with what we have," he concluded.

The tragic story of Nathan's life of abuse has been chronicled in the book, "A Crime so Monstrous: Face to Face with Modern Day Slavery."

POLISH-AMERICAN PRIESTS ASSOCIATION GATHERS AT ST. HEDWIG



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass April 19 at St. Hedwig Church in South Bend as part of the Polish-American Priests gathering held in nearby Michigan City. In his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke of the zeal of the Apostles to preach the Gospel, despite threats and persecution. Bishop Rhoades noted how throughout Polish history, "We see courageous examples of holy priests who, in the face of persecution, obeyed God, rather than men. As members of the Polish-American Priests Association, it is important to keep the memory of these priests alive and to be inspired by their example."



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USCCB appeals ruling that Constitution forbids religious accommodation

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has appealed a federal judge's ruling that the Constitution forbids religious accommodation in the delivery of services under a federal contract. The appeal challenges the decision of District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns, who said in a March 23 ruling that the Department of Health and Human Services violated the Establishment Clause of the Constitution in delegating to the bishops' conference the decision on which services to offer or not offer to foreign-born victims of human trafficking under a federal contract. The case, originally filed by the American Civil Liberties Union in Massachusetts in 2009, revolved around the legality of the government allowing the USCCB, through its Migration and Refugee Services Department, to decline to offer abortion and contraception services to trafficking victims under the contract. The USCCB joined the lawsuit in mid-2010 as a defendant-intervenor. Attorneys for the bishops' conference also requested a stay of Stearns' decision pending the appeal's outcome. The request for a stay cites the likelihood that other existing contracts between the USCCB and the government were at risk of being canceled, thus harming those being served under them. Attorney Henry C. Dinger, representing the USCCB, told Catholic News Service April 18 that the appeal questioned whether the ACLU had standing to file the original case. He argued that the organization was not based on previous Supreme Court decisions that narrowly defines which taxpayers have standing to file lawsuits in certain kinds of cases. The second argument, Dinger explained, revolves around whether the Department of Health and Human Services' decision to allow the USCCB to limit the services it offered was an endorsement of religion. Dinger said it was not.

For Anglicans, being welcomed by Church at Easter 'glorious' experience

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The journey to full communion in the Catholic Church "has taken a few twists and turns," said a former Anglican priest who joined the Church with his community during the Easter Vigil in Indianapolis. "But once you get to your destination, it seems so natural," Luke Reese said. History was made at St. Peter and Paul Cathedral April 7 when 17 Anglicans, all members of the St. Joseph of Arimathea Society in Indianapolis, became Catholics according to rules established by Pope Benedict XVI in his 2009 apostolic constitution "Anglicanorum coetibus." The document provided a way for entire Anglican parishes or groups to become Catholic while retaining some of their Anglican heritage and liturgical practice. Earlier this year, Pope Benedict approved the establishment of the new U.S.

CARL ANDERSON ADDRESSES NATIONAL CATHOLIC PRAYER BREAKFAST IN WASHINGTON



CNS PHOTO/NANCY PHELAN WIECHEC

Carl A. Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, speaks during the eighth annual National Catholic Prayer Breakfast in Washington April 19. Catholics in public office, Church officials, religious and members of the Knights were among those in attendance at the breakfast. At left is an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Ordinate of the Chair of St. Peter, based in Houston, which functions like a diocese for former Anglicans in the United States and Canada. In Indianapolis, the Anglicans were welcomed in the Church by Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator of the archdiocese. They are the fourth group of former Anglicans to join the ordinariate. "It's glorious. I'm happy. I'm satisfied," said Reese, leader of the society who is a husband and father of six children. He is in formation to be ordained a Catholic priest in the ordinariate. Bishop Coyne was happy to play a role in this historic event. "It was definitely an honor to welcome the families of the new Anglican communion here in Indianapolis," he said. "I look forward to continuing to help them become a rich part of our local Catholic community." Father Stephen Giannini, archdiocesan vicar for clergy, parish life coordinators, formation and personnel, served as a liaison between the Anglicans and the Church as they sought to become Catholics. "It has been a privilege to assist the Anglican families who became members of the Catholic Church during this year's Easter Vigil," he said. "We look forward to continuing our support for these faithful Christians. It is truly a blessing for us all as together our faith is deepened by Christ's peace in the Catholic Church."

Bishop urges 'heroic Catholicism' to fight religious liberty threats

PEORIA, ILL. (CNS) — "Heroic Catholicism, not casual Catholicism" is required to confront state and federal threats to religious liberty and the Church's public ministries, Peoria Bishop Daniel R. Jenky told more than 500 Catholic men who marched through the city's downtown in a steady rain April 14 in a public defense of the faith. "We can no longer be Catholics by accident, but instead be Catholics by conviction," said Bishop Jenky. He warned participants in the "A Call to Catholic Men of Faith" rally that Catholic schools, hospitals and Newman Centers the fall of 2013 "could easily be shut down" rather than cooperate with the government's mandate that most health plans cover the cost of contraception, sterilization and some drugs that can induce abortion. "Because no Catholic institution, under any circumstance, can ever cooperate with the intrinsic evil of killing innocent human life in the womb," the bishop said. After joining the men on a silent, mile-long walk from the Peoria riverfront to St. Mary's Cathedral, Bishop Jenky used some of the strongest language yet by a Church official in protesting the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services' contraceptive mandate. The bishop mentioned President Barack Obama three times in his homily at the rally Mass. "In clear violation of our First Amendment rights," said Bishop Jenky, "Barack Obama with his radical, pro-abortion and extreme secularist agenda now seems intent on following a similar path" as other governments throughout history who "have tried to force Christians to huddle and hide only within the confines of their churches." The Obama administration's contraceptive mandate includes a religious exemption, but leaders of various Catholic and other faith-based organizations say it is too narrow and they will still be forced to provide coverage they oppose. The administration has defended the mandate as "preventative care," but religious groups that oppose it say it infringes on their religious liberty. A new federal proposal issued March 21 suggested third-party administrators pay the costs of contraceptives for religious employers who object, but the U.S. bishops said even with that, the mandate remained flawed.

Letters to Congress: USCCB opposes proposed cuts in services to poor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

has expressed its concerns over proposed cuts in federal programs serving the country's poorest and most vulnerable people in a series of letters to congressional leaders since April 4 as debate over the fiscal year 2013 budget begins. The letters from Bishop Stephen E. Blaire of Stockton, Calif., chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, and Bishop Richard E. Pates of Des Moines, Iowa, chairman of the Committee on International Justice and Peace, urge Congress to draw a "circle of protection" around programs that serve "the least among us." The letters were sent after the House of Representatives adopted on March 27 a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution — with a \$600 billion deficit — written by Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis. The plan calls for massive spending cuts in nonmilitary programs, turning Medicaid into a block grant program administered by the states, reshaping Medicare over the next decade, and simplifying the tax code by closing loopholes and lowering individual and corporate tax rates. A common message in the letters focuses on the necessity of "shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues," the elimination of unnecessary military and other spending and fairly addressing long-term costs associated with health insurance and retirement costs. In a letter to the House Agriculture Committee, Bishop Blaire said the House-passed budget "fails to meet these moral criteria."

Indianapolis bishop decries 'attempted ordination' of ex-nun

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The apostolic administrator of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis spoke out against the "attempted ordination" of an ex-nun to the priesthood. "I am saddened that the woman who attempted ordination and anyone who took part in this invalid ceremony have chosen to take such a public action to separate themselves from the Church," said an April 17 statement by Auxiliary Bishop Christopher J. Coyne of Indianapolis, who is overseeing the archdiocese until a successor is named for recently retired Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein. The Catholic Church frequently uses the term "attempted ordination" since it does not view the ordination of women as either valid or licit. The ceremony for Maria McClain took place April 15 in Indianapolis with a woman bishop from the group Roman Catholic Womenpriests presiding. Bishop Coyne called it "a schismatic group. This group has no valid connection to the Roman Catholic Church or the Archdiocese of Indianapolis," he added. "Any supposed 'ordination' this group performed has no relationship with the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church and is not valid." McClain, 71, was a Mercy sister in Buffalo, N.Y., for 15 years before leaving religious life, according to the *Indianapolis Star* daily newspaper. Now married, she moved to Indianapolis in 1977 to become director of religious education at St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

Saint Mary's College announces commencement speaker and recognitions

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College has announced that Melody Hobson, president of the Chicago-based money management firm Ariel Investments, will deliver the 2012 commencement



MELLODY HOBSON

address. Hobson is a nationally recognized voice on financial literacy and investor education and is interviewed regularly for national television and radio programs and publications.

At commencement, she will receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree from the college. Saint Mary's will also recognize two alumnae at commencement: Kathleen Flynn Fox, '74, will receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree and Susan Fitzgerald Rice, '61, will be honored with the prestigious President's Medal. The 2012 commencement will take place at noon on Saturday, May 19, on Le Mans Green.

"I look forward to welcoming our honorary degree recipients and President's Medal winner to campus for commencement. All three are outstanding examples of women whose lives and accomplishments will inspire our graduates and their families," said Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney.

Messman awarded Lilly Scholarship

FORT WAYNE — Danielle Messman, Bishop Dwenger High School's salutatorian of the class of 2012, was among five students who were awarded the Lilly Scholarship this year. Eligible Allen County students must demonstrate successfully overcoming an obstacle, financial need, academic performance, work and community involvement, and a personal statement of goals. The scholarships are a result of a statewide Lilly Endowment initiative to help Hoosier students reach higher levels of education. There were 142 Lilly Scholarships awarded statewide. Scholarship recipients may attend any college or university in Indiana. Messman plans to attend Purdue University to pursue a degree in engineering.

Memorial concert features organist Craig Cramer

LAGRO — The Friends of St. Patrick's will sponsor a memorial concert in honor of the late Paul Bever on Sunday, May 6, at 3 p.m. at the historic St. Patrick Oratory in Lagro.

The featured guest artist will be Dr. Craig Cramer, international organ recitalist, who is professor of organ at the University of Notre Dame. He also serves as organist at St. David of Wales Episcopal Church in Elkhart.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

KNIGHTS HOST RELIGIOUS APPRECIATION DINNER



JOE ROMIE

Fourth-degree Knights of Columbus and their spouses gathered at the Council 451 reception hall on Reed Road on April 16 to host their annual appreciation dinner for bishops, priests, sisters, brothers and deacons in the Fort Wayne area. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presented Father James Seculoff, left in photo, with an honorary certificate recognizing his 50 years of service to the Church. Other honored clergy who were present included Sister Kathleen Knueven, a Sister of Notre Dame for 45 years; Sister Mary Gertrude Ann Mueller, a Sister of Notre Dame for 55 years; Father Edward Erpelding, 45 years; Father Adam Schmitt, 55 years; and Bishop John M. D'Arcy, bishop emeritus, 55 years. The Knights also presented a check to Bishop Rhoades in support of the Franciscan Brothers Minor.

Cramer maintains an active recital career across the country and in Europe. Cramer's performances are frequently heard on the nationally syndicated program "Pipedreams" (American Public Radio), and he has 15 recordings to his credit. Recently released recordings include the premiere recording of the Notre Dame Fritts organ and the new Fritts organ at St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio.

In addition to the organ recital, there will be vocal selections of Paul Bever's favorite sacred music and an audience sing-a-long of his Irish favorites.

Bever was descended from one of the founding families of the original St. Patrick Parish. He was instrumental in founding the Friends of St. Patrick's and in restoring the historic 1840s Henry Erben organ. He was a lifelong member of St. Patrick's and recalled pumping the windchest of the organ as a choirboy. He was a member of and wore the habit of the lay order of St. Francis. His Irish heritage was displayed in his love for music, art, history, poetry, story-telling, sense of humor and love of people.

The public is invited to this event. Refreshments will be served by the Friends of St. Patrick's after the concert. For more information, call Janet Poole at (260) 563-1008.

National Day of Prayer observed in Mishawaka

MISHAWAKA — The 20th annual observance of the National Day of Prayer will be held in Mishawaka on Thursday, May 3, from 12-1 p.m. at the Battell Center, 904 N. Main St., Mishawaka, at the corner of Broadway and Main streets.

The theme, "One Nation Under God," and the reflection on Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," will offer an opportunity for participants to seek repentance and to pray for the government, families, military, schools, media, churches and businesses.

The program will be led by dignitaries of the city, ministers, priests, service, military and business leaders of the community. Mishawaka Mayor David Wood, a member of St. Bavo Parish, Mishawaka, will open the event with prayer. Franciscan

Father Giles Zachowicz will lead the prayer for "Christian Liberty and the Unborn." Derron Hess, a parishioner of St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, and a firefighter for the Mishawaka Fire Department, will lead the prayer for service people.

Parking is available at the Battell Center, adjacent streets, or at the First Baptist Church lot just south of Battell Center. Shuttle service will be provided before and after the event from the church lot.

'WOW Garden Project' benefits refugee programs

FORT WAYNE — Imagine 30 wheelbarrows, each with unique artistic design based on the theme of world foods, and each planted with a garden representing the herbs and vegetables of a specific ethnicity or country. The possibilities for colorful, vibrant displays are myriad, as culture, art and food converge in an exhibition of the diverse international flavor of the Fort Wayne community.

The World on Wheels (WOW) Garden Project is designed to show-

case local artists, promote sponsoring businesses, and raise funds and awareness for the Fresh Food Initiative. The Fresh Food Initiative provides urban farming training, land and supplies for refugees to grow culturally-appropriate foods for themselves and for market.

The WOW Garden Project begins with a kickoff event July 28 for sponsors, artists, master gardeners and the represented cultural groups. Artists will then have several weeks to complete their pieces. The decorated wheelbarrows will be displayed and a voter's choice competition will be held for the best design at the Taste of the Arts festival on Aug. 25.

After the Taste of the Arts, the wheelbarrows will be sent to the master gardeners to be planted with foods representing the various ethnic or international groups. Once planted, the wheelbarrows will be displayed at various locations around downtown Fort Wayne beginning Sept. 7. The project culminates Sept. 29, as the finished wheelbarrows are displayed and auctioned off at the International Blast. The WOW Garden Project is sponsored by the Fort Wayne Downtown Improvement District.

Sponsorship levels are \$500, which includes sponsorship signage and recognition, or \$1,500 executive level which includes logo placement on promotional material and sponsorship signage at the Last Saturday events in July, August and September, the Taste of the Arts, Be a Tourist in your own Hometown and International Blast, an invitation to the farm-to-table celebration and the option to keep the wheelbarrow.

All sponsors will receive a plaque, which will be displayed on the wheelbarrows at all the events. Selected artists will receive a \$50 award.

Anyone interested in participating or sponsoring a wheelbarrow should contact Holly Chaille at (260) 456-8969 ext. 326.

Bishop Luers Academic Super Bowl heads to state

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers Academic Super Bowl teams (math, social studies and science) earned first place in the Area Match held at Leo High School on Tuesday, April 17.

The Social Studies and Science teams received invitations to compete at state that will be held at Purdue University on May 5. Teams that place in the top six in the state among their division earn invitations to compete by the program director, Department of Student Programs, with the Indiana Association of School Principals.

The Bishop Luers Science team consists of Coach Alicia Hostetler, chemistry teacher at Bishop Luers High School, and team members Sam Johnson, Isaiah Fisher, Anthony Hartle and Tyler Post.

The Bishop Luers Social Studies team consists of Coach Jeanine Skordos, Bishop Luers parent, and team members Estaban Garcia, David Hamel, Sam Stein, Jacob Schall and Eric Trabel.

Medjugorje Conference held at Notre Dame May 11-13

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — “To Jesus through Mary” might well be the theme of each annual Medjugorje Conference held at the University of Notre Dame. Beginning with a Eucharistic rosary procession across campus to the grotto on the first evening, this three-day event is entering its 24th year and will be held May 11-13. Religious and lay speakers from many walks of life will share their experiences of Our Lady and her role in bringing them closer to Christ. Described by many as a retreat of sorts, daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and ample opportunity for Confession are also made available.

While the speakers include a Franciscan priest from Bosnia-Herzegovina, a doctor from Chicago who converted from atheism and a world-class musician who founded the Faith and Family Foundation, the conference has a local flavor as well.

Dr. Joseph Bagiackas, a member of Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend, has a doctorate in systematic

theology from Catholic University of America. His talk is especially timely for those wishing to counter secular attacks from the media as well as from those who are just misinformed. Bagiackas will speak about loyalty to the Church and the importance of knowing our faith well in order to defend it.

Cathy Nolan attends St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, and is co-founder (with her husband, Denis) of MaryTV, a lay apostolate dedicated to using modern communications technology to promote the call of Our Lady. MaryTV has streamed live video from Medjugorje.

The Nolans are in their third year of praying the rosary, live, via the Internet, and consecrating that same Internet to Mary's Immaculate Heart. They are joined in prayer by people from around the world using computers, iPads and all varieties of smart phones, no app required.

“Judging from the emails we receive,” says Denis Nolan, “only the continent of Antarctica has no one praying with us!”

He believes MaryTV is responding to an appeal made by Pope Benedict XVI three years ago:



DIANE FREEBY

A crowd of a different kind gathers outside Notre Dame stadium, processing with the Blessed Sacrament across campus to the Grotto. Father Daryl Rybicki, pastor of Corpus Christi in South Bend, has led the faithful in prayer nearly every year the Medjugorje Conference has been held at Notre Dame.

“Without fear we must set sail on the digital sea facing into the deep with the same passion that has governed the ship of the Church for 2,000 years.”

The Nolans plan to travel to Medjugorje this summer to work with technicians to get the long-awaited broadcast facility there operational. In addition to helping

build a Catholic television station for Our Lady, Cathy Nolan is the mother of eight and for the past 13 years, writer of daily reflections based on the Blessed Mother's messages.

“Over the past 25 I have grown increasingly aware that Our Lady's words are filled with the Holy Spirit,” says Cathy Nolan. “It is the Holy Spirit who makes those words fruitful. So that every time I think about, pray over, or write about those messages, the Holy Spirit shows me the abundant life

that is flowing through them from Him. It is a gift from God for us in these days when the world seems to be falling deeper and deeper into darkness. It is light penetrating that darkness.”

Deacon Brian Miller of St. Anthony de Padua in South Bend heads up Queen of Peace Ministries, and is the primary organizer of the conference. He says Friday evening's rosary procession truly helps set the tone for the weekend.

“It is a symbolic way of showing our honor of Mary who leads us to Christ,” explains Deacon Miller, emphasizing the Eucharistic element of the procession. This year, instead of candles, Deacon Miller says the hundreds of people expected to participate will carry flowers to the grotto to present to the Blessed Mother. Those flowers will also be placed near the altar for Sunday's Mass in honor of Mother's Day.

To register or learn more about the conference schedule, contact Queen of Peace Ministries at (574) 288-8777 or visit www.QueenofPeaceMinistries.com. The conference takes place on Notre Dame's campus, with doors opening at 5 p.m. Saturday's session begins at 8 a.m. and Sunday's session at 8:30 a.m.



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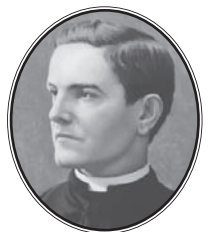
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University of Saint Francis hosts Proactive Elder-Care Workshop

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — There was a healthy atmosphere on the North Campus of the University of Saint Francis (USF) on Friday, April 20, as nearly 200 participants spent the day initially at a health fair followed by a Proactive Elder-Care Workshop.

Cherise M. Dixie, a representative of the Mayor's Senior Advisory Council, welcomed attendees to the workshop. It was sponsored by Proactive Elder Care, Inc., The Chamber of Commerce and USF.

Dr. Diane L. Martin, assistant professor in the Physical Therapist Assistant program at USF, with Dr. Meg Wilson, School of Nursing, co-chaired the health-fair event, titled Focus on Health.

"It's part of a wellness initiative being promoted through the School of Health Sciences wellness committee," Martin said. Focus on Health offered many free screenings as well as low-cost blood work and mammograms. Other educational items were on hand from 40 exhibitors.

Caregivers and aging loved ones, employed caregivers and employers were invited to the workshop to become better informed on when to begin care giving. Experts discussed interactive planning in finance, law, healthcare, post acute-care continuum, community services and bioethics.

"Discussion in these key areas helps caregivers make informed decisions and obtain preferred services," said Mary Jo Bland, chair. "The workshop helps turn employed caregivers into better, more efficient caregivers," she added. "These

employees, more confident in the care that their loved ones will receive, will be more productive, take fewer personal days and be more attentive at work."

All families had access to the important workshop information no matter what income level, Bland related. Donations were accepted (but not expected) to the Council on Senior Services that helped cover lunch and booklet printing costs donated by their organization.

"Statistically, the elder caregiver role is four to five years," said Bland. The unique workshop covered the most common areas of this period to help caregivers understand the whole picture and make good decisions.

Seven speakers were available for large and small group presentations as well as individual discussion. In addition, more than 20 sponsors were on hand for questions.

The presenters included:
 • Mary Jo Bland, founded Proactive Elder Care in 2010 after providing financial and healthcare oversight to her aging in-laws from 2005 to 2010.

• Kevin Noll, first vice president, financial advisor, Tower Investment Services, is enrolled in The Retirement Advisor University at UCLA Anderson School of Management.

• Jane Gerardot, principal attorney, Boeglin, Troyer and Gerardot, worked in rehabilitation healthcare and administration for 18 years as a physical therapist prior to entering the field of law.

• Dr. Robert Musselman, family medicine, Lutheran Medical Group, is the medical director of Three Rivers Medical Associates and is



PHOTOS BY VINCE LABARBERA

The Proactive Elder-Care Workshop at the University of Saint Francis included the opportunity to attend Focus on Health, offering many free screenings as well as low-cost blood work and mammograms.



Mary Jo Bland, founder of Proactive Elder Care, stresses that an elder's health determines where their roof is, whether it be at home, independent and assisted living, rehab or nursing-home care.

board certified by the American Board of Family Medicine.

• Ted Scholten, chief operating office, Rehabilitation Hospital of Fort Wayne, has 24 years of experience in the rehabilitation field.

• Ruth Force, a registered nurse with Dorian Maples and Associates, Inc., has a passion for educating caregivers and their loved ones as well as assuring that quality care takes place in the homes.

• Earl Kumfer, department chair of philosophy-theology at USF, serves as a consultant and is on several ethics committees.

The essence of all the presentations was to "plan now, delegate and consult experts." According to Bland, the audience mix was diversified from caregivers, families, employees, employers and healthcare students. Individuals, families and employers were in attendance for various reasons.

Some attendees find it difficult to talk about care for the aging, so they used the occasion as an "ice breaker" to hold a family meeting, learning how to help the family get organized and united about

their parents' care, questioning when is the right time to take over as caregiver, particularly finances and healthcare. Others wanted to know more about the role of durable power of attorney for health and finance, and if and when to secure a guardianship. Many had questions, such as when/how to get parents to stop driving, whether to contact authorities if mom is living in unhealthy or unsafe conditions, and what to do and how to do it when dad runs out of money in the nursing home and the institution does not take Medicaid.

There were also concerns about end-of-life care, how to select people to help when needed, learning about available community services

and getting more information about housing costs, such as in-home, independent and assisted living, rehab, memory care, nursing home care and many other options. A few had concerns about how to balance work and career while serving as a caregiver, and how to determine average costs to elder and caregiver.

A business owner wanted to learn how to work with their caregiver employees. Skilled professional caregivers, especially nurses, attended to learn more about areas outside their expertise, especially finance, for the big eldercare picture.



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Gutierrez named top 25 minority executives in healthcare

MISHAWAKA — Al Gutierrez, president and chief executive officer of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center has been named as one of the nation's Top 25 Minority Executives by *Modern Healthcare* magazine.

With a career in healthcare that has spanned more than 33 years, Gutierrez joined Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in November 2010. Since, Saint Joseph has been named one of the "Most Wired" hospitals in the United States for its progress towards greater health information technology, as well as one of the nation's 15

Top Health Systems, and Top 5 for Small Health Systems.

Gutierrez joins visionary leaders as Top 25 Minority Executive from institutions such as Catholic Health Initiatives, Bon Secours Health System, Harvard Medical School, Kaiser Foundation Hospital and Health Plan, United Health Group, as well as the current U.S. Surgeon General, the Assistant Secretary for Health and Human Services and the United States Chief Technology Officer. Candidates who were selected must have successfully served as a leader in a healthcare organization, shown the ability or power to effect change in the healthcare industry, demonstrate a willingness to share expertise with others in the field, serve as a role

model or mentor to other healthcare executives and assumed a leadership position in the industry outside their organization.

"This is a well-deserved, but not surprising, recognition for Al Gutierrez," said Rick O'Connell, executive vice president of Hospital Networks at Trinity Health, the Novi, Mich., parent company of Saint Joseph. "Trinity Health and Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center are fortunate to have a leader like Al, whose commitment to improving the health of our communities is unwavering, and his willingness to mentor others, as well as serve the community outside the walls of the hospital, is a true inspiration."



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ST. THOMAS HOLDS FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MICHELLE ROBINSON

St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart held their first "He and Me" father-daughter dance on Saturday, April 14. Many of the girls attended the 5:30 p.m. Mass with their "dates," then walked to the school gym, which had been decorated in a "Spring has Sprung" theme. The girls each decorated a picture frame as a keepsake from the night. Pictured is Phil Hickman dancing with his daughters, Sydney, 6, and Elise, 8.

ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL BENEFITS FROM F.O.R. CLUB DONATION



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH-ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control was the recipient of a donation by the St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Friends of Rachel (F.O.R.) Club that raised money at a bake sale to benefit the animals. The club members toured the facility and attended a teen program on April 16. The club and school have adopted "Rachel's Challenge" based on the philosophy of kindness and compassion of Rachel Scott, the first student killed at Columbine High School in Colorado on April 20, 1999.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Adopt-a-Seminarian program offers prayers, support for vocations

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

GRANGER — When Deacon Jacob Meyer comes home from Pontifical College Josephinum during school breaks, he often brings fellow students with him. Kurt and Julie Meyer, Deacon Meyer's parents, observed that some of his fellow seminarians don't always get to travel home because of distance and travel costs.

After getting to know the seminarians, the Meyers recognized their need for spiritual and financial support.

"Seminarians have no job for income," said Julie. "They are committed to discerning their vocation, studies and serving their parish on breaks and summers. Their needs are simple: financial support for little things like laundry supplies, stamps and travel expenses."

After the Meyers discussed their concern with their son, Deacon Meyer went to St. Pius X pastor Msgr. Bill Schooler to consider a program at the parish that would spotlight the needs of these young men. The Adopt-a-Seminarian program was developed to encourage financial and spiritual support for all Fort Wayne-South Bend seminarians.

Msgr. Schooler thought it was a great idea because "it connects young men studying for the priesthood with our parishioners and it is a good way to promote vocations within our parish."

Betsy Quinn, director of Evangelization and Stewardship at St. Pius, invited the Meyers to become a part of a committee, which would oversee the program. During two weekends in February, multiple copies of information sheets for each diocesan seminary student were distributed to interested parishioners after every Mass.

Each information sheet included the seminary student's picture, home parish, birthday,



KAREN CLIFFORD

Seminarian student Bill Meininger shows his approval for the Adopt-a-Seminarian program started at St. Pius X, Granger, this year.

year in seminary and anticipated graduation date. The sheets also communicated some of the student's favorite things such as treats, sporting team, stores and needs such as laundry and toiletry items. Parishioners were also given a prayer card for vocations to read throughout the year for each seminarian's spiritual needs.

Seminarian student Bill Meininger, who is spending his pastoral year at St. Pius X, emphasized the Adopt-a-Seminarian program provides the opportunity for a greater feeling

of connection for the student with the home diocese while away.

"Knowing that we have so many people praying for us and supporting us in other ways is very encouraging and at the same time humbling, as we are reminded that we aren't going through these years of study and formation for ourselves, but for the faithful of the diocese," noted Meininger.

"With so much talk of the priest shortage in the Church today, the Adopt-a-Seminarian program is a wonderful way for



PROVIDED BY THE NULL FAMILY

The Scott Null family gives seminary student Royce Gregerson a duffel bag of gifts during their visit to Rome in early April as part of the Adopt-a-Seminarian program at St. Pius X.

the laity to get involved and, in a very real way, support the vocations we do have and encourage and pray that more men are willing to answer the call," Meininger added.

Committee members Angie and John Miller expressed excitement about the development of the program at St. Pius X going forward.

"While the intent in phase one of this program was to initiate a simple exchange of a gift from a family to an individual seminarian, our long-term goal is to have a more ongoing and enduring relationship where the family is in touch on a more regular basis with letters, Facebook posts, YouTube videos, etc.," John emphasized. "We also hope that we can expand into the classrooms of St. Pius X School next year and get all the kids involved to further extend the bond."

Angie adds, "Our hope is also that classrooms will respond in some way so our students can look to the seminarians as healthy role models."

Out of town guests from

Indianapolis who attended Mass during the Adopt-a-Seminarian kickoff were intrigued by the program's concept and asked for contact information to start a similar program in their parish, the Meyers noted.

At least one St. Pius X family decided to deliver their gifts to their adopted seminarian in person. The Scott Null family, on vacation in Rome during this year's spring break, met seminarian Royce Gregerson and presented him with a duffel bag full of gifts. Gregerson is currently studying in Rome at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross.

Kurt Meyer summed up the importance of parish support of vocations. "Parishioners are always looking to help. Impressed with the faith, determination and sacrifice of these young men the Adopt-a-Seminarian program seemed like a nice way to help them with basic needs during school. They represent the future of our Church, and this program can be a significant blessing to each of these young men."

Seminarians enriched by travels, life in Rome

BY KAY COZAD

ROME, Italy — With vocations on the rise in many dioceses across the country, including the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, many seminarians are finding inspiration and renewed devotion in their studies abroad. Two seminarians from the diocese and one from the Congregation of Holy Cross have found personal enrichment in the privilege of traveling to or studying in Rome.

Seminarian Royce Gregerson from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne is currently studying at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome for a bachelor's degree in sacred theology. His studies will include earning a license to teach at an ecclesiastical institution and ordination into the Priesthood in 2015.

Gregerson's travel began in July of 2011 and has brought

him a new devotion to Pope Benedict XVI. Being in near proximity to the pope as well as participating in the opportunities to attend the pope's Masses and public discourses have enriched his formation, reports Gregerson.

He says, "Priests must have a special devotion to the successor of Peter in order to foster obedience to the successors of the Apostles, our bishops, who we receive as a gift from Christ through His vicar on earth, the pope. I came to Rome with an intense admiration for Benedict XVI, having read nearly all of the books he's written, reading all of his discourses and homilies, and thinking of myself as an intellectual disciple of Benedict. My affection for him has only increased during my time here."

Gregerson says of the specific opportunities he enjoyed, "Everyone in Rome has the opportunity each Sunday at noon to attend the Holy Father's Angelus address in St. Peter's

God is calling Are you listening?

Finding the time to slow down, listen for, and consider God's call can be difficult but what could be more important? The Congregation of Holy Cross has multiple retreat programs for high school, college, and post graduate men designed to guide you along the way as you seek to hear and answer God's call. Contact our office to find out more, 574.631.6385 or email at vocation@holycrossusa.org.

holycrossvocations.org



PROVIDED BY THE LAPP FAMILY

Seminarian Chris Lapp, right, serves at a papal Mass on Jan 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, while on pilgrimage to Rome.



PROVIDED BY TIM WEED

Holy Cross Seminarian Tim Weed stands in front of St. Peter's Square in Rome on March 16 following his class's audience with Pope Benedict XVI.



PROVIDED BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

From left, seminarian Royce Gregerson, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Bishop John M. D'Arcy pose for a photo during the bishops' "ad limina" meeting at the Vatican in February.

square, and I go to this on a regular basis." He also attended a weekly Angelus address at the pope's summer residence, Castel Gandolfo. He says, "After his (the pope's) address, while greeting the many pilgrims present, he directed a special greeting to us, encouraging us in our studies."

Gregerson took part in many of the various liturgies celebrated by the Holy Father, including a special celebration of Vespers for students of the various pontifical faculties, the Holy Father's Epiphany Mass and Chrism Mass.

Gregerson was introduced to the pope by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during the bishop's "ad limina" visit to Rome this

year and says of the experience, "This was an absolute dream come true for me. I was shocked — almost speechless. But I managed to tell the Holy Father how honored I was to meet him. ... That is a moment I will remember for the rest of my life."

Holy Cross seminarian Tim Weed, parishioner of St. Alphonsus in Grand Rapids, Mich., traveled to Rome for spring break on a vocation pilgrimage from Notre Dame, sponsored by the Office of Vocations for the Congregation of Holy Cross, and enjoyed participating in a papal audience while there. He says of the experience, "I took part in it because we are encouraged to make a pilgrimage

or participate in a service learning project over spring break, and since I had never been overseas before I decided this would be the opportunity of a lifetime."

Of the March 14 general Wednesday papal audience Weed remarked, "He (Pope Benedict) discussed Mary's role as the model of faith and charity in the Church. This was important to me because our University of Notre Dame is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and she is a major role in our faith life in Holy Cross. Through Mary's example I find edification in my discernment of the priesthood."

Seminarian Weed will be ordained into the priesthood of the Congregation of Holy Cross at the University of Notre Dame in 2018.

Seminarian Chris Lapp from St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne felt privileged to serve at a papal Mass celebrated at St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, on Jan 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, while on pilgrimage to Rome.

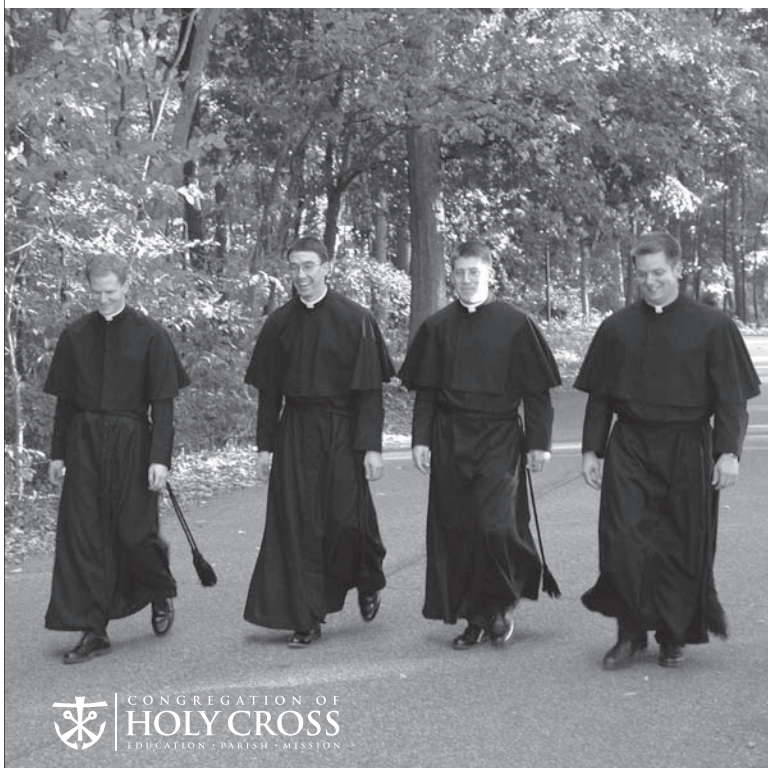
He says of the experience, "I honestly was overwhelmed. The only thing that seems to make any sense is to say that I experienced my identity as a son of God the Father and a son of the Church in relationship to the person of the Holy Father, the successor of St. Peter and Christ's vicar on earth."

"Msgr. (Guido) Marini (papal master of ceremonies) reminded the seminarians at the rehearsal the day prior that, as a priest, adherence to the person of the Holy Father is a reflection of one's adherence to Christ Himself," he added.

Lapp notes with conviction, "People have asked if I was nervous while serving for the pope. The short answer is — no. There is a tremendous grace in being so close to the Successor of St. Peter."

Seminarian Lapp, who will be ordained into the diaconate on May 12 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, and into the holy Priesthood in 2013, feels his faith and vocation have been enriched by his pilgrimage to Rome and service to the pope, and says, "It certainly made me want to be a priest all the more! Experiencing the universality of the Church and the centrality of Rome, dating back to St. Peter, will affect the way I perceive the mission of the Church being carried out in our diocese here in northeast Indiana. ... I will carry this experience with me for the rest of my life."

Lapp humbly asks for prayers not only for himself, but for all men and women who are in formation for the priesthood or religious life.



Study: New members in religious orders younger, more educated

WASHINGTON (USCCB) — Women and men entering religious orders today are younger and more educated than new members of the recent past. They also have participated in numerous Church activities, including parish youth ministry and campus ministry, according to a national survey.

The findings were made public in "New Sisters and Brothers in Perpetual Vows," a study of men and women religious who professed perpetual vows in 2011. The study was conducted by the Georgetown University-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).

Profession of perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience marks a final step of incorporation of new members into religious communities.

The CARA survey was commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. The survey was sent to sisters and brothers identified by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious (CMSWR), the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), and over 150 contemplative communities.

A total of 84 out of the 122 religious who were contacted responded, representing 52 women's and eight men's religious congregations, provinces, or monasteries.

Major findings note:

- The average age among women professing perpetual vows in 2011 was 39, which is four years younger than last year's survey respondents; among men it was 42. Half of the responding women religious are 39 or younger; among responding brothers, half are 44 or younger.

- Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of those surveyed identify themselves as white while nearly one in five (19 percent) identify as Asian, and almost one in 10 (9 percent) identify as Hispanic. Seventy percent were born in the United States. Of those born outside the United States, the most common countries of origin are Vietnam, the Philippines and India.

- More than nine in 10 (94 percent) respondents have been Catholic since birth. About eight in 10 (79 percent) come from families in which both parents are Catholic.

- Nearly half of responding religious (48 percent, about equal for women and men) attended a Catholic elementary school. Respondents are also more likely than other U.S. Catholics to have attended a Catholic high school (36 percent of responding religious, compared to 22 percent of U.S. adult Catholics) and much more likely to have attended a Catholic college (25 percent of women religious, compared to just 7 percent of U.S. adult Catholics).

- The responding religious are highly educated. Sixteen percent of responding religious earned a graduate degree before entering their religious institute (including 26 percent among brothers). Nearly six in 10 (57



Lien Tran, a member of the Lovers of the Holy Cross of Phat Diem, Vietnam, smiles during an April 5 visit to the Archdiocese of St. Louis. The World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed April 29.

CNS PHOTO/LISA JOHNSTON, ST. LOUIS REVIEW

percent) entered their religious institute with at least a bachelor's degree or more (56 percent for women and 76 percent for men).

- Many respondents were active in parish life before entering their religious institute. One-third participated in a young adult group and one in five participated in a youth ministry or other youth group. About one in four (24 percent) was active in campus ministry or a Newman Club on campus.

- Nearly all (95 percent) responding religious regularly participated in some type of private prayer activity before they entered their religious institute. Two-thirds joined in retreats (more common among women than men) or regularly prayed the rosary and three in five participated in Eucharistic Adoration before entering. About half regularly participated in a faith sharing or Bible study group and/or in regular spiritual direction.

- On average, responding religious report that they were 19 years old when they first considered a vocation to religious life, but half were 17 or younger when they first did so. This reflects an earlier consid-

eration than last year's class.

- A great majority of the religious of those professed in 2011 (86 percent) participated in some type of vocation program or experience prior to entering their religious institute. Most commonly, this was a "Come and See" experience (61 percent) or a vocation retreat (39 percent).

"Religious sisters, priests and brothers are treasured by the Church, and we support their sacred commitment to be poor, chaste and obedient in imitation of Christ and at His service. By virtue of their life they help us set our heart's goal not on this life, but on eternal life," said Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis, chairman of the Committee for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. "In a world where human frailty is acutely felt, they remind us of God and bring Christ's redemptive love to all they meet. The bishops of the United States are delighted to support their vocations in religious life."

"We are encouraged by the report's findings that men and women are considering a vocation at a younger age. As the Catholics recognize their responsibility to build a vocation culture in its parishes,

CARMELITE NUNS PROFESS VOWS IN 2011 AT ST. LOUIS CONVENT



CNS PHOTO/LISA JOHNSTON, ST. LOUIS REVIEW

Three Carmelite nuns profess their vows in 2011 in the chapel of the Divine Heart of Jesus convent in St. Louis. Love of God nurtures love of neighbor, especially in people with vocations to the priesthood or religious life, said Pope Benedict XVI in his message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which will be observed April 29.

schools and families, children and youth are being introduced to the various vocations in the Church," said Mercy Sister Mary Joanna Ruhland, associate director of the Secretariat. "This helps them respond to God's love and will generously and willingly," Sister Mary Joanna said. "We congratulate these sisters and brothers and pray that the vitality and

joy of their vocation be experienced by all whom they meet."

The USCCB communications office provided this story. The entire survey can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/consecrated-life/profession-class/>.

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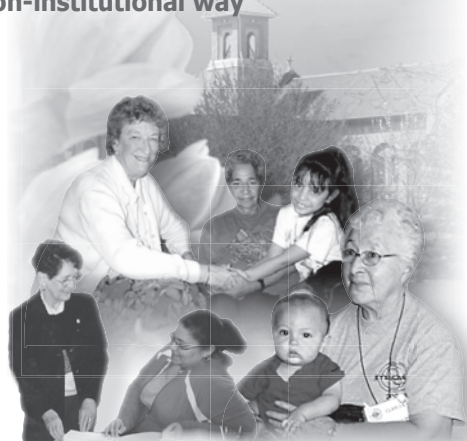
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Black and white, or gray?

One widely-encountered idea today is that there is no black and white when it comes to morality, only a kind of “gray area.” This is often taken to mean that we really can’t know with certainty what is right and wrong, allowing us to “push into the gray” as we make certain moral decisions that at first glance appear to be immoral.

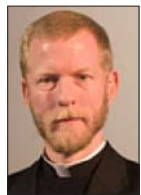
The behavior of the semi-legendary figure of Robin Hood is sometimes mentioned as an example of this “gray area” phenomenon, since he was a character who would steal money (morally bad) for the purposes of helping the poor (morally good).

By focusing on the good intentions motivating our choices, and by arguing that morality is ambiguous and mostly “gray” anyway, a person can more easily justify and provide cover for morally problematic actions. When we begin to scrutinize the claim that morality is “gray,” however, we encounter significant problems and contradictions.

The romanticized exploits of

Robin Hood, for example, end up providing little more than a “veil of gray” that quickly dissolves when we place ourselves in the first-person situation of being the victim of his thievery, having our own windows broken and our own goods plundered. Those who have been robbed of their possessions will often describe afterwards, in vivid detail, the awful awareness of personal violation, the crushing of their feeling of security, etc. In these circumstances, we see the moral problem with Robin Hood’s deprived actions, and appreciate the direct, black and white character of the universal moral injunction against stealing.

Universal moral prohibitions are clearly at the heart of any discussion about the “grayness” of morality. Many human actions, when freely chosen, will always be unacceptable. These actions, referred to as “intrinsic evils,” are immoral regardless of circumstance. Adultery would be an example of an intrinsic evil. Regardless of how much a mar-



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

ried man may desire to be with a new romantic flame, and regardless of how terrible his current marriage and sex life may appear to be, the decision to have sexual relations with someone who is not his spouse will invariably constitute an act of moral depravity on his part. Every wife who has suffered infidelity on the part of her husband, and every child who has seen the betrayal of their mother by their father can attest that there is no such thing as a “gray zone” for adultery. Many people who recognize that an action may be black may still be tempted to think that because

BIOETHICS, PAGE 16

Religious liberty — our country’s first principle

In the Bill of Rights for the United States, in the First Amendment and also in the first line of the document, the founders of this country found it essential to place religion in a privileged place. It seems that it is suggested in polite company to never talk about religion or politics. As a priest that pretty much would leave me out of all conversations. But the great thing about our country is it was founded on the ideas of freedom of religion and free speech. The First Amendment is worth quoting in full:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

You have probably heard that the squeaky wheel gets the oil. Many complain about this or that but they often are not well informed. I bet if you asked people if the Constitution talks about separation between Church and state the majority of people would say “of course!” The reality is that it does not expressly state that, rather the founders seemed to recognize that many human conflicts were fought under the pretense of religious grounds. They tried to establish a constitution that did not “establish” any one religion as supreme in government, nor should the government impede the free exercise of anyone’s religion.

The new HHS mandate is forcing Catholic institutions and Catholic businessmen who provide insurance to formally cooperate with evil. This is something practicing Catholics cannot do in good conscience. I would recommend that you read the USCCB’s article that recognizes religious liberty as the first liberty in this country.

Religious liberty is recognized as a pillar in Catholic social teaching, second only to human dignity itself. It is only second in Catholic teaching because of the respect that is demanded of human life itself. One can hardly be free to worship if one is denied the right to life.

The current governmental administration of this country is trying to suggest that contraception, contraceptive services, sterilization and even the drugs that induce abortion must be covered by all insurers. Many in the Church have difficulties with the Church’s teaching, but the teaching is correct. If one looks at the potential side effects of contraception, they can be serious, from increasing one’s risk of breast cancer to permanent sterility.



GUEST COMMENTARY

FATHER GLENN KOHRMAN

The Church’s approach to responsible parenthood is safe without side effects, natural and indeed builds virtue and the communication skills among couples, and does not reduce the spouse to be merely an object to be used for one’s own gratification.

Faith and love are very similar, in that they can only be real in the context of freedom. It is impossible to make someone believe, any more than it is possible to make someone love us. Love and faith can only be truly realized in the context of freedom. It is for this reason that this issue at this time is extremely important.

Totalitarian regimes are marked with dictatorial edicts that compel its subjects to comply. Our country is not intended to be such a system. The current administration is attempting to impede the free exercise of our faith and compelling us to fund ostensibly bad medicine when compared to the morally licit options available to the Catholic faithful. So not only do we respect religious liberty, but our position is also better for women’s health.

When governments fail to respect religious liberty, many other liberties are soon likely to be under attack. Many from other faith traditions have joined us in this cause. Catholics have always been obliged not to support those who support abortion or propaganda campaigns in favor of abortion. This is clearly stated in the 1974 Document on Procured Abortion.

It must, in any case, be clearly understood that whatever may be laid down by civil law in this matter, man can never obey a law which is in itself immoral, and such is the case of a law, which would admit in principle the licity of abortion. Nor can he take part in a propaganda campaign in favor of such a law, or vote for it. Moreover, he may not collaborate in its application.

The recent document from the bishops encourages us to have 14 days focusing on religious liberty from June 21 to July 4. Hopefully our country will be blessed with leaders who are pro-life and who support religious liberty.

Father Glenn Kohrman is the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart.

The Good Shepherd risks everything



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday of Easter Jn 10:11-18

The Acts of the Apostles again is the source of an Easter season’s weekend’s first reading. Peter, once more the spokesman for the Apostles, is filled with the Holy Spirit. He is not speaking on his own.

In the story, Peter restores a crippled person to wholeness, declaring that this miraculous event came not as the result of his own power, or of any earthly power, but rather through the power of Jesus.

Continuing, Peter makes it clear that the Jesus, the source of Peter’s power, is indeed the Jesus who was crucified on Calvary, the Son of God, the Savior. Jesus is the cornerstone of eternal life itself, the single source of God’s favor and everlasting life.

The First Epistle of John provides the second reading. These three epistles, given the name of John, the Apostle, are alike, and splendid, in their deep message and in their superb use of language.

This reading declares true believers to be “children of God.” It is a powerful term. Through Jesus, and in Jesus, believers become much more than merely the creatures of God. They become God’s children.

The Scriptures have many titles and names for God. He is the mas-

ter, the creator, the king and the almighty. In this reading, God is the Father. The title conveys all that the relationship between a child and an earthly father suggests.

For the final reading is a passage from St. John’s Gospel in which Jesus is described as the Good Shepherd. This title, occurring elsewhere in the New Testament, with many Old Testament echoes, offers lessons in itself.

In the Greek, the language of the Gospel, “good” means “ideal.” Jesus is the perfect shepherd. Thus, Jesus not only leads the sheep but risks everything, even life itself, for the sheep. The image has overtones of the Lord’s sacrificial death on Calvary.

Another lesson is that we are sheep. Sheep are not aggressive. They are not predators. They easily are the prey of vicious enemies that capitalize on the sheep’s innocence and vulnerability. Thus it is with humans, exposed to the dangers of sin and to the meanness of sinful persons. The Lord protects us. He guarantees our lives.

“Sheep not of this fold” refers not to dissenters or gentiles but to people of future generations.

Finally, in the agrarian world of that day’s Israel, Jesus used images familiar to everyone, such as shepherds and sheep. He wanted all to understand and to know God, God’s mercy, God’s love, and the potential of all to live in this love.

Reflection

For weeks the Church has celebrated the Resurrection. It still celebrates the Lord’s life this weekend.

In these readings, the Church reminds us that the Resurrection was not just a stupendous event that came and went long ago. Instead,

it is with us now. Peter brought people to God. He brought God’s life-giving power to them. His successors continue in this wondrous exchange.

Essential to eternal life itself is a contemporary, total and absolute commitment to God, through the Lord Jesus. As First John tells us in the second reading, in Jesus we become children of God. God is our loving Father.

Jesus is our Good Shepherd, ready to sacrifice earthly life itself so that we might live.

In our greatest limitation, we humans everlastingly ignore our own vulnerability and inflate our strengths. We are at the mercy of death-dealing and devious forces, some with human faces. Some come from within us. We must admit these facts.

We need the Lord. Jesus is our strong, loving and giving Good Shepherd. He leads us to eternal life. Without the Lord, we risk eternal death, helpless before our enemies. He alone guides us to peace and to life.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12 Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 29 Jn 3:1-2 Jn 10:11-18

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

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

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

Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14

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

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

Philip II, China and the Great Catholic What-If

History being linear, “What if ...?” is an unanswerable question — but always a fascinating one. What if George Washington had failed in New York in the early days of the American revolution and the rebellion had been crushed? What if Lee had heeded Longstreet, won Gettysburg and then taken Washington, thus ending the Civil War and achieving Confederate independence? What if Charles Lindbergh had been the Republican candidate in 1940 and had defeated FDR? What if Bush vs. Gore had been decided differently in 2000?

“What if...?” questions involve more than politics, of course. What if the apostles had turned right rather than left on leaving the Holy Land, so that Christianity was first “inculturated” in a civilization (India) lacking the Greek principle of non-contradiction: Could the Church have developed a doctrinal architecture if Christianity had first been planted in a culture where something could both “be” and “not be”?

Then there is the great “What if ...?” involving Christianity and China, of which I’ve only become aware, thanks to a November 2011 lecture by the distinguished historian, Hugh Thomas, published in the March 2012 issue of the British journal *Standpoint*.

According to Lord Thomas, a combination of Spanish conquistadors and missionaries, led by a remarkable character named Lopez de Legazpi, proposed to use the new Spanish colony of the Philippines as the launch-pad for a Spanish and Christian takeover of China — an ambition they styled “la empresa de China,” “the China Project.” The “project” fired the imaginations of Legazpi’s

successors, who pressed the Spanish monarch, Philip II, for permission to bring China under Spanish control. Philip, whom Hugh Thomas styles “the Great Procrastinator,” dithered, being preoccupied with rebellion in the Spanish Netherlands, and eventually cooled to the idea.

True to the original Ignatian charism, the fires of evangelical (and political) ambition were rekindled by a Jesuit, Alonso Sanchez, who went to China in 1582 and returned to the Philippines determined to revive “la empresa de China.” It would not be a walkover, Father Sanchez conceded; but he thought 8,000 men and 12 galleons could do the job.

And what a job it would be. For Sanchez and his supporters imagined a China filled with Christian universities and monasteries as well as Spanish forts, a China in which the Spaniards would intermarry with Chinese women (“serious, honest, retiring ... and usually of great grace, beauty and discretion”) to form a new “mestizo” race that would be thoroughly Catholic, and from whose numbers the Gospel would then come (along with Spanish hegemony, of course) to India, Southeast Asia, Borneo, the Moluccas and Sumatra.

Yet the Great Procrastinator in the Escorial continued to, well, procrastinate, and the defeat of the Invincible Armada by Howard and Drake in 1588 gave Philip II even more reason to dither about schemes of conquest and conversion in the Far East. Eventually, as Lord Thomas concludes, “nothing was done.” The plan was never explicitly rejected. Philip II simply let it die of inattention, as consummate bureaucrats know how to do.

But what if Philip had forged

moral principle to a particular situation will often require specific knowledge of the circumstances and details of that situation.

For example, I might have to grapple with the question of whether I have a moral duty to get out of bed and go to work in the morning. Whenever a particular set of circumstances prevail (I am healthy; today is a workday; my employer expects me to be present at the workplace; my vehicle is functioning normally), then I would reasonably conclude that I have a moral duty to go to work because of the objective moral commitments I have as a company employee — and, likely, the other employees who would “take up the slack” would resent my absence. Meanwhile, if I am very sick, I might reasonably conclude that I do not have a moral duty to go to work. Of course, deciding to stay in bed all day out of mere laziness would constitute an objective failure



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

ahead — and succeeded? In the 1990 encyclical, “Redemptoris Missio” (“The Mission of the Redeemer”), John Paul II, noting that the great failure of Christian mission in the first two millennia had been in East Asia, urged that the mission “ad gentes” (“the mission to the nations”) be focused on Asia in the third millennium. But what if China had been evangelized in the 17th century and had subsequently developed a vibrant form of Catholicism that blended the best of European and Chinese talents and personalities? Might the mission “ad gentes,” in the third millennium, be one in which this Euro-Asian Catholicism re-evangelized the religiously arid societies of Old Europe? Might we be speculating about a Chinese pope, not as something fantastic, but as something obvious?

Hugh Thomas is old-fashioned enough to lament a lost religious, cultural and geopolitical opportunity: “Christianity did not, alas, become the dominant religion of China as it had become in New Spain.” “What if” it had, merits a moment’s speculation.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

in terms of my moral duty. The question of my moral duty to go to work, then, is not a “gray area” at all, nor a matter of relative morals, but rather a question of careful discernment, weighing of variables, seeking to do the good, and so on.

In sum, the objective lines of our moral obligation may sometimes be difficult to discern, and may even appear gray at first glance, but when we sort out the relevant details and seek to purify our own motives, and become willing to submit to the binding character of absolute moral prohibitions, that gray haze can dissipate, enabling us to see the real moral lines that were there all along.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for April 29, 2012

John 10:11-18

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Fourth Sunday, Cycle B: the teaching of the Good Shepherd. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

GOOD SHEPHERD	LAYS DOWN	HIS LIFE
SHEEP	HIRED	WOLF COMING
LEAVES	RUNS AWAY	SCATTERS
I KNOW	KNOW ME	DO NOT BELONG
THIS FOLD	MY VOICE	FLOCK
TAKE IT UP	AGAIN	NO ONE
FROM ME	POWER	COMMAND

ALL MY SHEEP

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

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Commissariat of the Holy Land extends thanks

Dear Bishop Rhoades,
God give you peace!

I am in receipt of your check No. 195090 in the amount of \$73,435.73 representing the gifts of the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to the Jerusalem Mother Church for the 2011 Good Friday Collection. This gift will not only assist in the preservation of the holy places but will also help the people to whom the Franciscan Friars of the Holy Land Custody minister.

In the name of the friars and those to whom they minister, I express our deepest gratitude to you, Bishop Rhoades, and to our Sisters and Brothers in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South

Bend, who continue to give most generously to help those who are in need! May God bless and reward all of you.

The Good Friday Collection is a Pontifical Collection and is absolutely vital. This collection helps support the Holy Land Shrines and also the educational, pastoral and charitable programs for the people there. The custody cares for the poorest social classes, the living stones. I am sure you are well aware that it is not easy to be a Christian today in the Holy Land.

With deep appreciation, much gratitude and a promise of prayer for you and the People of God in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, I am yours,

Sincerely and gratefully,
Brother Joe Rogenski, OFM
Commissary of the Holy Land

BIOETHICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

their intentions are white, the “gray” action may be done. But good intentions cannot bleach the blackness of a deed.

Acknowledging the existence of intrinsic evils and recognizing the binding character of absolute moral prohibitions is an important part of our own moral growth and awakening. Indeed, morality itself, as an inner determinant of man’s character, is not fundamentally “gray” at all, but is, by its very nature, a code of black and white. In the final analysis, the cult of moral grayness is too easily a revolt against fixed and essential moral values.

Although fixed moral values must always guide our decisions, correctly applying a general

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Zita

c. 1218-1278
April 27

At age 12 Zita began working as a domestic in the household of a wealthy weaver in Lucca, Italy, and remained there her entire life. Initially, the devout and punctilious Zita antagonized her fellow servants, and drew the ire of her employers for lavish gifts of food to the poor. But she gradually won over everyone by her goodness, and was put in charge of the house. Later in life, she spent much time visiting the sick and imprisoned. At her death, she already was acclaimed a saint in Lucca and her cult spread to England through Luchese merchants in London.

Sports

BISHOP LUERS TO HOST 'RUN WITH THE KNIGHTS!' 5K RUN/WALK Bishop Luers High School is hosting the fifth annual "Run with the Knights" 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, May 12. The 5K will be held at Fort Wayne's Foster Park on Old Mill Road. Registration begins at 8 a.m. in Pavilion 1 and the 5K begins at 9 a.m. From the beginner to the most seasoned runner/walker, all are welcome. Registration is \$15 per person, and after May 7 the cost is \$20. Registration forms are available on Bishop Luers website, www.bishopluers.org.

Good soccer season for CYO St. Jude Eagles

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — As the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) soccer season gets underway for 2012, the St. Jude Eagles are having a fine season and have shown a positive improvement in their team play and results, according to Coach Dan Motherwell.

The Eagles have a 1-2-1 record. They kicked off with two losses against tough teams from St. Charles 8 and St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, but have had a good stretch tying St. Vincent 7 and beating St. Charles 7.

In his eighth season, Coach Dan Motherwell lists a combined seventh- and eighth-grade team of 16 young ladies.

Motherwell rotates his captains each game. He strongly believes soccer is a team sport and his players have been playing well as a team.

"The girls have a good attitude and keep their spirits high," Motherwell summarized.

The CYO single elimination tournament will start the week of April 30.

At St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, the boys' team has 14 seventh and eighth graders on its roster and is once again coached by Ken Huth.

With over two decades of soccer under his belt, Huth is pleased with the strong leadership and positive attitude of his players despite their 0-3 start.

"We are a very inexperienced group, but they come ready to play every day and are progressively getting better," Huth explained.

The Panthers were downed by St. Vincent, 3-0, and St. Jude, 2-0, but were thrilled to score their first goal of the season in their 3-1 loss to St. Charles.

"We are having a lot of fun," summarized Huth.

St. Vincent de Paul Heritage Girls sponsor fun run

FORT WAYNE — The St. Vincent de Paul Heritage Girls Troop IN3712 is sponsoring the Patriot Run 5K family fun run and walk at Salomon Farm Park, 817 Dupont Rd., at 2 p.m. on May 20.

Medals will go to the first 200 finishers, with awards for overall male and female finishers.

Early registration is now through May 7 with \$17 race

fee for adults, \$12 for students or Scouts, and \$60 for family of four. T-shirts are guaranteed for the first 200 registrants. Packet pick-up is Saturday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to noon at St. Vincent Scout Lodge, 8965 Auburn Rd.

Race day registration and packet pick-up will begin at 1 p.m. at Salomon Farm.

Mail registrations to Patriot Run, Attn: Lisa Simcox, 2121 Timber Brook Trail, Fort Wayne, IN 46845.

Correction

In the All Diocese Team roster listed in the April 22, 2012 edition of *Today's Catholic*, an incorrect photo of wrestler Jacob Kazmierczak of Saint Joseph's High School was published. The following is the correction:

Wrestling

Jake Kazmierczak, junior, 182 weight class, Holy Family, South Bend



JAKE KAZMIERCZAK

Correction

In the April 22, 2012 edition of *Today's Catholic*, the wrong coach was credited to the Bishop Dwenger Lady Saints.

The following is the correction.

Girls' track

Coach Erin Brady returns to coach the Bishop Dwenger Lady Saints track team this season listing 50 girls on the roster. Ten seniors will provide strong leadership and 17 freshman will add new talent. The Saints had two early indoor meets to get them started and saw great performances while stand out, Chris Widner qualified for the Indiana State Finals during the indoor season throwing the shot put.

Brady reports, "We are working on building our relay teams and home to watch some outstanding individual performances as well. The weather has cooperated and given the team some excellent opportunities to train on the track."

Ancilla baseball sponsors tornado relief trip

DONALDSON — Dylan Martin had just returned to his apartment from school when he and some of his fellow Ancilla College baseball teammates heard reports of bad storms heading for Indiana. Martin, who grew up in Borden, near Henryville in southern Indiana, called home to check on his family. No one answered, so he called his grandmother, who informed him that they were in the midst of the severe weather.

As the reports of the devastation reached him, Dylan felt helpless when he learned that several of his friends and neighbors had lost their homes. "I thought there was nothing I could do from four hours away, and it felt out of my hands," he admits.

Ancilla College Head Baseball Coach Joe Yonto, who led a relief trip to Alabama after tornadoes struck there in 2011, approached Martin about helping out. Martin called his mother, and "we started to plan and call around town," he explains. Their inquiries led them to a farmer who, at 63 years old, had recently undergone triple bypass surgery and was unable to rebuild after a tornado had ripped through the middle of his farm.

"He graduated with my grandpa, so we knew him really well," Martin recalls. "My mom knew he really needed the help."

Martin was among the 12 baseball players who accompanied Coach Yonto during their mid-April trip. The team stayed at a local fire station and helped the farmer clean up the metal, fallen trees and rebuild the fence around his 133 acres.

Patrick Knight, who grew up in nearby New Albany, also went on the trip. Knight is grateful for the opportunity, say-



PROVIDED BY ANCILLA COLLEGE

In the photo, from left, are Joe Lange, Dylan Martin, Diante Kincaid, Tyler Singleton, Zac Miller, Tyler Campe, Blake Lane, Logan Hug, Pat Knight, Mike Montemayer, Micah Surber and Kyle Mark.

ing "It meant a lot being back near my hometown and getting to help out. We got a lot done."

Coach Yonto describes the experience as "a great opportunity and a sincere effort from the young men. That's what Ancilla is all about, helping others out and making a difference in their lives. (The farmer) and community were appreciative. It was positive for our young men, as well."

Zac Miller, who grew up on a farm in White Pigeon, Mich., helped direct his fellow athletes in their work. "I know how much work and trouble it is to build a fence, but it was fun and felt great to help someone."

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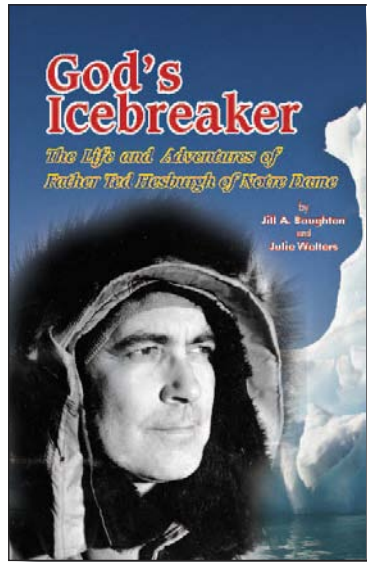
Hesburgh biography written for youth

BY KAY COZAD

"God's Icebreaker: The Life and Adventures of Father Ted Hesburgh of Notre Dame" by Jill Boughton and Julie Walters, Corby Books, ISBN: 978-0-9833586-6-4, \$19.95.

"God's icebreaker" is a 194-page biography that takes its reader through the life and times of the remarkable Holy Cross Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, from his faith-filled youth to his adventurous retirement. Father Ted, as he was known by many, displayed so much positive forward thinking and action not only during his 35 years as president of the University of Notre Dame but in many political, social and environmental venues.

Father Ted's unbridled enthusiasm for life is documented in the everyday life conversations that take place throughout this book. Each chapter captures how his actions illustrate his obedience to God and mankind, and educates the reader on the myriad ways Father Ted worked to fill a



need when it arose.

A hidden treasure of the book, written specifically for teens, is the interlacing of explanations written in easy-to-understand terms of Church doctrine and ritual throughout the situations Father Ted finds himself. Catholic traditions from obedience of seminarians and priests to the Church to fasting on Ash

Wednesday are artfully interwoven in the story and unwittingly invaluable to the reader.

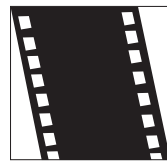
According to Jill Boughton, the inspiration for the book came from her coauthor, Julie Walters, who has long admired Father Ted. The children's writer wanted young people to know more about his life and faith, especially after learning that many current students at the University of Notre Dame didn't know who he was.

The two writers have been long-time friends and collaborated on this biography using Father Hesburgh's own autobiography and a work by Michael O'Brien. Targeting youth level reading for their project was intentional says Boughton.

"We wrote with young boys in mind, with the hope that the book might inspire some to consider becoming priests," she says.

This easy read offers an honest look at Father Ted's special devotion to the Church, higher education, civil rights and world peace that marks him among the honored leaders of his time. His life-long ministry fighting prejudice, injustice and distrust that touched the lives of countless people across the globe is captured beautifully in this inviting book. Though written for children and teens, "God's Icebreaker: The Life and Adventures of Father Ted Hesburgh of Notre Dame" has something for everyone.

The authors were able to meet with the 94-year-old Father Hesburgh following the publication of the biography. Boughton says of the meeting, "We were delighted to be able to present Father Ted with a copy last December. He was very gracious and very sharp."



MOVIE CAPSULES

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

"Chimpanzee" (Disneynature)

This endearing wildlife documentary, set in the Ivory Coast's lush Tai Forest, follows the fortunes of a young chimp named Oscar as he, his devoted mother and the entire extended clan with whom they live become caught up in a turf war with a rival band of simians. Though co-directors Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield's narrative — recorded, in mostly jaunty tones, by Tim Allen — veers at times into sentimentality and shameless anthropomorphizing, their expedition nonetheless provides enjoyable viewing for moviegoers of just about every age. Parents of the tiniest tots take note, however: A significant survival-of-the-fittest plot development may prove too emotionally taxing for the most sensitive youngsters. Scenes of animal combat. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences. All ages admitted.

"Lockout" (Open Road)

Framed for the murder of a fellow operative, a late-21st-century CIA agent (Guy Pearce) is offered a reprieve if he rescues the president's (Peter Hudson) daughter (Maggie Grace) who's been taken hostage by rioting prisoners during a goodwill tour of an orbiting penitentiary. Logical lapses are papered over with macho posturing and wisecracks in directors and co-writers James Mather and Stephen St. Leger's dreary action exercise

which features a protagonist who likes his women — the first filly included — to shut up and look pretty. Constant action violence with occasional gore, a fleeting gruesome image, several instances of sexual humor, including a gag that's also irreverent, about a half-dozen profanities, at least one use of rough language, numerous crude and crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned.

"The Lucky One" (Warner Bros.)

On returning home from the war in Iraq, a Marine (Zac Efron) seeks out the attractive young stranger (Taylor Schilling) whose photograph he accidentally came across in the midst of battle. Convinced the lucky image preserved his life for the remainder of his tour, he's anxious to thank her. Despite some initial resistance on her part, and to the dismay of her scheming ex-husband (Jay R. Ferguson), the two inevitably fall for each other, cheered on by her wise grandmother (Blythe Danner) and clever-beyond-his-years young son (Riley Thomas Stewart). Director Scott Hicks confects a serviceable date movie from Catholic author Nicholas Sparks' novel, with diversion from the jumbo improbabilities at work provided by Hallmark card-perfect settings and some wry observations from granny and junior. But the generally amiable proceedings are marred by a couple of overheated scenes glamorizing the as-yet unwed leads' serial bedroom encounters. Benign view and semigraphic portrayal of premarital sexual activity, a reference to out-of-wedlock pregnancy, at least one use of profanity, a handful of crude and crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned.



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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.

Children's clothing and toy sale

Yoder — St. Aloysius, 14607 Bluffton Rd., will have a used children's clothing and toy sale Saturday, May 12, from 8 a.m. to noon in the activity center. Children's items including clothing sizes infant to juniors, baby equipment, children's furniture, toys, games and accessories from many different sellers.

Christ Child welcomes new members

South Bend — The Christ Child Society of South Bend is hosting a new membership coffee at the Christ Child Clothing Center, 308 S. Scott St., (in the old St. Patrick's School) on May 16 at 9:30 a.m. Last year the Christ Child Society of South Bend distributed over 500 layettes to infants in the area and clothed 4,400 needy children. To attend this coffee, contact either Carol Holt at (574) 259-0461, or email at jcholt7@sbcglobal.net; or Pat Hillebrand at (574) 254-0626, or email at derfandtap@atacruz.com.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father David Voors will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel on Tuesday, May 1, at 7 p.m. to pray

Message from Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy, Bishop Emeritus

Concerning the death of Sister Helen Cornelia Lyons, SND

I wish to share with our diocesan family the painful news of the death of Sister Helen Cornelia Lyons, SND. Many in the diocese will remember Sister Helen, who came here at my request and served effectively and with great dedication for three years. In both the Archdiocese of Boston and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she was involved in the founding of the Office of Spiritual Development.

Sister Helen Cornelia served many years as provincial superior of the Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame. She also taught in Catholic high schools and served in parish ministry at Immaculate Conception Parish, Nashua, N.H., and St. Agatha Parish, Milton, Mass.

She was the instrument of drawing many people — priests and religious and especially laity — into the work of evangelization through parish retreats and missions.

Her joyful spirit, her prayer life and her great respect for priests will be remembered by many. She has gone to meet Christ our Savior, to whom she prayed every day and about whom she spoke on countless mornings and evenings in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston and in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. I commend her to your prayers.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held at the Sisters of Notre Dame Noviate in Ipswich, Mass., on April 16. I was unable to attend the service. I will offer a public Mass for Sister Helen in Ipswich in July.

for priests and vocations. Father Voors is pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur.

Daughters of Isabella to meet

South Bend — Daughters of Isabella Notre Dame Circle 572 will host a silent card party on Monday, May 7, at Logan Center at 2 p.m.

Fish, chicken, tenderloin dinner

Huntington — St. Mary Parish, 903 N. Jefferson St., will have a fish, chicken and tenderloin din-

ner by Dan's on Friday, April 27, from 4:30- 7:30 p.m. in the school gym. Adults \$8.50, children (6-12) \$5 and children 5 and under free. Carry-out, bake sale and 50-50 drawing available.

Holy Name Society fish fry

New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, April 27, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$7.50, children 5-12 \$4 and children under 5 free.

REST IN PEACE

Decatur

Jane C. Aspy, 77,
St. Mary of the
Assumption

Fort Wayne

Mary Lou Hofmann,
81, St. Joseph

Robert L. Loyd, 58,
St. Therese

James Paul Weins, 64,
St. Vincent de Paul

Robert W. Cardeaux Sr.,
78, St. Elizabeth Ann
Seton

Richard A. Firks, 58,
St. Patrick

Carol A. Gibson, 70,
St. Vincent de Paul

Franklin F. Fyock, 92,
St. Jude

Henrietta Berger, 104,
St. Peter

Mary Jennine Loraine,
73, Most Precious
Blood

Granger

Wilhelmine R. Horvath,
103, St. Pius X

Barbara J. Knapp, 57,
St. Pius X

Tina Louise Kranc, 52,
St. Pius X

Mishawaka
Luella M. Markham, 84,
Queen of Peace

Orville L. Kronewitter,
85, Queen of Peace

New Carlisle
Bernice M. Gondek, 95,
St. Stanislaus

New Haven

Jess Bernard May, 90,
St. Louis Besancon

Notre Dame

Father Cajetan T.
Holland, CSC, 91,
Basilica of the Sacred
Heart

Father Joseph
L. Walter, CSC, 82,
Basilica of the Sacred
Heart

South Bend

Dorothy M. Jozwiak,
76, St. John the Baptist

Antoinette Micinski, 92,
St. Anthony de Padua

Alice M. Machowiak,
88, Holy Family

Rosemarie Norris, 78,
Little Flower

Margaret Meersman,
86, St. Matthew
Cathedral

Felix Ariel Macedo, 19,
St. Adalbert

Anthony T. Radecki, 90,
St. Stanislaus

Michael J. Zwicky, 96,
St. Bavo

George H. Bonavia, 89,
Little Flower

Cosimo P. Macri, 60,
Our Lady of Hungary

Wabash

Louella Curtis, 87,
St. Bernard

Rummage and bake sale

Fort Wayne — A rummage and bake sale will be held at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel on Friday, April 27, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 28, from 8 a.m. to noon. Bag sale on Saturday. Located on U.S. 27 south of 469/U.S. 27 interchange.

Blood drive announced

Mishawaka — The Knights of Columbus Council 1878 will have a blood drive Saturday, May 5. The South Bend Medical Foundation will be taking blood donations at the Knight's hall, 114 W. First St., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (appointments strongly suggested). Contact Adam

Gerstbauer at (574) 229-3490 or email agerstbauer@hotmail.com for information.

The Silence of Mary yard sale

Fort Wayne — The Silence of Mary will have a yard sale May 4-5 at 3024 Water Wheel Run in Seven Oaks subdivision from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and May 19-20 at White Swan Plaza on Lima Road, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.thesilenceormary.org or call (260) 267-8371 for information.

'Anything Goes'

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Performing Arts Department will perform "Anything Goes" April 26-28 at 7:30 p.m. in the school.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sunday Visitor Newsweekly. Our Sunday Visitor's founder, Father John Francis Noll, who eventually became archbishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, published the national newsweekly in Huntington on May 5, 1912. It was one of the most visible tools he used to express the mission of the company, which still drives the company today, "to serve the Church."

"Father Noll recognized a great need in the immigrant-based Catholic Church in the early 1900s to understand what the Church teaches and why, in order to defend themselves against the many anti-Catholic movements of the day," said Kyle Hamilton, president of Our Sunday Visitor's Offertory Solutions Division. "Father Noll was a charismatic entrepreneur who developed simple, effective resources that helped Catholics grow in faith and spirit."

"What we are about these days is the same as what Archbishop Noll was about," said Greg Erlandson, president and publisher of the Publishing Division of Our Sunday Visitor. "We are about responding to people's needs. We are about helping them to bring their Catholic faith to life. We are about helping them to see what is real and important in this life, and how it will connect them to the next."

Today, Our Sunday Visitor operates in two divisions: Publishing and Offertory Solutions. The company's chairman of the board is always the standing bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, but the organization is independent from the diocese itself.

The divisions are housed in a 220,000-square-foot plant in northeastern Indiana, with more than 300 on staff in its Huntington facility and dozens more at their facilities in Orlando, Fla., and Boardman, Ohio. It has grown steadily through

its history, serving as one of the largest and most stable employers in Huntington. The organization has tripled in size within the last 10 years through new product development and acquisitions.

"Pastors cannot do it alone," said Father Andrew Kemberling, pastor of St. Thomas More Parish in Centennial, Colo. "It is important that a company like Our Sunday Visitor partner with parishes and with their good will, their advice, their financial support through the institute. It has helped so many people get it. ... There is something genuine and real that I am proud to be a part of."

The publishing division is one of the largest Catholic publishing companies in the world with a significant presence in periodicals, in retail, in consumer sales and web, in schools and in parishes. The division offers a full range of print and e-materials including, books, periodicals, pamphlets and other solutions.

The division also includes full religious curriculum for pre-school, kindergarten through eighth grade and high school.

"Our Sunday Visitor has always had that wonderful balance, bringing together sound doctrine, sound content, reliable and trustworthy, at the same time doing it in a creative way and in a way that reaches people in the language of today," said Jem Sullivan, adjunct professor at The Catholic University of America and recent staff to the Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Our Sunday Visitor has done tremendous work providing resources for families, young adults and teenagers, to shape, form and transform adults as they raise their children."

Our Sunday Visitor Offertory Solutions division is the largest offering envelope provider in the world. It also provides products and services that help Catholic organizations enhance offertory, improve communications to parishioners and build vibrant parish communities. The division's offerings include web-based Online Giving, websites for parishes and dioceses, offering

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GREG ERLANDSON,
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

Our Sunday Visitor

Centennial Celebration 1912-2012

envelopes and increased offertory consulting and programs. Offertory Solutions converts and prints more than 600 million offering envelopes every year, as well as a variety of materials for stewardship, bishop's appeals and seasonal communications.

"Archbishop Noll was a man of vision, ready to explore all possibilities," said Msgr. Jacques Plante of the Providence, R.I. diocese. "I think the organization really embodies that. I see its commitment. I keep telling everyone they have to walk through the plant. ... The organization has always been true to his commitment, his priestly zeal, priestly concern and his priestly vision."

"The other reason people should visit Huntington is it is a cheerful and happy place. It's one of those places you walk through and you

go, this must be a pretty nice place to work," he added.

About the open house

The May 5 open house at Our Sunday Visitor, 200 Noll Plaza in Huntington, will begin with a welcome by local civic and Church officials, including Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry. Our Sunday Visitor will open up its facility so that guests can tour the publishing division, the chapel, the envelope production area, the warehouse and more. A light lunch will be served, and there will be activities for children. It is the first open house held by the company in more than 20 years.

Future plans for the celebration of Our Sunday Visitor's 100th anniversary include a symposium on Sept. 28 at the Grand Wayne Center

featuring Cardinal Francis George of Chicago, Dr. Scott Hahn and Dr. Helen Alvare. It will be followed by a Mass of Thanksgiving and Rededication celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and a reception and dinner that will feature keynote speaker Archbishop Claudio Celli, president of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

"It is an honor to be in this business," said Erlandson. "It is an honor to be able to do work that matters. It is an honor to be able to hold ourselves accountable so that we can work together to build up the kingdom. And it is an honor to work with all of the incredible, dedicated, brilliant servants of the Lord in parishes, diocese and other Catholic organizations around the country and the world."

"Together, we do God's work," he said. "And at day's end — when we turn out our lights at Our Sunday Visitor — we then remind ourselves that this is God's business, not ours. That little insight is the ultimate source of our optimism, the ultimate source of our faith in the future. He has been with us all these years, and He will be using our talents tomorrow to shape the future."



Celebrating 100 Years!

We invite the entire community to come join us as we celebrate the *100th Anniversary* of Our Sunday Visitor!

When:

Saturday, May 5th, 2012, kick off at 1:00pm-3:00pm

Where:

Our Sunday Visitor, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN 46750

Plan to Enjoy:

- A light lunch • Tours of the building •
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