



Think Green
Recycle
Go Green
Go Digital

May 6, 2012

Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

50¢

Volume 86, No. 18
todayscatholicnews.org



**Honoring
motherhood
in May**
Pages 8-9

Evangelium Award

Helen Alvaré recognized at
Notre Dame
Page 3

New evangelization

Invite inactive members to
practice the faith
Page 4

Peterson sisters excel

St. Pius girls compete
in spelling, geography
Page 10

St. Margaret House

Helping women and children
Page 16

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Special education initiative blazes new trail

BY KAY COZAD

NEW HAVEN — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with the Catholic School's Office is launching an initiative to address the needs of children with disabilities. Dr. Mark Myers, superintendent of Catholic schools, says the program will fund 20 new students with special needs this fall from across the diocese who are currently enrolled in a public school and eligible for the Indiana School Voucher.

The program, which will begin in the fall of the 2012-2013 school term, is formatted to serve students from kindergarten through eighth grade with most any disability. The diocese is committed to serving each accepted student through the duration of their Catholic education up to grade eight.

The new program took shape following two meetings, one in Fort Wayne and the other in South Bend, where parents of children with special needs met with diocesan school officials to voice their concerns. Myers says the meetings were informative and cathartic. "Parents shared their stories and their strong desire for their children to have catechetical formation," he says.

Currently St. Louis Academy, Besancon, located at 15535 Lincoln Hwy. East, New Haven, is preparing to be the inaugural site for the Fort Wayne area for eight of the 20 students who will be admitted to the program. Principal Cheryl Klinker is optimistic about the addition of this unique program to her school and will be hiring a qualified resource teacher and teacher's aids to accommodate the new students.

Klinker brings 14 years of experience with special needs programs, including the resource program that she founded at St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne, to this new venture, and says, "God's hand is definitely in this, it has been a true discernment process. I hope the new families of students with special needs come to



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Principal Cheryl Klinker of St. Louis Academy-Besancon in New Haven and the students and staff will welcome students with special needs in the 2012-2013 school year. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with the Catholic School's Office is launching an initiative to address the needs of children with disabilities. Dr. Mark Myers, superintendent of Catholic schools, says the program will fund 20 new students with special needs this fall from across the diocese who are currently enrolled in a public school and eligible for the Indiana School Voucher.

SPECIAL, PAGE 16

Don't let fear, search for the superficial deafen God's call, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — God is always calling people to dedicate themselves fully to serving Him, but they often don't hear because they are either too distracted or afraid they would no longer be free if they answered the call, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Let us pray that all young people pay attention to the voice of God, who speaks to their hearts and calls them to detach themselves from everything in order to serve Him," he said April 29 — the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Before praying the "Regina Coeli" with the faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square, the pope said, "The Lord is always calling us, but very often we don't listen."

"We are distracted by many things, by other

voices that are more superficial and because we are afraid to listen to the Lord's voice because we think that it can take away our freedom."

But everyone on the earth is deeply loved by God, and as soon as people become aware of that love, their lives change by becoming a response to God's love, which in turn means human freedom is fully realized, the pope said.

The pope asked that the universal Church and every local parish or community become a lush garden "in which the seeds of vocations that God spreads in abundance can germinate and ripen."

He asked that everyone help cultivate this garden so that those who do hear God's call can follow through with joy and generosity.

Earlier in the day, Pope Benedict ordained nine new priests in St. Peter's Basilica; one of the priests will serve the Diocese of Bui Chu in

Vietnam, while the others — who come from Italy, the Ivory Coast and Colombia — will serve in the Diocese of Rome.

One of the newly ordained men, Father Piero Gallo, 42, worked as a lawyer and magistrate for the Italian government for eight years. Another, Father Marco Santarelli, 29, used to pilot private aircraft with the dream of someday flying a Boeing 747.

Before reciting the "Regina Coeli" prayer, the pope said these men "are not any different from other young people."

The only thing that sets them apart is that "they have been profoundly touched by the beauty of God's love and could not do anything but respond to it with their whole lives," he said. They encountered that love in Jesus through the Gospel, the Eucharist and people in their Church community, he added.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: Lauren Caggiano,
Michelle Castleman, Karen Clifford,
Bonnie Elbersson, Denise Fedorow,
Diane Freeby, May Lee Johnson, Sister
Margie Lavis, CSC, Joe Kozinski,
Vince LaBarbera and Deb Wagner

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Sean McBride

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Kathy Voirol
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen (Fort Wayne area)

(260) 456-2824

Jeanette Simon (South Bend area)

(574) 234-0687

Web site: www.todayscatholicnews.org

Published weekly except the fourth
Sunday in June, second and fourth
weeks in July and August, the first
week of September and last week
in December by the Diocese of Fort
Wayne-South Bend, 1103 S. Calhoun
St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801.
Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne,
IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort
Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or email:
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org.

MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort
Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260)
456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.

BUREAU OFFICE: 1328 Dragoon Trail,
Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone (574)
234-0687. Fax (574) 830-1042.

News deadline is the Monday morning
before publication date. Advertising
deadline is nine days before publica-
tion date.

Today's Catholic may be reached at:
Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:
editor@diocesefwsb.org

ISSN 0891-1533
USPS 403630



Infertility and in vitro fertilization



IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Many have probably read accounts in the secular press about the lawsuit filed against the diocese because of the non-renewal of a teacher's contract in one of our Catholic schools. The statements on page 3 of this issue of *Today's Catholic* contain our public response to the accusations that have been made in the lawsuit as reported in the press. Of course, now that this is a matter of litigation, we cannot get into the specific details of the case, however, I would like to explain in this column about the Church's teaching in the matter of infertility.

First, I wish to express my deep compassion for couples who struggle with infertility. A child is "the supreme gift of marriage," and infertility is a great suffering to many couples who are unable to have children. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "Couples who discover that they are sterile suffer greatly" (#2374).

To assist couples struggling with infertility in a way that is both highly successful and completely ethical, our diocese has for the past several years promoted NaProTechnology, which refers to a set of medical and surgical protocols developed by Dr. Thomas Hilgers, a Catholic obstetrician-gynecologist who specializes in reproductive medicine and surgery. Dr. Hilgers is the founder and director of the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction in Omaha. Physicians from all over the world attend specialized training courses in Omaha to incorporate NaProTechnology into their own medical practices. Dr. Patrick Holly, a family physician in Fort Wayne and member of St. Vincent's parish, became certified in NaProTechnology several years ago and has been offering these services in his medical practice ever since. Two years ago I encouraged Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka to offer NaProTechnology services for couples. I am deeply grateful that they have done so. This past August, St. Joseph's hired Dr. Nickole Bazger, who has received specialty training at the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction and completed the John Paul II Fellowship in Medical and Surgical NaProTechnology.

As you may know, NaProTechnology works towards finding the underlying causes of the reproductive abnormality and allows for the treatment of these underlying causes. It assists the couple in achieving pregnancy while maintaining the natural acts of procreation. If the treatment program is unsuccessful, research into the unknown causes is undertaken. It is important to note that NaProTechnology is highly effective, in many cases more successful than in vitro fertilization, and does not involve the

destruction or freezing of embryos.

The Church teaches that three fundamental goods must be respected in the treatment of infertility:

"(a) the right to life and to physical integrity of every human being from conception to natural death;

(b) the unity of marriage, which means reciprocal respect for the right within marriage to become a father or mother only together with the other spouse;

(c) the specifically human values of sexuality which require that the procreation of a human person be brought about as the fruit of the conjugal act specific to the love between spouses" (cf. Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, *The Dignity of a Person*, #12)

The Church permits "techniques which act as an aid to the conjugal act and its fertility" (ibid). Such techniques include hormonal treatments for infertility, surgery for endometriosis, unblocking of fallopian tubes or their surgical repair. There are also continual advances in NaProTechnology that respect the above-listed three goods.

In vitro fertilization is morally wrong because it "dissociates the sexual act from the procreative act." In IVF, the child is not conceived through the conjugal union of spouses, but in vitro (literally, "in glass") by a technician in a laboratory. As the Catechism states: "The act which brings the

right to be respected as a person from the moment of his or her conception" (CCC #2378).

It is also important to note that in vitro fertilization very frequently involves the destruction or freezing of human embryos. The destruction of embryos is abortion. The freezing of embryos (cryopreservation) is "incompatible with the respect owed to human embryos; it presupposes their production in vitro; it exposes them to the serious risk of death or physical harm, since a high percentage does not survive the process of freezing and thawing; it deprives them at least temporarily of maternal gestation; it places them in a situation in which they are susceptible to further offense and manipulation. The majority of embryos that are not used remain 'orphans'" (Ibid, #19). These embryos are not mere biological material. The large population of cryopreserved embryos fuels calls, and creates incentives for destructive forms of scientific research (on which the practice of IVF itself depends). The freezing of these tiny human beings is a grave injustice.

IVF also presents potentially serious health risks to mother and child. Women seeking IVF must undergo superovulation — a course of hormonal treatment that can lead to serious complications. It has been well documented that children conceived by IVF have increased risks for often serious health problems (especially those associated with premature birth).

I encourage all couples who struggle with infertility to reject in vitro fertilization since it is gravely immoral for the above stated reasons. I also encourage these couples to seek help through morally licit means for assisting fertility and treating infertility.

Finally, the Church wants to remind couples that marriage retains its full value as a vocation even when procreation is not possible. The mutual gift of self

that a man and woman make to one another for life is what makes a marriage, not a couples' ability to have children. Their marriage is still meant to be fruitful, but it might not be in the way that most marriages are. As the Catechism teaches: "The Gospel shows that physical sterility is not an absolute evil. Spouses who still suffer from infertility after exhausting legitimate medical procedures should unite themselves with the Lord's Cross, the source of all spiritual fecundity." (#2379). They also can build their families through the beautiful gift of adoption.

Let us remember in our prayers all couples who struggle with infertility. I want these couples to know of the Church's care for them. I especially ask the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who appeared to Saint Juan Diego pregnant with our unborn Savior. I was deeply moved when a couple approached me after an event at one of our parishes and shared with me that although they were told that they would never be able to have children, they had prayed through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe and were now expecting a child. Others have invoked her prayers and were able to adopt sons and daughters. May God bless you!

It is important to note that NaProTechnology is highly effective, in many cases more successful than in vitro fertilization, and does not involve the destruction or freezing of embryos.

child into existence is no longer an act by which two persons give themselves to one another, but one that entrusts the life and identity of the embryo into the power of doctors and biologists and establishes the domination of technology over the origin and destiny of the human person. Such a relationship of domination is in itself contrary to the dignity and equality that must be common to parents and children. Under the moral aspect procreation is deprived of its proper perfection when it is not willed as the fruit of the conjugal act, that is to say, of the specific act of the spouses' union... Only respect for the link between the meanings of the conjugal act and respect for the unity of the human being make possible procreation in conformity with the dignity of the person" (#2377).

IVF often involves additional threats to human dignity, such as screening for sex selection or other favored traits — a process whereby those living embryonic human beings who do not meet these preferred standards are discarded and destroyed. This is a violation of the good of human life, and threatens to transform procreation into a kind of manufacture.

The Church teaches that "the child has the right to be the fruit of the specific act of the conjugal love of his parents and the



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, May 6, 1 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Most Precious Blood Church, Fort Wayne
- Monday, May 7, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Thomas the Apostle Church, Elkhart
- Wednesday, May 9, 12:30 p.m. — Luncheon Meeting of Priests' Retirement Board, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, May 9, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Anthony of Padua Church, Angola
- Thursday, May 10, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Fort Wayne
- Friday, May 11, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Joseph Church, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 12, 11 a.m. — Diaconate Ordination Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 12, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Patrick Church, Ligonier

Helen Alvaré receives the Notre Dame Evangelium Vitae Medal

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — Pro-life champion Helen Alvaré was honored on April 25 as winner of the 2012 Notre Dame Evangelium Vitae Medal. Inaugurated in 2011, the medal is given annually by the University of Notre Dame Fund to Protect Human Life to an individual who “steadfastly” affirms and defends the sanctity of human life.

Alvaré worked for three years in the Office of the General Counsel of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and then became a spokesperson for the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities for the next 10 years. She then joined the faculty of the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America, and now is on the faculty of School of Law at George Mason University. Her scholarly work is in the areas of abortion's impact on women; marriage; parenting; and new reproductive technologies. Alvaré is also a consultant to the Pontifical Academy for the Laity.

David Solomon, Notre Dame philosophy professor and chairman of the Notre Dame Fund to Protect Human Life, presented the medal at a banquet in the Notre Dame Monogram Room. He was assisted by Holy Cross Father Wilson Miscamble, Notre Dame history professor and president of the Notre Dame chapter of University Faculty for Life. Both men serve on the committee that oversees the Fund to Protect Human Life.

The medal citation praised Alvaré for over 20 years of service defending and promoting human life. With quotes from Blessed John Paul II's 1995 encyclical “Evangelium Vitae” (“The Gospel of Life”), for which the medal was named, the citation stated: “In an age when the sanctity of life from its earliest to its final days is assaulted, you have boldly and unremittingly worked to build and sustain the ‘unconditional respect for the right to life of every innocent person,’ ‘one of the pillars on which every civil society stands.’”

The citation cited Alvaré's work: “From the television studio, to the radio airwaves, Congressional hearing rooms, university campuses, and forums beyond, you have spoken



Notre Dame Professor David Solomon presents Helen Alvaré with the 2012 Notre Dame Evangelium Vitae Medal.

and acted with ‘courage on behalf of those who have no voice.’”

In her remarks after the medal was conferred, Alvaré thanked all the people who had kept the pro-life movement alive, and she cited the large number of young people who are pro-life as a sign of tremendous success. Alvaré then talked about three areas that have impressed her about the pro-life movement:

1) Pro-life is not a cause or an issue, but a way of life, God's way of trying to transform the activists personally as they do good for the world; 2) That the Catholic Church is the best at pursuing the truth about the human person and thus does pro-life better than anyone; and 3) The pro-life movement has won the argument about the humanity of the unborn child, though formidable challenges remain because of the culture's distorted view of human sexuality — challenges that Alvaré went into academia to address.

In his homily at the Mass preceding the award banquet and ceremony, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades noted that the Gospel for that day is a reminder that the Church is an “evangelizing community” with the obligation to spread the Gospel, for God wants all people to know the truth and be saved. However, evangelization faces many challenges in today's increas-

ingly secularized culture, where relativism is rampant, religious liberty has come under assault, and the sacredness of human life has been discarded, he said.

Bishop Rhoades quoted the first words of “Evangelium Vitae”: “The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' message. Lovingly received day after day by the Church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as ‘good news’ to the people of every age and culture.”

Therefore, the bishop explained: “The New Evangelization requires ‘dauntless fidelity,’ courage, creativity, zeal and commitment” to “defend human life against the many threats from the culture of death in which we live.” And he described Helen Alvaré as a wonderful example of the role of the laity in “wisely and courageously” proclaiming and serving that “Gospel of life.”

In his introduction of Alvaré, David Solomon, chairman of the Notre Dame Fund to Protect Human Life, explained that the fund had been created by several Notre Dame faculty and staff members to support pro-life initiatives on the campus and to put in place a comprehensive pro-life educational effort at Notre Dame. Bill and Peggy Dotterweich and other generous donors make the fund possible, Solomon said.

Diocese releases statements

As reported widely in the public media, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and St. Vincent de Paul School, Fort Wayne, are being sued by a former teacher at St. Vincent de Paul School. Her teaching contract was not renewed at the end of academic year 2010-2011 due to “improprieties related to church teachings or law.”

As a point of clarification, the Diocese stands behind Msgr. John Kuzmich. Msgr. Kuzmich categorically denies ever having called the plaintiff a “grave, immoral sinner.”

Below and on page 5 are three public statements issued by the Diocese and Msgr. John Kuzmich in response to media reports.



Statement from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

4/24/2012

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is saddened by the lawsuit filed against it by a former teacher at one of its grade schools. The claims made against the Diocese in the lawsuit allege matters of sex, pregnancy and disability discrimination. The Diocese denies any such discrimination occurred. Rather, the Diocese views the core issue raised in this lawsuit as a challenge to the Diocese's right, as a religious employer, to make religious based decisions consistent with its religious standards on an impartial basis.

The Catholic Church has a deep pastoral concern for husbands and wives struggling with infertility. The Church promotes treatment of infertility through means that respect the right to life, the unity of marriage, and procreation brought about as the fruit of the conjugal act. There are other infertility treatments, such as in vitro fertilization, which are not morally licit according to Catholic teaching. The Church teaches that every individual embryo has the right to life. The process of in vitro fertilization very frequently involves the deliberate destruction of embryos or the freezing of embryos, which the Church holds to be incompatible with the respect owed to human life. Furthermore, the Church teaches that it is morally unacceptable to “disassociate procreation from the integrally personal context of the conjugal act” and insists that procreation not be reduced to mere reproduction.

The Diocese has clear policies requiring that teachers in its schools must, as a condition of employment, have a knowledge of and respect for the Catholic faith, and abide by the tenets of the Catholic Church as those tenets apply to that person. The Diocese requires that its teachers serve as moral exemplars. Those requirements, and others, are expressly incorporated into Diocesan teacher contracts.

The Diocese does not intend to comment on the specific allegations raised in the lawsuit that was filed against it. However, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades believes it important that the Faithful understand that the Diocese does not take its obligations as an employer lightly. At the same time, the Diocese understands its obligation to uphold Church teaching and defends its freedom to do so. Bishop Rhoades asks the Faithful to join with him in prayer for the swift and just resolution of this matter — one that affirms the Diocese's ability to exercise its lawful rights consistent with Church teachings.



Pastoral Statement from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

4/26/2012

Given the recent media attention to the lawsuit filed against the Diocese and one of its diocesan elementary schools, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades would like to issue the following statement in response to concerns raised about the pastoral role of priests. The diocese will not argue this case in the media or in the court of public opinion. This statement is meant to clarify what appears to be a serious misunderstanding regarding the pastoral obligations of priests.

The Church and her priests include in their proclamation of the Gospel Jesus' call to conversion. It is the task of priests, following the example of Christ, to be instruments of Christ's love and mercy. This includes at times correction, since sinful behavior not only offends God, but also harms the individual and the community. While sometimes difficult and delicate, priests are expected always to speak the truth in charity. Priests are required to clearly affirm the truths of our faith, and to speak honestly about what these truths mean for our lives and what we owe to others. It is also clear that priests must convey these truths in a respectful and loving manner consistent with the intrinsic, inestimable worth of every human person.

Let there be no mistake — this obligation to speak truth in charity is affirmed by the Church, the Bishop, the diocese, and Monsignor Kuzmich. Indeed, Monsignor Kuzmich's record of exemplary pastoral ministry as a priest of this diocese for nearly 47 years has been a model of truth in charity. The Bishop asks for continued prayers for Monsignor Kuzmich, the community of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish and School, and also for the plaintiff in this case.

Catholics urged to invite inactive members to practice faith again

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A document on the new evangelization from the U.S. bishops' Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis exhorts Catholics at all levels in the Church to step up to invite Catholics who have stopped practicing their faith to do so once again.

"Bishops, eparchs, pastors, catechists and indeed all Catholics reaching out to our missing brothers and sisters must touch the lives of others, interact with them, and show them how the faith answers the deepest questions and enriches modern culture," said the document, titled "Disciples Called to Witness: The New Evangelization."

"The new evangelization is a call to each person to deepen his or her own faith, have confidence in the Gospel, and possess a willingness to share the Gospel," it said.

The document was issued April 16 in an online-only format. It is available on an interactive website — www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/disciples-called-to-witness.

The document examines what the new evangelization is, its focus, its importance for the Catholic Church and how dioceses and parishes can promote it.

Referring to a study of inactive Catholics prepared by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University, "Disciples Called to

Witness" said: "It is estimated that only 23 percent of U.S. Catholics attend Mass each week. Those 77 percent absent from the Eucharistic feast each week are not strangers: They are our parents, siblings, spouses, children and friends."

"Most Catholics stop attending Mass because they have busy schedules or a lack of time, have family responsibilities, have health problems or disabilities, have conflicts with work, do not believe missing Mass is a sin or believe that they are not very religious people," the document said.

"Some were never formed in the faith after their childhood. Some have drifted away because of one or another issue. Some feel alienated from the Church because of the way they perceive the Church or its teaching. Some have left because they were mistreated by Church representatives," it added.

"Cultural factors, including the lack of Masses and sacraments celebrated in languages other than English, also contribute to people slowly slipping away from the Church."

"Disciples Called to Witness" noted: "There are also Catholics who attend Mass on a regular basis but who feel unconnected to the parish community."

It cited secularism, materialism and individualism in contemporary society as contributing factors for lack of Mass attendance by U.S. Catholics.

"The new evangelization provides the lens through which people experience the Church



Pope Benedict XVI greets the crowd during an event to promote the new evangelization in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Oct. 15, 2011.

and world around them," it added. "The new evangelization invites people to experience God's love and mercy through the sacraments, especially through the Eucharist and penance and Reconciliation."

The 31-page, 11,000-word document said it is likely inactive Catholics will have questions if they are invited to return to the practice of their faith.

"They may wonder and worry about the following: Will the Mass be the same? Will I be judged because I stayed away so

long? Maybe I have sinned so greatly that I cannot come back. What if I cannot remember the words to Mass?"

By the same token, it added, those who must do the inviting are often afraid of asking family members, friends or co-workers to come with them to Mass.

They may "have difficulty saying, 'I saw the same news story, but this is what the Church actually teaches,'" it continued. "We have trouble revealing, 'Yes, sometimes going to Confession is hard, but once I am there, I experience God's peace and mercy. If you haven't been in a while, consider giving it another chance.'"

The first time Blessed John Paul II used the term "new evangelization" as the theological concept of proclaiming the Gospel anew to those already evangelized was in a 1983 address in Haiti to Latin American bishops, the document said, but noted he was renewing a call to all of the Christian faithful to evangelize in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council and Pope Paul VI.

In his 1975 apostolic exhortation on evangelization, "Evangelii Nuntiandi," "Pope Paul VI recognized that the first proclamation of the good news is directed 'ad gentes' (to all). However, he also recognized the need for the evangelization of the baptized who no longer practice their faith," the document said. "He called upon the Church to evangelize these two groups, to invite them to a life of conversion, and to add new meaning to their life through the paschal mystery of Christ," it said.

"Evangelization must remain rooted in the parish. It is in the parish that one becomes engaged with the Church community, learns how to become a disciple of Christ, is nurtured by Scripture, is nourished by the sacraments, and ultimately becomes an evangelizer," the document said.

It also explored such methodologies as discipleship, a commitment to the Christian life, parish life, the liturgical life of the Church, the Christian family, catechists and teachers of the faith, and human experience as ways to draw Catholics back to their faith.

It also suggested the use of such teachable moments as Christmas, Easter, Baptism, first Communion, and other special liturgies when Catholics come in contact with the Church. "These are important opportunities not only for catechesis but also for evangelization," it said.

"The new evangelization does not seek to invite people to experience only one moment of conversion but rather to experience the gradual and lifelong process of conversion: to draw all people into a deeper relationship with God, to participate in the sacramental life of the Church, to develop a mature conscience, to sustain one's faith through ongoing catechesis, and to integrate one's faith into all aspects of one's life," the document said.

"Even though much has already been done to welcome our missing brothers and sisters back to the Lord's table, there is still so much more that can be done."

PRE-ARRANGEMENT SPECIAL

10% OFF

**In-Ground Grave Spaces,
Opening/Closings and Vaults
or \$250 off Single Crypt Spaces
(Above Ground Entombment)**

or \$75 off single niche (cremains) spaces.

Graves now available in the new Garden of Our Lady of Guadalupe-Section Q.

The Catholic Cemetery is a sacred place, long since consecrated according to our Catholic tradition. The Catholic Cemetery has beautiful, tree-lined areas available for burials. Respond now if you would like these lovely areas for your final resting place.

In addition to in-ground lots, the Catholic

Cemetery has many other burial options available including garden crypts, cremation niche columbariums, and mausoleum entombment spaces.

We invite you to consider your burial needs thoughtfully and without pressure before the need arises, relieving others of those difficult decisions.

Call Larry Fisher at 260.426.2044 for an appointment or visit the Cemetery Office at 3500 Lake Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

www.catholic-cemetery.org

CATHOLIC CEMETERY
ASSOCIATION INC., FORT WAYNE

Promotion ends June 1, 2012.



Receive the Holy Spirit
Confirmation Gifts

• Music • Statues • Rosaries
• Medals • Crucifixes

...and much more

Divine Mercy Gifts

320 Dixie Way North 46637 - 1/2 mile north of Notre Dame on S.R. 933

574-277-1400 • www.divinemercurygifts.com

International colloquium offered between Church and Islam

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — An international colloquium on “The Church and Islam” at the University of Notre Dame April 19-20 offered a living example of inter-religious dialogue. The colloquium was co-sponsored by Notre Dame’s Institute for Church Life and Department of Theology.

John Cavadini, theology professor and director of the institute, explained in his opening remarks that the object of the colloquium was not to report on the topic, but rather to provide an example of dialogue that has taken place between the Church and Islam. He emphasized that inter-religious dialogue is “painstaking, careful and caring,” with a goal not of finding a common religion, but rather to find deeply shared visions that had never before been articulated. Cavadini emphasized that the Notre Dame event was not a part of the official Catholic Church and Islam dialogue, but said he hoped it would contribute to the dialogue of larger groups.

The keynote speaker was Jesuit Father Samir Khalil Samir, a professor at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome and at St. Joseph University in Beirut, Lebanon, where he founded the Center of Arab Christian Documentation and Research. Father Samir has been active in Catholic-Islam dialogue, and in 2008 participated in a Catholic-Islam seminar hosted by Pope Benedict XVI.

Father Samir spoke about Pope Benedict’s respect for the Islamic faith tradition. The Jesuit related that he had come to know the pope when he was Professor Ratzinger, and he recounted his fascinating experiences with the present Holy Father.

Father Samir, an Egyptian by birth, related that he wanted to learn German, so he went to the University of Regensburg in 1973 and for two months was able to practice the language by joining the group of students studying for their Ph.D. with Professor Joseph Ratzinger. The students were diverse, Father Samir said, but Professor Ratzinger deftly directed his students to think and use reason and faith to analyze all situations, including ethics and politics.

“I think Professor Ratzinger is still Professor Ratzinger today, even if he changed his name to Benedict XVI,” Father Samir observed.

Even after he became pope, Benedict continued to hold annual three-day discussions with his former students known as “Ratzinger’s Student Circle.” Because the topic for the September, 2005, discussion was on the Church and Islam, Father Samir was invited to participate as an expert.

One year later, Pope Benedict gave his famous speech on faith

and reason at Regensburg, and Father Samir said that people tried to connect his speech to the 2005 discussion with the student circle, with some even suggesting that Father Samir wrote part of the speech.

Father Samir explained that he had nothing to do with the pope’s speech, for “He had his own vision. . . . He writes everything himself simply because he thinks for himself.”

The Jesuit related that Pope Benedict had met a group of Muslims in Cologne when World Youth Day was celebrated there in 2005 and had expressed his gratitude that many Muslims had rejected any connection between their faith and terrorism, for terrorism “undermines civilization.” The pope recognizes, he said, that it is “a vital necessity” on which our future depends for Christians and Muslims to have good relations.

Father Samir said that the pope also recognizes that Christians and Muslims have much in common: Both are believers in only one God, and they share a common vision of a humanity with moral values, and especially social justice. So, both faith traditions have a common mission in the world, but both are confronted with a secular community that gives no place to God.

This is especially true in the West, where people “think in a secular way,” Father Samir continued, though he said the United States is an exception, for “Here (in the United States) religion still belongs in society.”

Secularism as the main challenge was the point of Pope Benedict’s much-misunderstood 2006 speech at Regensburg, Father Samir said. Pope Benedict critiqued Western culture, especially German culture, which the pope said should be changed by inputting spirituality and ethics. And the pope said that Islam also should change something in its system by introducing reason in the faith to exclude violence.

The pope’s point, Father Samir continued, was not an attack on Islam — as some thought — but rather that these transformations would allow cultures to be in dialogue.

“If we accept the position that faith and reason can’t be separated in the West or the East, we could have universal dialogue between all, and this is the conclusion of his speech in Regensburg,” Father Samir said.

Abdolrahim Gavahi, president of the World Religions Research Center in Tehran, Iran, responded to Father Samir’s presentation by saying that he agreed with almost everything Father Samir had said. He added that since Muslims, Jews and Christians have so much in common, there should be no misunderstandings or competition.

“We belong to one large community of believers; we just are different denominations,” he said

In the past, Jews, Muslims and Christians have not always been frank and honest in trying to understand each other, Gavahi said. Noting that violence and dictatorship have to be condemned and that each group had made mistakes, he said we must forget about the past and our differences and try harder to foster understanding.

Five Christian and Muslim scholars participated in the April 20 panel discussion on “Christian Reflections on Holiness in Islam and Muslim Reflections on Holiness in Christianity”:

- Mehdi Azaiez, a PhD candidate and researcher at the University of Provence in France who will be a research fellow at the ICL next academic year

- Gabriel Said Reynolds, an associate professor and director of undergraduate studies in the Notre Dame Theology Department

- Rashied Omer, faculty and fellow of Notre Dame’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace; imam at the Claremont Main Road Mosque in Cape Town, South Africa; and international advisor to the Dutch-based Knowledge Forum on Religion and Development

- Lawrence Sullivan, Notre Dame professor of World Religions and concurrent professor of Anthropology

- Rasoul Rasoulipour, associate professor in the Department of Religion and Philosophy of Tarbiat Moallem, Tehran, Iran, and visiting associate professor in the Notre Dame Theology Department.

STATEMENT READ AT MASSES AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH, FORT WAYNE, FROM MSGR. JOHN KUZMICH

As many of you know, the Diocese and St. Vincent de Paul School have been sued by a former teacher at our school. The Complaint was filed in the local Federal District Court on April 20, 2012. In the Complaint, the former teacher claims to have been discriminated against on the basis of her sex, her attempts to become pregnant, and her claimed infertility. I deny the validity of those claims. I am not at liberty, nor is the principal of the school, to engage in a detailed discussion of the true facts pertinent to this lawsuit since it is a matter of pending litigation.

Pregnancy is a joy celebrated between a husband and a wife, because all life is a gift from God. When a married couple experiences infertility, our heart goes out to them. But the issue here is not just pregnancy or infertility, rather, the issue is the means by which one, husband or wife, attempts to overcome the obstacle of infertility in order to cause pregnancy. We know the Church’s stance against contraception and abortion. We should know, too, that certain fertility procedures, such as “in vitro fertilization,” are gravely immoral. However, there are fertility treatments which the Church endorses — treatments that respect the right to life, the unity of marriage and procreation by natural means.

Every teacher employed at our school is called to serve as a moral exemplar, and this employment is conditioned on abiding by the moral teachings of the Catholic Church as they apply to the teacher. As your pastor, I am obligated to oversee and resolve, with a shepherd’s care, matters pertaining to the spiritual and material welfare of the parish. I pray that those of you who know me, know that I do not take that responsibility lightly, nor do I exercise that authority in an overbearing or accusatory manner. If a teacher engages in a moral wrong that is both grave and scandalous, then I must act.

I pray that I am always compassionate and understanding when ministering to a person who has not abided by the moral teachings of the Church. I take strong exception to what was reported in the Complaint filed in the Federal Court. It is simply not true that I said to her that she was “a grave, immoral sinner.”

May truth and justice prevail in the resolution of this lawsuit. Pray for all husbands and wives, both those blessed with children and those who struggle to experience that joy. And pray, too, that we may all grow in our respect for God’s precious gift of human life.

Rev. Msgr. John M. Kuzmich
Pastor, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Statement read at all Masses by Msgr. Kuzmich
on the weekend of April 28/29, 2012.

All Saints Religious Goods

8808 Coldwater Road

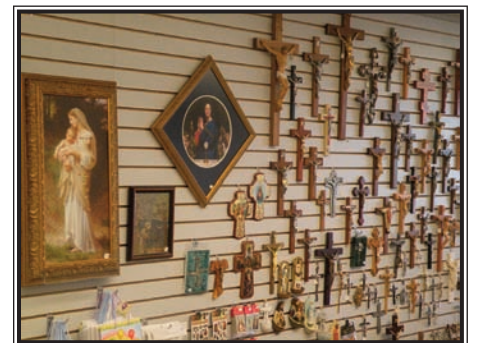
In Coldwater Centre at Wallen Road

260-490-7506



- First Communion Dresses
- First Communion Gifts
- Confirmation Gifts
- Baptismal Gifts and Gowns

- Books • Bibles
- Rosaries
- Statues • Crucifixes
- Medals • Church Supplies



Support your school. Use All Saints SCRIP!

Pope wants U.S. Catholics to lead worldwide Church revival, nuncio says

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI wants the Catholic Church in America to be in the forefront of reviving Catholicism worldwide, the apostolic nuncio to the United States said in Columbus. “The Church in the United States should lead the entire Church in the world” in a revitalization effort, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano said. “This is a great task, but you have the determination and the grace to do it. This I know is the vision of the Holy Father regarding the Church in the United States.” The archbishop was speaking to an audience of seminarians and benefactors of the Pontifical College Josephinum at its annual rector’s dinner April 23. He called on the American Church to go beyond its mission of evangelizing the United States and “to be missionaries not only to the Third World, but especially to the countries of Europe. Christianity (in Europe) in some way has lost its strength and needs an example,” he said, noting “very positive signs of growth” in vocations to the priesthood and the religious life in the United States. Archbishop Vigano said he especially wanted to direct his message to young people, particularly those studying for the priesthood at the Josephinum. The institution has experienced substantial growth in recent years and currently has an enrollment of more than 180 men, its highest in 25 years. They represent 29 dioceses from all over the United States, including six that sent seminarians to the institution for the first time this year, and their ethnic and cultural backgrounds echo the diversity of the American Church as a whole.

In Arizona, waiting on high court’s take on immigration law

PHOENIX (CNS) — When Manuela Escamilla immigrated to the United States 20 years ago, she wasn’t looking for work. She’d been widowed 12 years and had made ends meet for herself and her eight children in Mexico. Instead of employment, Escamilla came to be with her children, who had already immigrated. She moved in with a daughter, staying at home to care for her grandchildren. It was easier to come into the United States then, she said, before a barrage of measures aiming to crack down on illegal immigration in Arizona. Escamilla joined a few dozen others gathered at the state Capitol April 25, praying for the Supreme Court’s decision on S.B. 1070. “I want it to be fixed,” she said of the tough measure that Gov. Jan Brewer signed into law two years ago. “It’s not for me as much as it is for my children.” She knows many families affected by the law — or at least by the perception of it. The most controversial aspects of the law

NUNS RECEIVE COMMUNION FROM NEWLY ORDAINED PRIESTS DURING ORDINATION AT ABBEY IN VIETNAM



CNS PHOTO/ KHAM, REUTERS

Nuns receive communion from newly ordained priests during an ordination ceremony at the Citeaux Chau Son abbey in Vietnam’s Ninh Binh province April 29. Vietnam is home to the second largest Catholic population in Asia, after the Philippines.

have been blocked by a federal court and are under review by the Supreme Court. Those provisions would require law enforcement officers to verify the immigration status of anyone stopped and would make it a crime not to carry proof of immigration status. The police would have also been able to make arrests without warrants if they suspected someone was in the country illegally. Provisions that went into effect make it a state crime to be in Arizona illegally and require law enforcement officers to enforce federal immigration laws to their fullest extent. Escamilla, a parishioner at St. Matthew Church, told the *Catholic Sun*, newspaper of the Phoenix Diocese, that she knows of families who left everything behind after a parent was caught and deported, leaving apartments full of belongings.

Connecticut governor signs death penalty repeal bill backed by Church

HARTFORD, Conn. (CNS) — In what he called “a moment of sober reflection, not celebration,” Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy signed into law a bill outlawing the use of capital punishment in the state. The law, which takes effect immediately, makes

life imprisonment without the possibility of release the highest punishment possible in Connecticut. The death penalty could be carried out, however, in the cases of 11 prisoners currently on death row in the state. Hailing the signing as a “historic occasion,” Archbishop Henry J. Mansell of Hartford said, “The Catholic Church opposes the death penalty and has been fighting for its elimination for many years.” Michael C. Culhane, executive director of the Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference, noted that Connecticut now becomes the 17th state to abolish the death penalty. “The conference is simply delighted to be part of this successful repeal effort which upholds a basic teaching of the Church regarding the sacredness of human life,” he added. The conference, representing the state’s bishops, had backed the legislation, saying, “Repealing the death penalty is in agreement with the pro-life teachings of the Catholic Church and is good public policy.” Acknowledging that capital punishment is “a difficult issue for many Catholics,” especially when brutal crimes are committed, the conference said Pope Benedict XVI and the Catholic bishops nevertheless “call us to be faithful toward our Church’s teaching on respecting the sanctity of all human life. Justice can be served and society can be protect-

ed from violent criminals without the death penalty,” it added. “These goals can easily be met by replacing the death penalty with a lifetime sentence without the possibility of release.”

At Georgetown, Ryan defends budget as fruit of Catholic teaching

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Wisconsin Republican Rep. Paul Ryan defended his party’s 2013 federal budget, which has drawn Catholic criticism, as a way to help all Americans gain a better life, free of government intrusion and overreach, in a speech at Georgetown University. Citing principles of Catholic social teaching that promote the full involvement of people in the decisions that affect their lives, Ryan invited “well-informed public discourse” on the direction of the country as it debates how best to meet current and future needs in health care, Social Security and job creation. “As a Catholic in public life, my own personal thinking on these issues has been guided by my understanding of the Church’s social teaching,” Ryan said in delivering the annual Whittington Lecture sponsored by the Georgetown Public Policy Institute April 26. “Simply put, I don’t believe the

preferential option for the poor means a preferential option for big government.” Ryan, chairman of the House Budget Committee, acknowledged to the Gaston Hall audience that the Church’s social teaching can lead Catholics to arrive at different conclusions on the role of government in society. He said his understanding of Church teaching requires that he work to ensure that the country remains financially solvent and unburdened by debt that would lead to severe austerity measures in the future. The Republican budget, drafted by Ryan and approved by the House of Representatives in a largely party-line vote March 29, delineates a decade-long plan to reduce spending on nonmilitary programs as a step toward significantly reducing the country’s \$15 trillion budget deficit. The budget calls for simplifying the tax code by closing loopholes and lowering individual and corporate tax rates. Under the plan the highest tax rates would be set at 25 percent, down from 35 percent. Ryan maintained that under the plan the country would see increased revenues from those who take advantage of loopholes and tax shelters, ensuring “a level playing field for all.”

Vatican commission says illicit ordinations in China cause scandal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Lay Catholics in China have been scandalized by priests who are ordained bishops without papal approval and by the participation of Vatican-recognized bishops in those ordinations, said the Vatican Commission for the Catholic Church in China. The very identity of the Catholic Church as “apostolic” — guided by the faith handed down from the apostles through bishops in communion with the pope — “has been obfuscated by those clerics” who have been ordained bishops without papal recognition, said the statement released April 26 after a three-day meeting at the Vatican. The commission said that in administering the sacraments and exercising jurisdiction over dioceses, bishops who are not recognized by the pope “usurp a power which the Church has not conferred on them.” Bishops approved by the Vatican and recognized by the Chinese government were ordained April 19 and April 25, but the commission said illegitimately ordained bishops also participated in the ceremonies, “aggravating their canonical status” and disturbing the faithful laity and priests who attended. Even worse, however, was that last year, some Vatican-approved bishops participated in the ordination of bishops who were not approved or recognized by the pope, the commission said. “Many of these bishops have since clarified their position and have requested pardon; the Holy Father has benevolently forgiven them,” the commission said. The bishops who have not explained themselves were urged to do so.

Adopt-A-Tree for cloistered Franciscan Sisters Minor

FORT WAYNE — The Franciscan Sisters Minor will become a cloistered contemplative community at the Friary of St. Andrew on New Haven Avenue on Aug. 9. In preparation for the cloister 180, 6- to 8-foot trees are needed for the outside of the monastery. Donations of \$60 per tree are now being accepted in honor or memory of a loved one or for a family. To donate the \$60 cost of a tree make checks payable to "The Confraternity of Penitents" and mail to: Franciscan Brothers Minor, 2610 New Haven Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46803. Please note on the check memo "For sisters' trees," and include your full name, address and email address along with the person's name the tree is meant to honor.

For more information visit www.FranciscanBrothersMinor.com.

Lindenwood offers quiet day of reflection

DONALDSON — Registrations are now being accepted for a quiet day of reflection titled, "Writing as a Spiritual Practice," on May 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center. Facilitator Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sister Judith Diltz is a writer and college writing instructor. She will serve as a guide as participants explore writing as a healing, prayerful experience. Fee is \$40, which includes noon main meal. Registration deadline is May 7. For information or to register contact Lindenwood at (574) 935-1763, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., email rvanvactor@poorhandmaids.org or visit www.Lindenwood.org.

Praski honored as Fraternal Insurance Counsellor of the Year

ANGOLA — Keith Praski, a field agent for the Knights of Columbus Insurance program from Angola, has received the Fraternal Insurance



KEITH PRASKI

Counsellor of the Year. The award will be presented during the annual meeting of the National Association of Fraternal Insurance Counsellors in May. This honor is given each year to only one of its 1,400 full-time field agents and Praski is the recipient for 2011.

According to John J. Stackowicz, general agent of the Knights of Columbus Insurance program, "Keith had several significant accomplishments in 2011. He finished at 411 percent of assigned production quota. This was the third highest in the com-

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. CHARLES STUDENTS' READ-A-THON PROCEEDS BENEFIT TURNSTONE



PROVIDED BY ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO SCHOOL

Jill Kenny's fourth-grade students' participation in the St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, annual read-a-thon raised over \$4,000 to benefit Turnstone, a not-for-profit organization for people with physical disabilities. After touring the Turnstone facility and learning about disabilities and services from guest speakers, the students participated in a demonstration of adaptive sports using basketball wheelchairs. A question-and-answer session was followed by a presentation of the St. Charles students' donation to Turnstone representatives. Pictured are Kevin Hughes from Turnstone, front, along with, from left back, Hayden Tippmann, Michael Herald, Braden Groves, Doug Wolf, Olivia Carney, Kayley Fox, Jada Tippmann, Anna Morris and Savannah Henry, all of whom raised over \$100 during the read-a-thon.

pany out of 1,400 agents and it also earned him his fourth consecutive year as a member of the prestigious Supreme Knights Club."

"Keith has earned for his second time, membership in Million Dollar Round Table, which is the Premier Association of Financial Professionals," Stackowicz added. "Less than 1 percent of the world's best life insurance and financial services professionals earn this honor."

USF offering pre-college summer academies for high school students

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) at the University of Saint Francis will host pre-college summer academies in music technology and art July 2-20 for high school students in grades 9-12.

The music technology academy will take place in the North Campus music technology facili-

ties at 2702 Spring St., while the art academy will be held in the Mimi and Ian Rolland Center for Art and Visual Communications on Leesburg Road. Classes run from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and will not convene on July 4.

The pre-college summer music tech program provides training in the musical arts and guides students as they create their own digital recordings using the University of Saint Francis music technology studios and Musical Instrument Digital Interface lab. The program is designed for high school students and recent graduates with an interest in audio recording and song writing. Each day includes group classes and individual instruction.

The pre-college summer art academy allows high school students to study the visual arts, work with professional artists, visit museums and develop professional portfolios for college entrance and scholarship applications. The program is highly structured, with students choosing two courses in

morning and afternoon sessions from a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media.

This intense, three-week program includes supplies and lunch. Cost is \$140 per student.

For a registration form or further information, contact SOCA at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.

ACE Summer Camp Programs offer opportunities for grade school students

NOTRE DAME — Students entering grades 2-8 in the South Bend and Elkhart areas will have expanded opportunities this year to extend their learning into the summer months through a partnership of local Catholic schools and the University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE).

The "Catholic Schools Summer Camp Educational Program," co-sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and ACE, will

offer day camp-like learning experiences at five schools — two more than last summer.

Students are being invited to register at St. Jude Elementary School in South Bend and at St. Vincent de Paul School in Elkhart, in addition to last year's lineup of South Bend schools: St. Adalbert, St. Anthony de Padua and Our Lady of Hungary.

Each school will offer two sessions, one spanning three weeks in June and the other spanning three weeks in July. Different grades will have different focus areas, generally covering math or language arts. The sessions are mornings only.

Registration for the sessions is open to students from all schools and backgrounds, with one entire session costing \$80 and both sessions costing \$150. There are discounts for registration by May 7, and financial aid is available. Information about financial assistance comes from the individual school where a student is enrolling.

In addition to these sessions, the partnership is again offering its "Catholic Schools Summer Science Educational Program," which is specifically for students entering sixth, seventh and eighth grades. This program also offers June and July sessions but is based at Christ the King School in South Bend. The morning sessions in June will emphasize ecology and life sciences. The sessions in July will feature forensics and early engineering concepts. Lab periods are built in, with lots of hands-on learning. Student experiences will include building a roller coaster, launching their own rocket and growing their own plants.

Registration costs for the science program are the same as for the broader educational program.

More information and a downloadable registration card for the general camp program are available at <http://ace.nd.edu/summer-camp> or contact Caitlin Cameron of ACE at (574) 631-9332.

The Alliance for Catholic Education forms college graduates to be teachers serving in Catholic schools around the country. These teachers in formation, studying at Notre Dame during the summer as part of the highly selective Service through Teaching program, serve alongside current Catholic school teachers to lead the summer camp experiences, yielding an optimal teacher-student ratio and frequent individual instruction. Over the past three summers, ACE Summer Camp Programs have served more than 1,100 students in the greater South Bend area.

Ancilla College graduation ceremony May 5

DONALDSON — Ancilla Domini College will hold the 2012 commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 5, at 11 a.m. in the Ancilla Domini Chapel.

The commencement speaker will feature Sister Virginia Kampwerth, Ancilla College President from 1985-1994.

A mother's courage, faith and love serve as inspiration

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

— 2 Tm 1:7

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

BREMEN — A faithful Catholic, humble servant, loving mother and wife are just a few of the words that friends and acquaintances use to describe St. Dominic parishioner Janet Lakner. Janet's son Greg Lakner proudly adds the adjective "courageous" when describing his mother and her life's journey.

In 1975, while in for a routine heart exam at Texas Heart Institute in Houston, Texas, Janet was found to have an underdeveloped heart, likely caused from rheumatic fever she suffered as a child. The small heart meant that her aortic valve was underdeveloped as well and was not performing properly.

It was decided that her aortic valve would be replaced with a swine valve, which was a common practice at the time. "She displayed great courage before and after the surgery, recovered fully and was sent home," said Greg.

About a year later in 1976, she experienced complications with the animal valve. "There were many times when I saw her struggle to breathe and thought that the end was near. But never did I see her courage waiver," Greg recalled.

Because her body was rejecting the new valve, she went back to the Texas Heart Institute and cardiologist Dr. Denton Cooley was brought in to examine Janet.

Among Dr. Cooley's achievements was the invention of an artificial heart valve known as the Cooley Cutter. To relieve the pressure built up in her small heart, a rare procedure to extend a conduit from the heart chamber to her stomach was designed. Janet was the third recipient in history to receive the Cooley Cutter.

During this delicate surgery, Janet went into cardiac arrest and had to be revived by defibrillation. She recalled an out of body experience where she could see what was happening in the room and going to heaven.

"(In heaven) there were all these flowers and I was running. I saw gates that were opening and I saw an image. And I said 'I'm coming, I'm coming,' and as I got closer, the gates started to close. And I woke up," Janet noted.

Due to her fragile condition following surgery, it was decided that a second surgery the next day was needed. Janet's husband Frank recalled that her father, who lived near Houston, brought in two women to pray over Janet the night before the second surgery. "They prayed all night long," said Frank.

The doctor who examined Janet the next morning was shocked to find Janet doing well and at first thought she must not be the right patient. Dr. Cooley was called in and confirmed that Janet was fine and did not require a second surgery.

After Janet was released from the hospital, the doctors predicted that with physical therapy she would live about 12 more years. Thirty-six years later, Janet still has the original artificial heart valve implanted by Dr. Cooley.



KAREN CLIFFORD

Father Bob Lengerich, pastor of St. Dominic Parish in Bremen, gives extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist Janet Lakner, left, and Frank Lakner, right, the Body and Blood of Christ during daily Mass.

The mother of three children and loving wife, currently celebrating 55 years of marriage, knew that she had to do the hard work that came from the blessing of the successful surgery. Janet made a commitment to a regular exercise routine and continued her church stewardship as an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and lector during the parish's daily Liturgy of the

Hours.

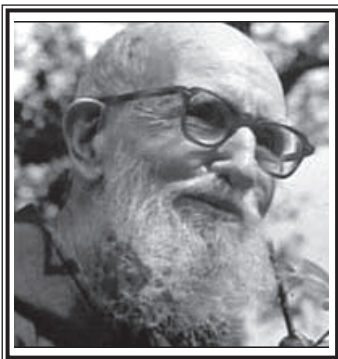
Father Bob Lengerich, pastor of St. Dominic Church, spoke of the importance of Janet's stewardship in the parish. "The greatest gift she shares with all of us is her kindness and compassion. God has given her a real charisma of encouragement and she always has something nice to say to everyone. Even when she's not feeling well herself, she's able to find the strength to make others feel better. Mass just isn't the same when she's not in our church!" said Father Lengerich.

Greg noted that his mother has faced many non-heart related health issues since the last heart

surgery, including kidney problems, diabetes and back surgery, and has met each with courage, making a full recovery.

"The courage she has displayed in each face of death is a testament to her faith in God; faith that is as long and deep as the scar on her chest. It is unknown how many children have been rocked to sleep to the ticking of 'Nana's clock'; the unfailing valve in her chest that pumps the blood of life to a woman that never gives up; a woman who courageously refuses to give up on her mission here on earth. "She is my hero," said Greg.

Input needed for research project on: FATHER SOLANUS CASEY



Venerable Solanus Casey, OFM, Cap

**Have you heard about
Venerable Father Solanus?
Have you read about Father Solanus?**

*If you answered **Yes** to one or both of these questions, please contact me by e-mail:*

a.f.laviano@nrait.edu

or U. S. Mail:

A.F. Laviano, P.O. Box 1816,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

I'm doing research for a book and would value your participation. Thank you!

A Ferverino for the Beatification of Solanus Casey

Mary, our mother, we ask you to intercede for us before your son, as you did at the wedding at Cana, that the beatification of the Venerable Solanus Casey may be brought about.

We pray that through your intercession the Holy Spirit will bring his beatification about at this time so that we may be strengthened in our faith and filled with gratitude to God.

Hail Mary...Glory be...

A closer, Catholic look.



Catholic Radio
AM 1450

Listen worldwide at RedeemerRadio.com

Contact or provide financial support at
info@redeemerradio.com
4618 E. State Blvd., Suite 200
Fort Wayne, IN 46815
260.436.1450

**Kresta
In the
Afternoon**

Weekdays
4-6pm

Faith is center of life for Ruth Beier

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — As the youngest of eight children herself, Ruth Beier knows well what it means to navigate the challenging but joy-filled tides of parenting her own five children. Beier and husband Steve work tirelessly to create a safe and happy Catholic home for their children who range in age from five to 16.

Her Catholic faith has been the hallmark of Beier's formation as wife and mother. What began as "zealous" in her youth as she first joyfully received the sacraments, has deepened into the very center of her life. She revels in passing the faith to her children as they regularly participate in the sacraments at their home parish, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne, as well as serving the Church community together in various ways.

As a parent Beier holds fast to faith in God in everything she does. "My faith is the center of how I parent. It is underneath everything that I am trying to do with my kids," she says. And that translates not only to home and church life but to education as well. Beier explains, "... the reason we are homeschooling is because we want our kids to know and embrace their faith," she says.

With confidence in God as the forefront of her life, Beier admits her enduring faith had been put to the test when a serious health crisis arose involving Anna, her middle child. When her agile 12 year old began to limp from leg pain last summer, Beier knew it was due to more than growing pains or athletic muscle strain from tennis or swim practices. After undergoing myriad medical tests from X-rays to bone scans, the family was sent reeling with the daunting diagnostic news.

"It was at Riley that our fears were confirmed that Anna had osteosarcoma," recalls Beier. Following the diagnosis Anna was scheduled for months of chemotherapy and the Beiers struggled to take in the news.

"This mountain that we were about to climb seemed very scary and steep. I was completely crushed by the weight of it. I have never in all my life seen so much pain in my husband's eyes. It was hard to see," says Beier.

Despite the fear she felt for the future it immediately became apparent to the faith-filled mom that it was time to rally her prayer warriors, both on earth and in heaven. She says, "Immediately after Anna was diagnosed I did a search of 'osteosarcoma saint' and found Blessed Chiara Luce. As I researched her life I discovered that she and Anna have a lot in common. I decided right away that she was our saint."

Prayer cards with Anna's



PROVIDED BY BEIER FAMILY

Ruth Beier, left, poses with her family Anna, Mary, in chair holding Leah, husband Steve, Rachel and David, a week before Anna's chemotherapy began in August of 2011.

picture and a healing petition to Blessed Chiara Luce were printed and passed out for prayer support while Anna underwent several rounds of chemotherapy in Fort Wayne and Indianapolis, in addition to surgery to remove the portion of her femur in which the tumor grew, and replace her knee.

The use of technology was an inspiration for Beier as she began to post Anna's progress and needs on the CaringBridge website and the power of prayer continued to astound the family. "Every single time Anna was having a hard time getting chemo or with some horrible symptom, I would post on CaringBridge and ask people to pray. Within minutes of posting Anna would turn a corner and feel better," declares Beier, adding that the worldwide prayer support was "truly humbling."

Church and community support was never lacking as the family lived their lives around the hope of healing for Anna. The Sacrament of the Sick was administered shortly after the diagnosis and the Franciscan Brothers Minor hosted a prayer service and rosary for Anna. Parishioners, homeschooling friends and area organizations stepped up and organized meals and fundraisers, took care of the family's lawn care needs and transported Anna's brother and sisters to various activities when Beier was unavailable.

As for the family members, Beier reports that each of her children have faced Anna's challenge in his or her own way. "It has been the 'best of times and the worst of times' for our

family," she says adding that "Anna feels that her faith is stronger" now.

Anna has a lot to say about her mom's devoted care. "My mom always went out of her way to get me my cravings, even late at night. Every time I was suffering she would pray over me, put Lourdes water on me and ask people to pray for me. Sometimes I thought she was suffering more than I was," she says.

Recently Anna has completed her final round of chemotherapy and the family is rejoicing at her current health prognosis. This journey of suffering and faith has definitely changed the family dynamic, evidenced by deeper faith and richer relationships.

"I would be lying if I didn't say it was a challenge. ... Cancer took her (Anna) away from us for a while. ... I had to trust God when I couldn't see Him at all. ... I had to surrender everything to

Him," says Beier. But she adds hopefully, "Now that we are at the end, things seem like they are getting back to normal, a new normal."

No one knows what the future holds for the resilient Beier family. But Ruth knows one thing for sure — that God is ever present in suffering, hope and healing. "I truly believe that Anna is healed and five years from now this will all be a bump in the road. We have seen many miracles through her illness — many reconciliations and answered prayers," she concludes, adding her deepest desire for her children, "I want them to know that suffering is redemptive and that their suffering can help others in ways we will never know until we get to heaven. I want them to know that God has a purpose for their life and that Jesus is their very best friend and He will never let them down."



Someone to count on...

From the moment of birth there is that mystical bond between mother and child... a source of strength, comfort, and mercy that never fails... someone to count on.

Can we count on you to help us continue to provide:

- Adoption Services
- Resource & Referral Program
- ECHO (Education Creates Hope & Opportunity)
- Food Pantries
- Immigration Services
- Hispanic Health Advocate
- Pregnancy Services
- Refugee Employment Services
- Refugee Services
- RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
- Senior AIDES Employment
- Villa of the Woods Senior Residential Living
- Hoosier Corp Volunteer Program

Thank you...

for using your Catholic Charities envelope in the collection on Mother's Day!

www.ccfwsb.org

Fort Wayne: 260-422-5625

South Bend: 574-234-3111



PIERCETON PARISH HOSTS ECUMENICAL SEDER DINNER



PROVIDED BY FATHER DALE BAUMAN

An ecumenical seder supper welcomed members of St. Francis Xavier Parish, First Presbyterian Church and the Methodist Church in Pierceton on April 4. About 85 people were in attendance. This was the third annual supper to prepare the people for the Triduum. Traditional foods were served. Traditional prayers and rituals were also carried out. "It is another example of how the churches are working together," said Father Dale Bauman, pastor of St. Francis Xavier. Above, Father Dale reads a prayer. Seated at the table are Curt and Susan Eberhardt and Betsy Hoffman. Below, the Landrigan and Walenga families participate in the dinner.



PROVENA Sacred Heart Home

Our experienced and professional staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of nursing care.

- Daily Mass
- Medicare Certified
- Secured Neighborhoods for Alzheimer Care
- Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapies
- One and Two Bedroom Assisted Living Apartments
- Independent Living Patio Homes

For Information, Call: (260) 897-2841

515 N. Main Street, Avilla, Indiana 46710

Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Visit us at www.provena.org/sacredheart

National competitions await two St. Pius X sisters

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

GRANGER — The geographic location of Washington, D.C., and word "excitement" are in the future for St. Pius X parishioners and sisters Caroline and Margaret Peterson. Caroline will represent the state of Indiana at the National Geographic Bee May 22-24, while Margaret will represent the *South Bend Tribune* region at the Scripps' National Spelling Bee May 29-31.

The girls are the oldest of the five-homeschooled children of Kate and Waylon Peterson. Methods of study for the two bees vary, with the commonality of thorough preparation for both competitions emphasized.

To help Caroline prepare for the geography bee, Kate often asks her to add two facts to her state or world country folders. Margaret was recently asked by her mother to look up names of different noodles in the family's Betty Crocker cookbook because the national spelling bee often asks names of exotic foods in their competition.

One of the fun ways the family incorporates learning is at breakfast after Sunday Mass. While Kate makes pancakes, Waylon gets out books and asks family members questions. As the competitions get closer the questions have been more difficult. Recently Waylon asked Kate if she wanted to answer a question and she responded, "no thanks!"

Both girls have also been able to integrate their Catholic faith in helping them prepare for their competitions. Caroline has read several books by author George Weigel that include Catholic history, doctrine and geographic locations.

In Weigel's biography on Blessed Pope John Paul II, "Witness to Hope," Caroline was able to derive information on Eastern European countries, Polish history and places that Pope John Paul II visited.

"When you have a story like that it can keep the facts going in your head," said Caroline. "For example, I read that when John Paul visited the Philippines it was the largest crowd gathered in human history."

Within the book "Letters to a Young Catholic," Weigel



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

Margaret Peterson is shown with the South Bend Tribune Regional Spelling Bee Trophy. Margaret is a two-time winner of the South Bend Tribune Spelling Bee, winning in 2010 and 2012.

emphasizes the universality of the Catholic faith. "Just as there is a cause and effect in the national news, there is a cause and effect in our spirituality with our sacrifices helping those we don't know," noted Caroline.

Margaret, who was also a 2010 *South Bend Tribune* Regional winner, remembers that Catholic words "monstrance" and "plenary" helped her in the previous competition. "In the last few months I kept running into words that have to do with vestments such as 'zucchetto' (the bishop's skull cap)," she said.

Administrators involved in both the geographic and spelling bees remarked on Caroline and Margaret's accomplishments in their competitions.

"Processing information of all sorts from all types of resources refines the geographically-literate students' abilities to solve problems and plan for the future," said Kathy Lamb Kozenski of the Geography Educator's Network of Indiana, Inc. "If a student has a healthy interest in geography, parents or guardians or educators should encourage and support that interest; because that interest will grow and contribute positively to the community — or maybe even the world," she remarked.

Pam Bishop, Newspapers in Education coordinator for the



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEOGRAPHY EDUCATOR'S NETWORK OF INDIANA INC.

Caroline Peterson answers "Estonia" at the Indiana Geographic Bee, which was held at IUPUI on March 30.

South Bend Regional Spelling Bee recalled Margaret's ability to think about a word before spelling it at the competition. "It's fun watching her when she knows the words. She is very methodical and we weren't surprised that she won."

Msgr. Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Granger, noted that in addition to their academic achievements, the sisters are very involved with stewardship within the parish.

"Both Caroline and Margaret are active members of St. Pius, along with their family. They serve in our music ministries, providing music for major liturgies, as well as participating in a variety of ministries at the First Friday Masses where homeschooled children provide the ministries. I am very proud to count them as important members of our parish community at so many levels," he remarked.

While both Caroline and Margaret eagerly anticipate the competitions at the end of May, they both share a disappointment about the timing of the national bees.

"We are sad that we will miss the ordinations of Deacon Jacob Meyer and Deacon Ben Muhlenkamp to the priesthood," the girls lamented.

First Communion - Confirmation

- YOUTH PRAYER BOOKS • BIBLES
- SPORTS AND PATRON MEDALS
- SAINT BRACELETS AND CHARMS
- REMEMBRANCE FRAMES • GREETING CARDS

AQUINAS Inc.

2306 Mishawaka Avenue, South Bend

287-1091

Advertise in
Today's Catholic

Visit

TodaysCatholicNews.org

Do you have the faith?

I don't know about you, but I have often struggled with such common phrases and questions in our Catholic tradition (small "t") such as, "He has strayed away from the faith" or "She is a woman of faith" or "Do you have the faith?"

What do we really mean when we speak about "the faith?" In my experience rubbing shoulders with many Catholics over the years, it is obvious to me that we would have a variety of answers.

For me, faith is primarily a relationship, a relationship with God through His Son Jesus. Too often we tend to limit faith to believing certain truths or teachings.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "Faith is first of all a personal adherence of man to God. At the same time, and inseparably, it is a free assent to the whole truth that God has revealed" (CCC150).

Believing what the Church teaches is part of what faith is about, but faith is so much more than belief. Faith is not just what

happens in our heads, but it is an ever-growing relationship with the One who loves us and has saved us. It is not enough to believe things about Jesus, we need to believe in Him and get to know Him in the many ways He reveals Himself to us.

In the Hebrew Bible "to know" someone was to have an intimate relationship with that person. For example, when the angel appeared to Mary to say she was going to be the mother of the Savior she asked how that could possibly happen since she did not "know" man. It was obvious that she was thinking about something more than a head-trip!

Sometimes I hear persons say that they received their faith at Baptism. That is true, but Baptism only plants the seeds of faith. They must grow throughout our lives. Just as in marriage, the wedding is only the beginning of a life-long relationship. If it does not grow, it will surely become stagnant. All relationships, including the one we began



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

THE CUTTING EDGE

with Christ in Baptism, must be nurtured and sustained.

In my ministry I have worked with Christians from other denominations who can tell you the exact time, date and place when they were "saved" or accepted Jesus into their lives. Those occurrences are memorable but they are only beginnings. The challenge is to accept and meet the Lord in the many people and events of our daily lives. We cannot earn salvation, but we are called to live the Gospel message with Jesus as our friend and guide.

It would be sad to define

EDGE, PAGE 12

Strengthening and defending marriage is a matter of justice

WASHINGTON (USCCB) — Marriage is clearly a big deal for Catholics.

Even many non-Catholics know that, for instance, the Catholic Church doesn't recognize divorce and that being married in the Church is important to Catholics. Delving into Catholic teaching itself, Scripture is filled with references to marriage, and the Church presents it as a vocation and as one of the sacraments, a visible sign of God's gift of grace.

What might be more surprising is that, for Catholics, marriage is also a key public policy issue, in fact one of six raised by the U.S. bishops when they reissued "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," their call to political responsibility. This means marriage is not only something that matters to the doctrine of the Church and the private lives of the people entering into it. It matters to all society.

The reason it matters is because marriage affects the common good. In fact, the two are inseparably intertwined. As the Second Vatican Council put it, "The well-being of the individual person and of human and Christian society is intimately linked with the healthy condition of that community produced by marriage and the family." In fact, because the union of husband and wife is uniquely capable of welcoming new life into the world, the Church describes marriage as the very "condition" for society's existence.

The family founded on marriage plays a profound educational role in society. Pope John Paul II taught that the family is "the first and irreplaceable school of social life," where each person "learns what it means to love and to be loved, and thus what it actually means to be a person." This "dynamic of love" emanates from the total self-giving union between husband and wife.

Because of marriage's unique contribution to society, all people should be concerned with its well-being. In "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," the bishops write that, in light of the tragic consequences of marriage's breakdown or disappearance, especially for children, "policies on taxes, work, divorce, immigration and welfare should help families stay together." They also advocate for wages that "allow workers to support their families" and for public assistance for struggling families. In addition to urging policies that strengthen marriages and families, the bishops are deeply concerned with "intensifying



CATHOLICS CARE. CATHOLICS VOTE

BETHANY MEOLA

efforts" to redefine marriage, namely proposals to remove sexual difference from marriage. This is not "expanding" marriage, as the bishops see it, but rather redefining it and in effect dismantling it. Sexual difference is not an optional component of marriage but rather an essential element, rooted in the nature of the human person created male and female.

Both the bishops of the United States and Pope Benedict XVI have stated that defending marriage as the union of one man and one woman is, as the pope taught in one "ad limina" talk, "ultimately a question of justice, since it entails safeguarding the good of the entire human community and the rights of parents and children alike." Defending marriage does justice to the child by providing him or her with the best possibility of knowing and being loved by both mother and father together. In contrast, redefining marriage asserts that mothers and fathers are interchangeable and denies a child the right to know both a father and a mother. It also obscures the core of marriage, namely the union of husband and wife founded on sexual difference.

Standing up for marriage can be difficult and often uncomfortable in today's cultural climate, but it's essential for the good of marriage itself and for the common good, especially for the welfare of children. The USCCB offers resources to help Catholics understand and articulate what marriage is and why it matters. Preserving, strengthening and defending marriage are matters of justice that should matter to everyone.

Bethany Meola is program specialist for the USCCB's Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage. Find additional information at www.usccb.org/news/2012/12-072.cfm

We live nourished by the Eucharist



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

5th Sunday of Easter Jn 15:1-8

The Acts of the Apostles again this Easter season is the source of the first reading for Sunday. It highlights Paul. In an earlier passage, not read in this liturgy, the intensely devoted Jew, Paul, after having persecuted Christians, experiences the presence of Jesus miraculously on the way to Damascus.

Paul instantly converts to Christianity. Eventually, the Christian community accepts him, although understandably some Christians were nervous, considering his record of persecuting them. He had created a reputation of being quite hostile to followers of Jesus.

At last accepted, and in this weekend's reading he returns to Jerusalem. With his choleric personality and religious fervor, now surrounding belief in Christ, he openly debated with Greek-speaking Jews.

(Paul himself was well educated. From Tarsus, he was not a product of the Holy Land, although he was an ethnic and religiously observant Jew. He spoke Greek, the language of the empire and of scholarship.)

Paul's intensity made enemies for him. The Christians took him

for his own safety to Caesarea, the Roman capital of Palestine, a place now in ruins on the outskirts of modern Tel Aviv. From Caesarea, a seaport, the Christians sent him home to Tarsus, for his personal security.

An important statement in this reading is in its final verse. It says that throughout the entire area the Church was at peace and making progress. Notice that the term "Church" is used.

For the second reading this Easter weekend, the Church offers a selection from the First Epistle of John. It refers to its readers as "little children." Obviously, adults composed the epistle's audience, or most of the audience. Still, the epistle employs this term of endearment. Those who follow Jesus indeed are God's "little children," little in their vulnerability and need for God.

St. John's Gospel supplies the last reading, part of the long discourse by Jesus given the Apostles at the Last Supper.

This reading has a deeply Eucharistic undertone. At the supper Jesus gave the Twelve the wine that miraculously had become, through the Lord's power, the blood of Christ.

Wine, of course, is the product of grapes. Grapes grow on vines. In this reading, Jesus says, "I am the true vine." All who love the Lord are the branches. God protects the vine, even by cutting away branches because of sin.

Thus, Jesus warns that no vine can bear fruit if it separates itself from the true vine of God.

Drinking the wine, transformed into the Blood of Christ, completes and strengthens this bond between vine and branches.

Reflection

In Acts, First John, and the Gospel, the Church calls us to absolute faith in, and deep love for, God in Jesus, risen to life after dying on the cross.

Part of the Lord's legacy is the Church. The Church does not, or should not, mean an earthly, visible and coincidental entity that we can take or leave. If we truly are with Christ, then we are part of the Church, and vice versa.

The Church is the Mystical Body of Christ, a phrase rich in its references to Paul's own thoughts. It then also is the vine. Members of the Church are its branches.

Vines and branches involve a living relationship. The vine nourishes and holds the branches. Cut away from the vine, the branches die. This Church offers us divine nourishment, the Eucharistic Blood of Christ, and it holds us closely to the Lord.

On this weekend, the Church again invites us to celebrate the victory of Jesus over death. If faithful, if in the Church, the Mystical Body, we are with Jesus.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31 Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30-31-32 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-5, 15-16 Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13ab, 21 Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3, 10 Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-12 Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:2, 3, 5 Jn 15:18-21

A gaze from my mother's eyes

One of my earliest memories is looking into my mother's eyes. I must have been a baby because I don't remember much else other than that — well, that and feeling comfortable, warm, secure. I often wonder, even today, when I meet people who can't or don't make eye contact if it is because they did not have the first, warm mother-child connection when they were babies.

Feeling love and total acceptance through an affectionate gaze has got to be one of life's grandest, sweetest things. And I think it must be harder to connect with people later on if one misses out on that early on.

Because of this early eye contact and knowing how important it must be in the development of a child, I tried to make a point with my own babies to initiate and maintain that loving gaze often.

It really wasn't that hard — I loved staring at my little ones in awe and in wonder anyway, even as I was pondering what on earth God was thinking to bestow such a perfect gift as this child on such an imperfect person and inexperienced mother such as me.

I enjoyed looking at my children, smiling at them and hugging them often. I told them that they were important, smart and good. Some nights I would sneak into their bedrooms long after they were asleep and whisper these things into their ears. "You're such a good boy. Mama loves you." Or "You are a sweet, wonderful little girl." And I'd stroke their heads and hope that in their dreams they heard me.

The children know they are loved. I am sure. Did this make them grow into arrogant, self-centered human beings? Oh no. No, not at all. One can only give what he possesses and the first step to giving is receiving. In fact, I think the children have grown to be more sensitive

because their "cup is full." When one's cup overflows he can more easily and freely give. This giving is not forced or stilted. It becomes natural. The children have confidence, and that is something, I am sure, that comes from those loving glances, those confirming words, that tender link tracing back to a legacy of love first initiated by my own devoted and caring mother.

I can give because I was given. And now, it is my hope and desire that my children can too.

A mother's love is strong, impermeable and constant. When I underwent cancer treatment and my husband had to go to work to provide for us, my mother faithfully took me to chemotherapy every other Monday for six months. It couldn't have been easy for her to watch the nurses poke me repeatedly (rolling veins) and take several vials



Theresa A. Thomas

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

steadfast in promoting truth to him. She does not give him junk food just because he wants it. She makes him clean his room to learn responsibility and order. She does not tolerate mean or disrespectful behavior towards others or immaturity in dealing with serious things.

In short, a holy mother's love is tender but true, steadfast but strong. I want to offer the thought that the Catholic Church has often been likened to a holy mother because of her love, gifts of Truth and other maternal qualities. As Mother's Day approaches, I invite you to ponder this.

Today, I sit in awe of the gift of a glance, the tenderness of a touch, the reality of sacrifice being the key to enabling the next generation to give and to love. I sit, basking in gratitude for my own mother's example, and in awe of other mothers I've been privileged to know over the last 40-plus years, who selflessly encourage, care and correct.

Inspired by them all, every day, I continue to strive to be one of the "holy mothers," one of those who empties out her heart for the good of those around her. When I look back into my mother's eyes I see her, yes, but I also see beyond them to a future of possibilities.

Theresa Thomas is the wife of David and mother of nine children. Watch for her newest book "Big Hearted Families" (Scepter) and read more on her blog: <http://theresathomas.wordpress.com/>

of blood before I was seated and secured with an IV for a four hour drip of four powerful, skin-burning, nausea-inducing drugs, which eliminated my appetite, bloated my body and made me chemically depressed. Instead of caving into her own self and needs, my mother tried to tend to mine, lovingly, patiently and not unlike when I was a baby in need of simple food, care and attention. A mother's love endures.

The devoted love of a mother doesn't mean that she doesn't discipline her children. In fact, love is an important aspect of the child-rearing discipline, whose goal is to help the child become self-disciplined. When a mother must be firm, she can. She must. She may empathize with a child's infantile desires, but she remains

primary relationship and make Jesus a personal part of our daily life? It sounds very elementary, but it boils down to this for me. We have to communicate with God regularly and spend some of our precious quality time in prayer. Like other relationships we need to be with God. We need to read God's Word in the Bible, talk to God in our own words, and listen to God in the quiet of our own hearts. And it means being fed on Christ's body and blood in the Eucharist, which is the center of our faith.

In this hectic, fast-moving

society, it is crucial that we slow down and spend time with the Lord. Otherwise we will remain mediocre Christians without a strong foundation.

Let us accept the challenge to examine our faith, to evaluate our relationship with Jesus and strive to know and love Him more deeply. He is always here waiting for us. Connect with Him today. Don't wait until you "have time."

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department.

I often wonder, even today, when I meet people who can't or don't make eye contact if it is because they did not have the first, warm mother-child connection when they were babies.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for May 6, 2012

John 15:1-8

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Fifth Sunday of Easter, Cycle B: Jesus' parting words to his disciples, words about growth. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THE TRUE VINE	BRANCH	FRUIT
PRUNES	MORE FRUIT	THE WORD
IN ME	CANNOT BEAR	THE VINE
UNLESS	DO NOTHING	THROWN
WITHERS	GATHER	FIRE
ASK	WHATEVER	IT WILL BE
DONE		GLORIFIED

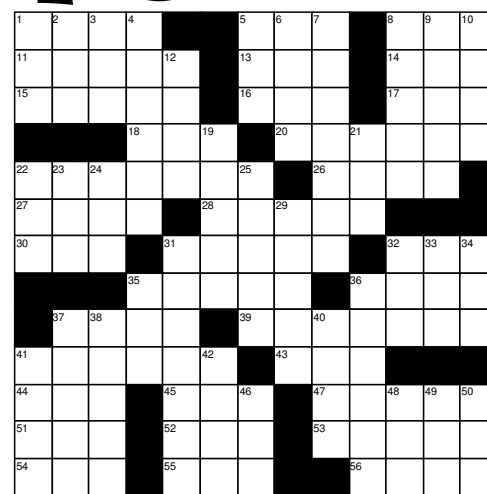
PRUNING

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

© 2012 Tri-C-A Publications www.tri-c-a-publications.com

The Cross Word

May 6 and 13, 2012



© 2012 www.tri-c-a-publications.com

Based on these Scripture Readings: Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15: 1-8 AND Acts 10: 25-28, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15: 9-17

ACROSS

- 1 Lost soul
- 5 Easter emblem
- 8 Lent Wednesday
- 11 Partly frozen rain
- 13 Epoch
- 14 Catholic Workers Assoc.
- 15 Broader
- 16 Young woman
- 17 Cation or anion
- 18 Transport
- 20 Husky (2 wds)
- 22 Type of seasoning
- 26 What toothless speak with
- 27 Follow commandments

DOWN

- 28 Ordinary Time color
- 30 American Cancer Society (abbr.)
- 31 Gravy
- 32 Dit's partner
- 35 Italian herb
- 36 Magi
- 37 Glimpse over
- 39 Implicitly
- 41 Emotional
- 43 Toddler
- 44 Bard's before
- 45 Fleece
- 47 Easter color
- 51 Cc
- 52 Wrath

- 53 Needle worker
- 54 Often poetically
- 55 Put together
- 56 Grizzled

DOWN

- 1 Compass point
- 2 Boxer Muhammad
- 3 Explosive
- 4 Weakly
- 5 Electroencephalograph
- 6 Clutch
- 7 North of Judea
- 8 Hydrochloric and sulfuric, for example
- 9 Hawk pouce
- 10 Crucify: "___ on a tree"
- 12 "The ___ vine"
- 19 Epics
- 21 Vodka partner
- 22 Constrictor snake
- 23 Most basic
- 24 Mary said
- 25 Prunes to bear
- 29 Acclaim
- 31 Outcasts' country
- 32 Dah's partner
- 33 Sign language
- 34 ___! (call attention)
- 35 Piece
- 36 Dry out
- 37 Character part
- 38 Fell at feet
- 40 Milk producers
- 41 Business note
- 42 Paul spoke in the name of the ___
- 46 Sleeping place
- 48 The other half of Jima
- 49 British drink
- 50 European sea eagle

Answer Key can be found on page 15

EDGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

myself as a Catholic Christian primarily because I go to Mass and believe the truths of our faith and NOT have a conscious, loving relationship with Jesus and His people. It would be like having a spouse that I knew a lot of facts about but didn't really know him or her as a person.

So, how do we develop this

Sports

STUDENT-ATHLETE SIGNS WITH UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS Among the seven Bishop Dwenger High School athletes who recently signed to continue their athletic careers at various colleges in the region was Michael Kindler, who will continue at the University of Saint Francis. He will play NAIA basketball at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne under Coach Cummings. Kindler was First Team SAC and 2012 Sectional Champs. He plans to study health sciences and physical therapy.

Track season opens

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the season opener for Catholic Youth League (CYO) track and field at Bishop Luers High School, St. Jude, Fort Wayne, took the boys' side and St. John the Baptist, New Haven, the girls' side. Meets for 2012 will again take place on Thursday evenings simultaneously at two locations. Field events will begin at 5:30 p.m. with racing to start at 5:45 p.m. Half of the CYO teams go to the Bishop Luers track, while the other half will compete at Bishop Dwenger High School.

The girls' competition was fierce between all three schools participating. The Raiders scored 47.50, St. Jude was second with 40 and St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, (SJFW) chalked up 37.50 points.

Elizabeth Lawrence (hurdles and high jump) was a double winner in the meet, while Colleen Cerajewski took both sprint events and anchored the winning short relay from SJFW along with Anna Epple, Carly Grabner and Grace Devlin. Other blue ribbon winners were Olivia Ray in the shot put, Michaela Whitacre in the discus and Elli Kayser in the high jump. Kayser was also a close second in the mile and 400-meter dash. Megan and Abby Brelage were joined by Paige Shepler and Stephanie Newell to win the 4x200 meter relay. Megan also won the 400-meter dash and Abby was the meet's

lone triple winner adding wins in both distance events.

St. Jude (65) edged out St. John, New Haven (60) in the boys' meet, and SJFW was third place. The Eagles were paced by Nick Kacprowicz in the distance races and sprinter Michael Hake. Both young men got a third blue ribbon in the 4x200 meter relay along with Patrick Rorick and Isaac Landstoffer. Hake was the meet's lone quadruple winner, also placing first in the shot put throw. Finally, C. Aric Campbell won the discus.

For New Haven, Billy Ball won the hurdles, long jump and anchored the winning sprint relay along with Joe Kayser, Fabien Myles and Alec Evans. Kayser also won the 400-meter dash.

Since 1999, tenured Coach Greg Lawrence and his Raider teams have dominated the sport of track and field winning a total of 11 CYO city championships between his girls' and boys' squads at St. John, New Haven.

Although he has much smaller numbers than years past, Lawrence is hopeful, "Our athletes are quite good and will score a lot of points."

The defending championship boys' group returns eighth graders Ball, Kayser, Myles, Daniel Tichac and Chet Voglewede.

The girls' eighth graders include Groves, Lawrence, Whitacre and Rachel Lengacher. Both Kayser (gold-1600) and Lawrence (silver- hurdles) were city meet medalists in 2011.

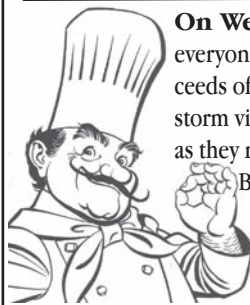
ARTWORK OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE STUDENTS ON DISPLAY



PROVIDED BY LOURDES DE SILVA

Holy Cross College will run its first artist exhibition from April 29 through May 19. Two of the artists, Jasmine Botello, left, and Humberto Delgado, center, Holy Cross College seniors and parishioners of St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend, along with fellow-student Karam Salem, an artist from Iraq, will offer an exhibition at Vincent Hall Gallery at Holy Cross College. Delgado's art demonstrates the life of immigrant young adults in the U.S. to live the American dream. Botello's artistry expresses her innermost creativeness in the life of a young Latina woman.

Eat Spaghetti - Help Henryville!



On Wednesday, May 9, from 5 to 6:30 pm, everyone is welcome at a *Special Spaghetti Dinner*, the proceeds of which will assist Brother Knights and many other storm victims who are rebuilding their homes and their lives as they recover from the tornado damage in southern Indiana. Bring your friends for great food and a great cause to
Fr. Thomas A. Brandon K of C Council 451
601 Reed Road, Fort Wayne 46815
260-493-1914

Holy Cross College partners with 5/3 Bank

NOTRE DAME — Staying true to its Catholic identity and mission to serve those in need, Holy Cross College, in partnership with 5/3 Bank, announced the 2012 recipients of the Charles E. Schell Foundation Loan Program award.

Katrina Allen, Katelyn Czech, Rodrique Owona, Nicholas Reynolds, Brandon Schaar, Joshua Schuller, Lindsey Swaim and Taylor Williams each received a \$2,000 scholarship based on need, academic standing and citizenship. This is the fourth installment of the award, which is a \$100,000 amount over four years. About 90 percent of students at Holy Cross College receive some kind of financial aid.

5/3 Bank representative Craig Pratt says Holy Cross College is a good fit for both the bank and the Schell Foundation.

"We have a focus on education," explains Pratt. "We believe we have to give back to the community. One of our primary means is through education and helping college students with scholarships."

Accounts Payable

Bishop Dwenger High School has an open position in its business office. The primary responsibility of this position is accounts payable processing through a computerized accounting system. Miscellaneous duties include other clerical functions.

Applicants must have previous related work experience; and/or college level credit for accounting courses; and working knowledge of both Word and Excel. All Dwenger staff members are required to have a strong work ethic and collaborative approach to work. Since we are a Faith-based school, the Catholic Faith is preferable, but not necessary. This is a full-time, year-round position, paid on an hourly basis with benefits available. Deadline for applications: May 8, 2012.

Qualified applicants should send a resume and salary requirements to: Bishop Dwenger High School
1300 East Washington Center Road,
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
attention: Business Manager



www.bishopdwenger.com • (260) 496-4700

IN SEARCH OF A PRINCIPAL

St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend



- Is proud of its prayerful, caring family atmosphere created by the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration and a dedicated faculty and staff.
- Student body of 400, Pre-K to 8
- Core curriculum enhanced with music, computer lab, athletics and academic clubs
- Caters to all-around development of each student with development of social skills and Catholic values.

Qualified applicants meet the following criteria:

- Practicing Roman Catholic
- State voucher and grant writing experience helpful but not required
- At least 5 years experience in Catholic schools as teacher or administrator
- Holds or is pursuing an Indiana Administrative License

For more information, contact Rhonda Scher
at Catholic Schools Office at 260-422-4611

APPLICATIONS ON THE WEB AT:

www.diocesefwsb.org/cso

Applications will be reviewed upon completion.

Medjugorje

2012 National Conference

University of Notre Dame

May 11, 12 and 13



Speakers include



Father Jozo Grbes, OFM was born in Bosnia-Herzegovina and was a young man when the Medjugorje visions started in 1981. Father Jozo has studied Our Lady's messages over the past thirty years and encourages all to respond to her urgent call to conversion and peace. He will give an update on Medjugorje at the conference and testimony to the tremendous good fruit that has come through Our Lady's apparitions.



Father Paul Nomellini served the Church as a religious brother for twenty years before his ordination to the priesthood in 1977. He went as a skeptic to Medjugorje in 1990. His experience there made him a believer and he has since led four pilgrimages to Medjugorje. Since his retirement as a pastor, he is busier than ever giving retreats and missions around the country. Father Nomellini's Medjugorje testimony is very inspiring.



Doctor Theodore Homa is a medical doctor from Chicago who was an atheist before his trip to Medjugorje. In 2008 he had a brush with eternity after lapsing into a coma while awaiting a heart transplant. His testimony about his near-death experience is powerful and inspiring. Doctor Homa says, "If this had happened before Medjugorje, I'd be in hell now."



Cathy Nolan is co-founder (with her husband Denis) of Mary TV, a lay apostolate dedicated to using modern communication technology to promote the call of Our Lady from Medjugorje. Cathy is co-host of the daily online rosary and writes a daily reflection on Our Lady's messages from Medjugorje. She is the mother of eight children and has the unique gift of both a scholar's intellect and a mother's heart.

Mark Forrest has filled concert halls and cathedrals worldwide with his beautiful tenor voice. His music inspires people everywhere to appreciate the importance of their faith and family. He has a number of top-selling albums of traditional Irish songs and classical hymns. Mark and his wife Muriel have eight children and are founders of the Faith and Family Foundation, established to support and encourage families with special needs.



Christine Watkins was a professional ballet dancer with the San Francisco Ballet and an avowed atheist before her miraculous conversion to Catholicism. Moving away from her previous life, she is now a well-known and very articulate speaker for the Catholic faith and the call of Our Lady. Christine is the author of a new book entitled *Full of Grace: Miraculous Stories of Healing and Conversion through Mary's Intercession*.



Father Ken Grabner, CSC is widely known for his wise and inspiring talks and homilies. His career as a monk, priest, scholar, and teacher spans over fifty years. Father Ken is the author of a number of prayer and meditation books including *Focus Your Day—Reflections on the Christian Experience* and *Gazing Into God's Open Heart—101 Pathways to Joy*.



Doctor Joseph Bagiackas has a Ph.D. in systematic theology from Catholic University of America. He is an expert on the theology of the laity and has written *Lay Person's Guides* to blessed John Paul's and Pope Benedict XVI's teachings. He will speak on the subject of loyalty to the Church and the importance of knowing our faith well and being ready to defend it.



Conference Schedule

Friday, May 11

5:00 pm...Doors open
7:00 pm...Conference begins
Guest speaker
Candlelight rosary procession to the Lourdes Grotto

Saturday, May 12

7:15 am...Doors open
8:00 am...Morning session
Holy Mass
Procession and Consecration
Guest speakers (all sessions)
1:30 pm...Afternoon session
7:00 pm...Evening session
Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

Sunday, May 13

7:15 am...Doors open
8:30 am...Morning session
Guest speakers
1:00 pm...Holy Mass
2:30 pm...Conference ends

Sponsored by: *Queen of Peace Ministries, Box 761, Notre Dame, IN 46556*

Phone: (574) 288-8777

web site: www.QueenofPeaceMinistries.com

e-mail: maryconference@sbcglobal.net

Teaching Godly children

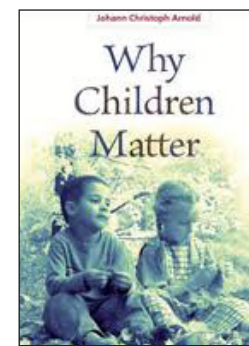
BY KAY COZAD

"Why Children Matter," by Johann Christoph Arnold, The Plough Publishing House, ISBN: 978-0-87486-884-5.

Noted speaker and writer Johann Christoph Arnold brings a simple and concise voice to his latest book, "Why Children Matter." With a foreword written by New York Archbishop (now-Cardinal) Timothy Dolan, this book overflows with a common sense perspective on marriage and a Scripturally-based approach to childrearing that adopts the values of by-gone days.

Each short chapter, from "Founding a Family," and "Birth" to "Discipline" and "Consideration for Others," is easy reading and delivers a no-nonsense approach to teaching important Christian values within a solid family structure. The meaningful Scripture that introduces each chapter topic drives home the faith that undergirds the author's teaching on raising honest, compassionate children.

This helpful, straight-forward book offers a plethora of realistic steps for parents who wish to raise their children according to Godly values even in the turmoil of the secular culture. Advice on the day-to-day interactions that mean so much to a child's development such as "a good-night



kiss, a reassuring word, and a short prayer before they go to sleep," is plentiful. The author minces

no words when he offers encouragement to parents to stick with right teachings even with difficult situations and age groups. He advises teaching children the values and virtues that create a courageous and compassionate heart earlier rather than later. And he doesn't hesitate to remind parents that their way of life is an example to their children on how to live rightly.

Arnold references his own parents and grandparents' wisdom and influence on his childhood development as well as his own experience as father and observer. "My mother always said education starts in the cradle," he writes about the first years of a child's life.

"Why Children Matter," by Johann Christoph Arnold is an encouraging proclamation that we can still raise children of virtue. Parents, grandparents, those preparing to found a family and those working in pastoral care may find the wisdom in this book solid and very helpful.

The Destination is Yours!



- 29-55 passenger coaches
- Non-smoking coaches
- Licensed to play DVDs and CDs

- WiFi Available
 - Handicapped Accessible
- We welcome the opportunity to assist you with your next Excursion
(260) 485-6167

www.excursionstrailways.com

INSPIRE
INSURANCE SOLUTIONS®
Life | Health | Retirement | Long-Term Care

Ray A. Plagens, Jr.
Licensed Insurance Agent

Parishioner:
Queen of Peace
Mishawaka



Ray A. Plagens, Jr.

Phone:
866-494-7299

Cell:
574-210-7474

Ray.Plagens@insphereIS.com
www.InsphereIS.com/Ray.Plagens
ISS/000768

A reliable source
for all
your service needs
in the Diocese of
Fort Wayne-
South Bend

Peerless
CLEANERS

SINCE 1915

12 Locations
to Serve You.



515 West Main Street • Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: 260.422.9374 • Toll Free: 800.514.9689
www.peerless-cleaners.com

When You Expect EGT Sellence



Michael T. Egts

Parishioner - St. John the Baptist
OFFICE: 7806 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne 46804
Office Phone: (260) 436-6363
24 Hours Voice Mail: (260) 479-1326
800-878-3388
E-mail: mikeegts@gmail.com

REALTOR®

RE/MAX
RESULTS



- ★ Life
- ★ Auto
- ★ Home
- ★ Business

260 424-5600
www.dehayes.com

THE
DEHAYES
GROUP

Full Service Insurance Agency
5150 West Jefferson Blvd.,
Fort Wayne 46804

- Kevin Pikel • Nick Groves
- Jeff Pikel • Kevin Burns

Robert J. Ueber, DDS



- Family Dentistry
- Orthodontics
- TMJ Treatment
- Cosmetic Dentistry

260-434-1133 - 7215 Engle Road - Fort Wayne 46804

www.ufdentistry.com

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.

'Aladdin Jr.' to be presented

Fort Wayne — St. Therese Little Flower Theatre will present "Aladdin Jr." Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19, at 7 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis North Campus Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$9 for adults. Call (260) 747-2343 for information. Tickets will be available at the door.

Rummage and bake sale planned

Fort Wayne — The Rosary Society of Most Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St., will have a rummage and bake sale in Mohr Hall, Thursday, May 3, and Friday, May 4, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, May 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Societies need funds

Fort Wayne — St. Henry and Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Societies will have a fundraiser dinner on Saturday, May 12, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 601 Reed Rd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with dinner served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. The guest speaker will be Father Tom Shoemaker. Door prizes and raffle tickets will be offered. Call Lou Ann Weber at (260) 447-6791 for reservations or information.

Rosary Society of Most Precious Blood offers prayer

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Church will "Pray the Family Rosary," Tuesday, May 15, at 7 p.m. in the church. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will start at 5 p.m. with the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy followed by reflection time. At 7 p.m. the family rosary will be offered.

Spaghetti dinner planned

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, May 10, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$2.50 for children 5-12. All proceeds benefit diocesan seminarians.

Women's fertility workshop offered

Fort Wayne — An introductory session NaPro TECHNOLOGY System about women's cycles and standardizing monthly record keeping is being presented Saturday, May 5, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Single women, engaged and married couples should con-

tact Theresa Schortgen CFCP at (260) 494-6444 or visit <http://sites.google.com/site/creighton-health>. Reservations are required.

Irish Tenor to sing at St. Dominic

Bremen — On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13, international Irish Tenor Mark Forrest will return to St. Dominic for a special night of prayer dedicated to the Virgin Mary and all of our own "blessed" mothers. Holy Hour will begin at 7 p.m. A free-will collection will benefit Forrest's work with the families of children with physical challenges, and CDs will be available.

John XXIII Retreat Center offers retreat

Hartford City — "Creating Hope" is a retreat that helps people cope in all the different stages of cancer — just diagnosed, preparing for surgery, in treatment and finally survivorship, through self-expression, creativity and art. Attendees will receive a HOPE Kit valued at \$55. Presenters are John and Tina Gianfagna. The retreat will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 5. Cost of \$35 includes retreat, materials and lunch.

Rummage sale

Ligonier — St. Patrick Parish will have a rummage sale May 17-19, at 301 Ravine Park Dr. The times are Thursday from 2-8 p.m.,

Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 4, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$8 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

Knights plan fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 4, from 5-7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under.

Catholic Business Network meeting

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, May 4, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel. Mass will be followed in the Cathedral Center by guest speaker Dr. Matthew Bunson, of Redeemer Radio. Refreshments will be provided by Leisure Lawns of Fort Wayne.

Bishop Luers hosts 'Run with the Knights' 5K run/walk

Fort Wayne — A 5K run/walk will be held at Foster Park, 3900 Old Mill Rd., Saturday, May 12. Registration at 8 a.m., race begins

REST IN PEACE

Angola
Cyril J. Sauter, 84,
St. Anthony of Padua

Bluffton
James L. Cole, 69,
St. Joseph

Elkhart
Ralph E. Hartnagel Jr.,
76, St. Vincent de Paul

Beverly Jean Spirito,
77, St. Thomas the
Apostle

Fort Wayne
Thomas D.
McLaughlin III, 69,
St. Charles Borromeo

Janice E. Dabbelt, 69,
St. Charles Borromeo

Stella O. Burns, 97, St.
Elizabeth Ann Seton

Granger
Richard Rucano, 83,
St. Pius X

Beth J. Kaehr, 60,
St. Pius X

Huntington
Sister Marjorie Curran,
OLVM, 93, Victory Noll

Harold W. Landrigan,
82, St. Mary

Mishawaka
Walter G. Faltynski, 71,
St. Joseph

Delores M. Heston, 78,
St. Bavo

New Haven
Edwin N. Gerardot, 82,
St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame
Father Chester
Stephen Prusynski,
CSC, 91, Basilica of the
Sacred Heart

Timothy J.
O'Shaughnessy, 68,
Basilica of the Sacred
Heart

South Bend
Josephine Klimek, 84,
Little Flower

Elaine Kujawa, 81,
Holy Family

Timothy E. Howard, 83,
St. Anthony de Padua

James Paul Millea, 81,
St. Joseph

Frederick N.
Wisniewski, 87, Christ
the King

Marie R. Wiseman, 90,
Our Lady of Hungary

Yoder
Michael Edward Smith,
70, St. Aloysius

at 9 a.m. at Pavilion No. 1. Pre-registration fee is \$15 per person, and \$20 per person after May 7. Registration forms are available at www.bishopluers.org. For information, call Sarah Shank at (260) 456-1261 ext. 3039.

Football In Training registration

Fort Wayne — Football in Training is a tackle football league designed for boys that attend Catholic schools. Registration for the upcoming 2012 season is now through May 31. Signup online at www.footballintraining.com. Contact Paul Pesa (260) 415-0515 for information.

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@sbglobal.net; or Pat Hillebrand at (574) 254-0626, or email at derfandtap@datacruz.com.

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.

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.thesilenceofmary.org or call (260) 267-8371 for information.

TV MASS SCHEDULE FOR MAY

2012	Feast Day	Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WFFT-TV, Ch. 55	South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TV, Ch. 16
May 6	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Father Derrick Sneyd Immaculate Conception Auburn	Father Brian Daley, SJ Notre Dame
May 13	Sixth Sunday of Easter	TBA	Father Leonard Chrobot St. Hedwig South Bend
May 20	The Ascension of the Lord	Father Cyril Fernandes St. John the Baptist Fort Wayne	Father Leroy Clementich, CSC Notre Dame
May 27	Pentecost Sunday	Father Joseph Gaughan Most Precious Blood Fort Wayne	Father Kevin Bauman Our Lady of Hungary South Bend

Visit www.diocesefwsb.org for a complete calendar.

The CrossWord

April 22 and 29, 2012



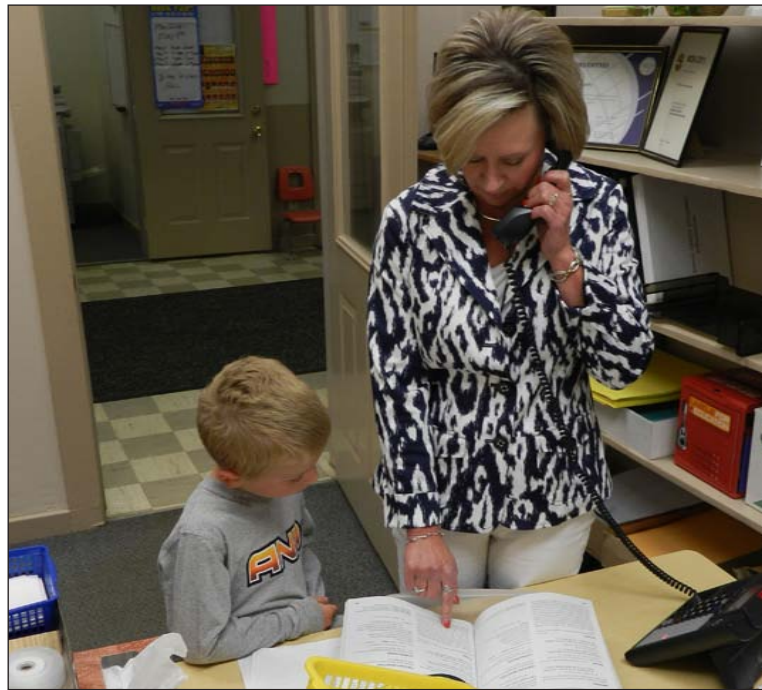
SPECIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

realize the uniqueness of a Christ-centered education in a Catholic school. I know the impact the school will have on each special student, but I also know the impact each special student will have on our school and community."

The 20 new students will be accepted through an admissions process in which parents will fill out an application found online at www.diocesefwsb.org. After applying for the school voucher and being accepted, the qualifying family would then have the opportunity to choose St. Louis Academy to serve their child's academic and catechetical needs. There will be no financial liability to the parish.

Upon admission each student will be carefully assessed to determine needs and a plan will be implemented that will include both academic and catechetical education. The students will be admitted holistically, reports Myers, with the highest probability of meeting the needs of the entire class. As the program grows schools will naturally gain expertise in particular disabilities and will soon host specific populations, such



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Principal Cheryl Klinker of St. Louis Academy-Besancon in New Haven helps a student.

as autism or Down syndrome.

Though Dr. Myers reports the diocese is starting slowly with this small number, the program is by no means questionable. "We're not experimenting. We're working with best practices to ensure children have every opportunity for development and catechesis," says Myers, noting that observational visits will be made

to Chicago and the Archdiocese of St. Louis where similar programs to model have been successfully in place for some time.

Mary Glowaski, Secretariat for Evangelization and Special Ministries, under which disabilities falls, says, "Serving the disabled in the diocese isn't an option. It's a challenge and a privilege." She has

confidence in the new program and adds, "I believe God is blessing this endeavor. As a diocese we need the gifts, talents and faithfulness of the disabled."

According to the National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities the Church must provide full and meaningful participation for all. And, that, Glowaski says, must be in everything done within the Church. Of the initiative she adds, "It's a huge shift in awareness and opportunity."

The opportunities for these special children include inclusion into regular education classrooms with staffing based on needs, as well as a pull-out program for curriculum supplementation. "We will adjust curriculum so students can function at instructional levels. And we will provide ample support with teacher's aids," says Myers, adding, that the inclusion model is a Church teaching and the law.

The students will travel to St. Louis Academy each morning from Bishop Dwenger High School, the central drop-off, pick-up point for Fort Wayne, via an aid-supervised bus. Bishop Dwenger students will assist the aid with supervision upon return to the high school in the afternoon.

Teachers will receive training through the Teaching Exceptional Children program at the University of Notre Dame, which requires 18

hours of study and earns licensure to teach special needs students. Consultation on best practices with Notre Dame's Joyce Johnstone will round out the development of the fledgling program. The hope is that these qualified teachers will become useful resources for regular education staff.

Myers, along with diocesan and school officials, is optimistic about this extraordinary opportunity and says, "I expect the program to grow both vertically and horizontally with more schools and growth in numbers over the years." He concludes "My confidence in this comes from knowing the children we admit and with whom we'll be working are going to bring something so special to us that they're going to make it grow."

Dr. Myers is grateful to St. Louis Academy staff and school board, Principal Klinker and Father Stephen Colchin, pastor, for committing to the implementation of this exceptional program and is currently seeking schools in the South Bend area that have a passion for educating all children in the Catholic faith and will accept the challenge to host this unique and much needed program.

For more information about this initiative for children with disabilities contact Cheryl Klinker at (260) 749-5815.

St. Margaret's House serves day needs of area women and children

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

SOUTH BEND — With its entrance hidden from view off Lafayette Street in downtown South Bend, St. Margaret's House (SMH) is a building that can easily go unnoticed. But while it is not physically striking, what happens inside its walls could be considered so beautiful, even miraculous, for those who take part in its programs as well as for those who work and volunteer there.

SMH has been a part of the South Bend landscape for almost 22 years, serving women and children, no matter their denomination, by not only feeding them with a hot lunch but helping them to transform and remake their lives. They can learn how to better care for their children through parenting classes, how to destress lives or learn a new skill making beautiful one-of-a-kind silk scarves as part of the Silk Creations program. And in many instances, many learn how to communicate and trust others and to leave abusive situations. For those in need of counseling, individualized counseling is offered as well as case management.

Besides a daily lunch, other immediate daily needs are also met through SMH's clean and modern shower and laundry facilities where the women can shower or wash their clothes. Women in need of clothing can visit their stocked clothes closet room. A computer area is set up for anyone who needs to use a computer. A child's play area rivals any from a day care. On one of the three floors, there is an art studio where women complete art projects, which includes

a separate area for their silk scarf program. These scarves, each which hold a unique story of the woman who created it, are sold at several events locally and help each artist financially.

While it is not a Catholic facility, there are Catholics who work for and regularly volunteer at the award-winning facility, which recently received the Leighton Award for Non-Profit Excellence.

Sisters of Holy Cross novices, Sister Semerita Mbambu and Sister Royne Costa have been regular volunteers since last June helping lead a Gospel study and whatever is the need of the day. Sister Betty Smoyer, who is a sister of Notre Dame de Namur is the guest services assistant and also works with the novices while they are there. Executive Director Kathryn Schneider has many responsibilities as director but notes she is always "in awe of how people step forward to help out whenever there is a need, always hoping to do more."

"We have over 160 volunteers here who make this place work. There are only 10 people on staff. They do such things as work the front desk, help in the kitchen, help in the clothes closet and the Silk Creations (scarves program) and more. We could not open these doors without our volunteers," noted Assistant Director Patricia Marvel, parishioner at St. Augustine Church. She added that everyone is welcome to volunteer, including men.

Volunteering at SMH sometimes includes allowing the women to share their stories.

"I've been so enriched by those



PROVIDED BY ST. MARGARET'S HOUSE

Valerie Conner Ryan looks over scarves, some of which she silk screened with Tamara McGill of St. Margaret's House.

who have shared with me and are able to trust me," said Sister Semerita with Sister Royne adding, "they (women) always teach us. I feel very encouraged and humble."

"We just respond to the needs of the times and we see what needs to be done. I like doing this especially because we share our faith with the women and they have the desire to

know more about God and Jesus Christ," said Sister Semerita. She and Sister Royne lead a spiritual reflection group once a week and recently helped lead a retreat for the women of St. Margaret's House at Saint Mary's College titled, "Find God In Yourself and In the Community."

Sister Royne realizes that for each woman it is much more than just stepping through the door at St. Margaret's for a noontime meal. Sister Betty says, "The biggest thing is that we help to break the boundaries of isolation. Poverty can be a very isolating thing. ...

They have to learn to trust one another and us," she says.

"If they (community) continue to help them, these women will get something here, not just immediate needs but help with interaction ... learning to trust each other. That is very important," said Sister Royne.

For information visit www.stmargarethouse.org

History of St. Margaret's House

In the late 1980s, Deacon Sarah Tracy recognized that many women and children had no place to go during the day. They spent their time at the library or local downtown fast food restaurants. Some were homeless, while others lived in substandard housing. As a joint ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana and the Cathedral Church of St. James, Sarah and her team transformed a building that was once a printing plant into a day center for women and children struggling with poverty. St. Margaret's House opened its doors in June of 1990 as a place where women and their children could come out of the weather to eat, shower, wash their clothes, rest and socialize.