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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Bishops urge Congress to fix health law flaws after high court decision

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Supreme Court's June 28 decision upholding the health reform law makes it even more urgent for Congress to act to fix the law's "fundamental flaws" on abortion funding, conscience protection and immigrants' access to health care, the U.S. bishops said.

The court found that although the individual mandate in the 2010 health reform law does not pass constitutional muster under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution, it can be upheld as an acceptable exercise of Congress' taxing powers.

In a 65-page opinion announced by Chief Justice John Roberts, five members of the court upheld the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in full but limited the federal government's right to withhold its share of Medicaid funding from states that do not expand the health program for the low-income and disabled as mandated by the law.

"The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has not joined in efforts to repeal the law in its entirety, and we do not do so today," said a USCCB news release issued shortly after the decision. "The decision of the Supreme Court neither diminishes the moral imperative to ensure decent health care for all, nor eliminates the need to correct (the law's) fundamental flaws."

Sister Carol Keehan, president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association, said she was pleased that the health care law "has been found constitutional and will remain in effect." The Daughter of Charity noted that CHA had submitted friend-of-the-

FLAWS, PAGE 5



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

People for and against the administration's health care reform law demonstrate in front of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington June 28. The nation's high court upheld the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act as constitutional but placed some limits on the federal government's ability to terminate states' Medicaid funding.

## Catholics applaud Fortnight for Freedom event

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — Catholics from Fort Wayne and the surrounding area gathered at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, June 30, for a special Mass acknowledging the Fortnight for Freedom observance. The two-week period of prayer, penance, education and action to secure religious liberty ended on Independence Day, July 4.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the 5 p.m. Mass and spoke in his homily about miracles being the signs of Jesus' divine power and love, especially for the marginalized populations that includes the sick and suffering, the blind, the deaf, the lame, the possessed and the oppressed. The faithful can imitate the love of the heart of Jesus through living out faith. That is why the Church established thousands of charities, hospitals and health care facilities, colleges and universities, and other institu-

tions — not only to care for them in the United States, but also to emulate the importance of serving others to the young people.

Fortnight for Freedom is a time in which to profess the right to live out faith without unjust intrusion by the government. The Department of Health and Human Services mandates employers, including Catholic institutions, to provide contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs in their health plans. Equally offensive is the government's narrow definition as to what constitutes a religious institution.

Applause broke out as Bishop Rhoades ended his homily with "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Sean McBride, director of communications for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, believes: "Fortnight for Freedom is a tremendous initiative put forth by the U.S.

FREEDOM, PAGE 16



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates Mass commemorating Fortnight for Freedom on June 30.



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# Vacation and Sundays



## IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

**I**n this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about Jesus sending the apostles out on mission. When they returned from this active work, Our Lord said to them: *Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.*

I was thinking of these words last week when I went on vacation with my sister and her family. It was a wonderful time to rest and to spend time with my sister, brother-in-law and their children. I also enjoyed more time for prayer, reading, and exercise.

Summer vacation can be a wonderful opportunity for us to be refreshed in body, mind, and spirit. It is easy to become consumed by work and the toils of daily life. A relaxing vacation can be a great benefit. Pope Benedict has spoken of vacation time with family and loved ones as a providential gift of God.

The Holy Father recommends that on vacation we spend time with others and with God. He characterizes vacation as a time for rest and contact with God, people, nature, and culture. It is not a time away from Christ so it is vitally important that attendance at Sunday Mass be included in vacation planning. The rest and relaxation of vacation time should include spiritual repose, the refreshment of our souls as well as our bodies. The Holy Father even recommends taking a Bible along on vacation for spiritual reading and prayer.

The Pope encourages us to revivify our spirits while on vacation and suggests visiting sacred places (shrines, monasteries, churches) as well as contemplating the splendor of God's creation in nature. Since today's lifestyles *leave little room for silence, reflection and being in touch with nature*, he says, it has become *necessary to be able to refortify one's body and spirit with a relaxing vacation.*

I find the Holy Father's advice very helpful. I always feel more energized and refreshed when I return from vacation if it has included the spiritual elements he recommends as well as the physical, social, and cultural elements. When vacations are stressful or lack the spiritual element, we will not be truly refreshed when we return home.

The Lord indeed invites us, as he invited the apostles, to experience rest from our labors. This is possible not only in extended times of vacations. It is also the meaning and purpose of Sunday. Sunday should not be seen merely as part of the weekend, but as a holy day, the day of the Lord. It is a day at the very heart of the Christian life, the day of Our Lord's Resurrection. Sunday needs to be rediscovered in our culture and in our lives as Christians as truly the day of the Lord. Blessed John Paul II called Sunday *an indispensable element of our Christian identity.*

At the very heart of Sunday and keeping it holy is the celebration of the Eucharist. On this day, above all others, we gather

## SEMINARIAN EXPRESSES INTENTION



JOE ROMIE

Seminarian Daniel Davis stands before Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders at a Mass celebrated June 25 at St. Aloysius Church in Yoder. Davis, who will be studying in Rome this fall, publicly expressed his intention to complete his preparation for Holy Orders and his resolve to fully invest himself to that end.

together to commemorate Our Lord's resurrection. The Catechism teaches that *the Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life.*

We keep Sunday holy by attending Sunday Mass and fulfilling that important obligation. Blessed John Paul II, in his apostolic letter *Dies Domini (The Day of the Lord)*, wrote the following:

*Sharing in the Eucharist is the heart of Sunday, but the duty to keep Sunday holy cannot be reduced to this. In fact, the Lord's Day is lived well if it is marked from beginning to end by grateful and active remembrance of God's saving work. This commits each of Christ's disciples to shape the other moments of the day — those outside the liturgical context: family life, social relationships, moments of relaxation — in such a way that the peace and joy of the Risen Lord will emerge in the ordinary events of life.*

In this wonderful apostolic letter, Blessed John Paul described Sunday as a

day of joy, rest and solidarity. I highly recommend it for your reading (perhaps while on summer vacation!). It is good to ask ourselves how we observe the Lord's Day. Do we see it as a sacred day and recognize its importance? If able, do we gather with our brothers and sisters to worship God in the Sunday Eucharistic assembly? Is it truly a day of joy, rest and solidarity? Does it have spiritual significance in our lives?

The Risen Lord calls us to receive the light of his word and the nourishment of his Body and Blood at the Sunday Eucharist. He calls us to experience the joy of living in his presence and grace. He calls us to come to him and find rest from our labors. He calls us to solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are poor, sick, suffering, or lonely.

Our secularized culture needs our witness to the sanctity of the Lord's Day, to the joy of our faith in the Risen Lord. May our faithful observance of Sunday renew us in our witness to Christ and refresh us in our Christian lives!



# Masses, devotions, rallies mark US Church's 'fortnight for freedom'

BY MARIA PIA NEGRO

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops asked Catholics to dedicate 14 days to the preservation of religious freedom through prayer, education and public action, they listened.

Catholics in dioceses across the United States participated in Masses, devotions, holy hours, educational presentations and rallies during the June 21 to July 4 campaign to support the nation's "first and most cherished freedom" and draw attention to actions Catholic and other religious leaders say are weakening religious liberty, including the federal contraceptive mandate.

The U.S. bishops' campaign began on the vigil of the feasts of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More with Mass June 21 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore celebrated by Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Freedom.

He held up the two martyrs as a source of inspiration for American Catholics, saying "their courageous witness of faith continues to stir the minds and hearts of people yearning for authentic freedom, and specifically, for religious freedom," he said.

The fortnight closed on Independence Day with Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington and the tolling of bells at churches across the country at noon Eastern time.

Fortnight events in dioceses around the country included an Independence Celebration Walk & Picnic in Des Moines, Iowa; a motorcycle "Rosary Ride for Religious Freedom" in Colorado Springs, Colo.; nonpartisan voter registration drives after Masses in Atlanta parishes; a religious liberty conference in Covington, Ky.; an outdoor Faith and Freedom Mass in a park band shell in Savannah, Ga.; and a prayer service with special petitions for the fortnight in the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma, Ohio.

In the Diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y., Catholics participated in a 12-hour marathon of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at the Church of St. Joseph in Brooklyn. Jocelyn Rodriguez, a teenager from St. Elizabeth Parish in Ozone, N.Y., organized youth groups to lead the faithful during the vigil.

In upstate New York, parishioners in the Rochester Diocese participated in a 14-day-long Festival for Freedom at a retreat house in Canandaigua. The free events include a speaker series on the topics of ethics, justice and natural law; Masses and prayer services; and plays and other activities.

Organizers described the festival



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

**A man prays amid the overflow crowd during Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington July 4, the final day of the bishops' "fortnight for freedom" campaign. The observance, which began with a June 21 Mass in Baltimore, was a two-week period of prayer, education and action on preserving religious freedom in the U.S.**

as "a time and place to renew our commitments, to learn about our country's founding principle of religious freedom and to join with others who feel strongly that, unless current trends and mandates are reversed, the core principle of freedom of religion will be eroded."

At Holy Family Catholic Church in Orlando, Fla., students in grades 6 to 12 participated in an obstacle course and a scavenger hunt to find items representing faith and liberty.

"We are blessed to live in a great nation founded on religious freedom in which all of our natural freedoms are protected," Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito of Palm Beach told the *Florida Catholic* diocesan newspaper. "That is evident as we legitimately and respectfully gather today to join in prayer and make our voices heard in regard to the protection of religious freedom."

Morning rains did not stop 700 people from attending a June 23 rally where Archbishop George J. Lucas of Omaha, Neb., spoke on religious liberty issues. Across the archdiocese, parishes sponsored movie nights and "Faithful Citizenship" presentations.

In the nation's capital, more than 2,000 Catholics from all over the Washington Archdiocese prayed and sang patriotic hymns at a June 24 rally at George Washington University's Smith Center. The event highlighted the Catholic heritage of the United States. Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington recalled Blessed John Paul II's first public Mass as pope when he called the faithful to put aside fear and to express their beliefs.

"The call is not just for priests to preach, but for the laity to respond. The response is threefold: prayer, education and action. The most important is prayer," Cardinal Wuerl said.

The Catholic bishops of Kansas sponsored a statewide rally for

religious freedom in front of the state Capitol in Topeka June 29. Catholics in Iowa and Illinois also had marches to their respective state capitols in Des Moines and Springfield.

The Diocese of Allentown, Pa., sponsored a campaign called "Let Religious Freedom Ring," which included five catechetical talks presenting USCCB documents on religious freedom and public seminars at universities.

The Little Sisters of the Poor in Scranton, Pa., held a daily holy hour during the fortnight in the chapel of their Holy Family Residence.

At Mass June 24 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles, Archbishop Jose H. Gomez urged Catholics to remember that the fortnight was not about politics.

"The greatest threat to our freedom of religion doesn't come from our government or from forces in our secular society; the greatest threat we face comes from our own lack of faith and our own lack of courage," he said.

The fortnight spurred ecumenical and interfaith celebrations across the nation, uniting Catholics and other people of faith.

On June 22, about 1,000 people gathered at Marist Catholic School's football stadium in Atlanta for an interfaith event.

Oklahoma City's Rally for Religious Freedom June 23 drew Christians of many denominations to the Cox Convention Center.

In San Antonio, the interfaith community celebrated freedom of religion with a televised prayer service June 26. The group included representatives of the Catholic, Protestant, Baha'i, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu and Sikh faiths.

"All people of faith must stand with the Catholic Church in protesting this mandate, which represents a slippery slope for greater government intrusion and control over religious institution," said an



## PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Thursday, July 19 through Saturday, July 21 — National Black Catholic Congress, Indianapolis
- Sunday, July 22, 9 a.m. — 75th Anniversary Mass, Saint Mary of the Angels Oratory, Big Long Lake
- Monday, July 23, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, July 24, 11:30 a.m. — Mass and lunch at Catholic Youth Summer Camp, Camp Mack, Milford, Indiana
- Wednesday, July 25, 10:30 a.m. — Clergy Annual Bishop's Appeal Conference, Ramada Plaza Hotel, Warsaw
- Thursday, July 26, 8:30 a.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington
- Thursday, July 26, 5 p.m. — Mass for Association for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges and Universities, Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame
- Saturday, July 28, 11 a.m. — Mass and Picnic with Seminarians, Noll Hall, Lake Wawasee

interfaith grass-roots organization called Conscience Cause.

In Wisconsin, events included a June 24 ecumenical hour of prayer and a presentation on the "unprecedented threats to American religious freedom."

In an email message, Milwaukee Archbishop Jerome E. Listee told Catholics that people of faith "have a right to take our faith outside the confines of the walls of our churches. Simply put, we will not demand a baptismal certificate to see if people in need of our services are Catholic when we distribute food in our soup kitchens."

"When the bishops speak up on other rights such as the death penalty, the rights of immigrants or the rights of the poor, we don't hear criticism that bishops are being too political," said Maureen Ferguson, senior policy adviser with the lay-run Catholic Association.

The organization conducted a 14-day grass-roots campaign via social media to urge Catholics to heed the bishops' call to action to protect religious freedom. Originally created in 2007, Ferguson said the organization was relaunched in March to focus on religious liberty and mobilize laypeople to speak out.

"Some have tried to revive the

tired paradigm that pits conservative and liberal Catholics against each other. But that misses the real story," said Kim Daniels, coordinator of Catholic Voices USA, another lay organization that supports the role of the Church in the public square.

In Illinois, Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford called Catholics to stand together in opposing the contraceptive mandate issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: "We are absolutely convinced that our freedom of conscience is at stake in this matter," he said in his homily for the annual Red Mass for Religious Liberty at the Cathedral of St. Peter.

"We hold the nonpartisan high ground in a fight that we did not choose and do not want. But it has been brought to the doorstep of our institutions and our consciences and we will not turn away," he said.

**Contributing to this story** were Maureen Boyle and Daniel Linskey in Washington; Chris Albracht in Amarillo, Texas; Linda Reeves in West Palm Beach; and Paula Doyle in Los Angeles.

## Church officials laud Mexican presidential vote

BY DAVID AGREN

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — The Mexican bishops' conference expressed satisfaction with "the exemplary participation of citizens" in the July 1 federal elections, which returned the once long-ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party to power.

"As pastors of the Catholic Church, we are pleased to notice that our call to go to the polls in a conscious and free manner was heard by the Catholic faithful and by men and women of good will in our country," the bishops said in a statement released late July 1 and signed by conference president

Archbishop Carlos Aguiar Retes of Tlalneptla and secretary-general Auxiliary Bishop Victor Rene Rodriguez Gomez of Texcoco.

"We are joyful witnesses to the civility and republican conviction demonstrated during the election process," the statement continued.

"We're pleased that democracy has been recognized as the privileged path for achieving the peace, justice and development that Mexicans long for."

The bishops offered congratulations to the victors without mentioning names or parties.

Mexican voters opted for Enrique Pena Nieto, 45, of the



# Illinois Catholics rejoice over 'venerable' Archbishop Sheen

PEORIA, Ill. (CNS) — The Vatican's June 28 decree that U.S. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen lived a life of heroic virtues and should be considered venerable — advancing his sainthood cause — prompted much rejoicing in his home state of Illinois.

"This is a great day for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria and the Catholic Church in America," said Bishop Daniel R. Jenky of Peoria, who added that the "heroic virtues of a son from central Illinois and a priest of Peoria have been recognized by the Catholic Church."

"Fulton Sheen's zeal, wisdom and holiness should help us build our faith," he said.

Msgr. Stanley Deptula, executive director of the Archbishop Fulton John Sheen Foundation in Peoria, said it was "not a coincidence that the Church would render its decision on the heroic virtue of Archbishop Sheen on the same day as the Supreme Court issues its decision on the health care plan."

He said the timing of the announcement shows how the Church in the United States "needs heroes" and that Archbishop Sheen can "be an inspiration and a consolation to our bishops and other Church leaders" since he was "a man of courage, and priest of prayer."

The decree issued by the Congregation for Saints' Causes and signed by Pope Benedict XVI said Archbishop Sheen should be considered venerable because he heroically lived Christian virtues.

In general, the Church must then confirm two miracles before sainthood is declared. The first miracle is needed for beatification and the

second for canonization.

The decree came just more than 13 months after Bishop Jenky, as head of Archbishop Sheen's home diocese, presented Pope Benedict with two thick volumes about the life of the prelate.

Archbishop Sheen, who was born in Illinois in 1895 and died in New York in 1979, was an Emmy-winning televangelist. His program, "Life is Worth Living," aired in the United States from 1951 to 1957.

Last September, a tribunal of inquiry was sworn in to investigate the allegedly miraculous healing of a newborn whose parents had prayed to the archbishop's intercession.

"We are all living through this wonderful moment," said Andrea Ambrosi, postulator of the cause for canonization of Archbishop Sheen.

"As you can tell, the cause is taking a special road — and quite quickly thus far. This is due to the importance of this cause for Fulton Sheen's sainthood to the American Church and all the faithful. We hope to go on with continued momentum," he said.

Father Andrew Apostoli, a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal from New York who is vice postulator, said he was "excited by this news."

He similarly noted the significance of the announcement falling on the same day as the Supreme Court decision on health care law, pointing out that Archbishop Sheen was a "great leader of the faith, a defender of the freedom of religion and of our rights as Americans."

He said Archbishop Sheen "certainly had much to say in defending religious freedom — not just in our



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED STATES

**U.S. Archbishop Fulton Sheen is pictured in an undated file photo. Pope Benedict XVI has approved the heroic virtues of Archbishop Sheen, declaring him "venerable" and clearing the way for the advancement of his sainthood cause. The announcement came June 28 from the Vatican. As a priest, he preached on the popular "The Catholic Hour" radio program and went on to become an Emmy-winning televangelist.**

"He teaches us still that the Church is missionary by her very nature," he added.

Bishop Jenky announced that he will celebrate a public Mass of Thanksgiving to honor Archbishop Sheen Sept. 9 in Peoria's Cathedral of St. Mary — the same cathedral where the archbishop was ordained to the priesthood.

## Pope approves others in step toward sainthood

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Among the others honored in decrees announced the same day were first prelate of Opus Dei, the Canadian and Irish-American founders of two orders of religious women, a priest murdered by the Sicilian Mafia, and 154 martyrs killed during the Spanish Civil War.

The Vatican also announced papal decrees approving the beatification of 158 men and women, including 156 martyrs, all but two of them Spaniards, killed during their country's 1936-39 Civil War.

Father Giuseppe Puglisi, a Sicilian priest and activist against organized crime who was killed by the Mafia in 1993, was another of the martyrs recognized.


Martyrs do not need a miracle attributed to their intercession in order to be beatified. However, miracles must be recognized by the Vatican in order for martyrs to be canonized.

Other decrees recognized the heroic virtues of eight men and women, including:



- Bishop Alvaro del Portillo, the first prelate of Opus Dei.
- Mother Marie-Josephte Fitzbach, founder of the Good Shepherd Sisters of Quebec.
- Mother Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, the Irish-born founder of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, who died in New York state in 1984.

country but around the world."

Oblate Father Andrew Small, national director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, pointed out that Archbishop Sheen's role as head of the Propagation of the Faith from 1950 to 1966 enabled him to spread the Gospel message "far and wide — from Peoria to Pretoria; New York to New Delhi."



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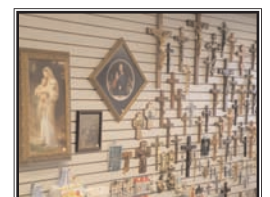
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# FLAWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

court briefs urging the court to find in favor of the individual mandate and the Medicaid expansion.

"In the coming weeks and months, we will continue working closely with our members, Congress and the administration to implement the ACA as fairly and effectively as possible," she added.

However, CHA has agreed with the bishops in urging the government to expand its definition of religious employers who are exempt from the requirement to provide contraceptives and sterilization free of charge to their employees.

Joining Roberts in the majority opinion were Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, although Ginsburg differed from the other four on whether the mandate was constitutional under the Commerce Clause.

"The federal government does not have the power to order people to buy health insurance ... (but) does have the power to impose a tax on those without health insurance," the Roberts opinion says. The mandate "is therefore constitutional, because it can reasonably be read as a tax."

Dissenting were Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito, who would have overturned the entire law as an unconstitutional violation of the Commerce Clause.

By forcing those who are young and healthy to purchase health insurance, the law compels those who do not wish to participate in a particular marketplace to do so, the dissenters said.

"If Congress can reach out and command even those furthest removed from an interstate market to participate in the market, then the Commerce Clause becomes a font of unlimited power, or in (Alexander) Hamilton's words, 'the hideous monster whose devouring jaws ... spare neither sex nor age, nor high nor low, nor sacred nor profane,'" said the dissenting opinion, written by Scalia.

The decisions do not affect other lawsuits against the health reform law's requirement that most religious employers must provide contraceptives, including some abortion-causing drugs, and sterilization to their employees at no cost. Those cases are still in lower courts and have not yet reached the Supreme Court.

But Charmaine Yoest, president and CEO of Americans United for Life, said the Affordable Care Act "forces an abortion agenda on the American people unlike anything seen since *Roe v. Wade*," the 1973 Supreme Court decision that lifted most state restrictions on abortion.

Criticizing the law's "numerous anti-life provisions and mandates," Yoest said, "Congress must repeal these provisions and ensure that any health care law respects life."

The opinions issued by the court June 28 actually involved four separate challenges to the constitutionality of the health reform law. The court first had to decide whether the Anti-Injunction Act, which says no

tax can be challenged in court before it is due, precluded a challenge to the Affordable Care Act until after the individual mandate takes effect in 2014. The majority decided that it did not.

The next question was whether the individual mandate — also called a "shared responsibility payment" — exceeded Congress' authority to "regulate commerce" or to impose taxes. Roberts played the key role in deciding that, siding with the dissenters on the commerce question but with the majority on the tax question.

If the mandate had been overturned, the court would have had to decide whether the entire health law must fall if one section does — the so-called "severability" issue. But the affirmation of the mandate made that question moot.

Finally, the court faced the question of whether Congress could penalize states that opt out of the law's requirement to expand their Medicaid programs. In its early years the expansion is mostly funded by the federal government, but states are expected to take over funding the coverage in later years.

The court ruled that the federal government cannot threaten states with the loss of their existing Medicaid funding if they do not participate in the expanded Medicaid program.

# MEXICO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Institutional Revolutionary Party, which showed anti-clerical tendencies in the last century and traces its founding to 1920s Cristero Rebellion.

The party developed a checkered reputation and was known for corruption throughout its history while presiding over economic calamities. But Pena Nieto has said that's in the past that he wants to fight crime and begin structural reforms to promote good governance.

"I will lead a democratic presidency that understands the changes the country has experienced over the last decades ... open to criticisms, always ready to listen and one that will take all Mexicans into account," Pena Nieto told supporters after the election.

Bishops' conference spokesman Father Manuel Corral has said the Church enjoys good relations with the president-elect and

his party and expected few frictions during Pena Nieto's six-year administration, which begins Dec. 1. A constitutional amendment to guarantee religious freedom was approved prior to the campaign by a Congress packed with Pena Nieto loyalists.

Church officials traditionally do not speak out against candidates and parties in Mexico given the history of sour Church-state relations. Catholic rights groups have not made pronouncements, but have blasted a 2006 crackdown ordered by Pena Nieto in the town of Atenco that was criticized as excessive.

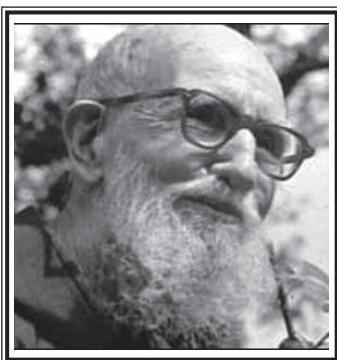
Voting proceeded without major incidents, although some polling stations opened late and others for out-of-town voters ran out of ballots. Allegations of vote buying were rife, especially in poor and working-class areas.

Taxi driver Maria Eugenia Garcia says people in her Mexico City suburb were plied with giveaways such as bags of cement, food deliveries and even loaves of bread.

"They're all the same," she said cynically of the parties.

## Father Solanus Casey Remembered

*Solanus arrived at St. Felix Friary in Huntington April 25, 1946 and returned to Detroit in the Spring of 1956.*



Venerable Solanus Casey, OFM, Cap

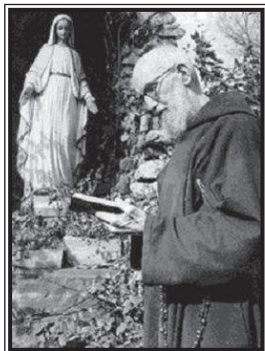
1870 November 25: Born

1904 July 24: Ordained a priest

1957 July 31: Died

1987 July 8: Body Exhumed

1995 July 11: Declared Venerable



### First U.S. native born man to be declared Venerable

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...*

[www.solanuscasy.org](http://www.solanuscasy.org)

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## Lawsuits over HHS mandate keep health reform law in court

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Although legal scholars and political observers will likely spend days parsing each line of the 193 pages of U.S. Supreme Court opinions and dissents on the health reform law, the court's June 28 decision is not likely to be its final word on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. "It seems to me the (Obama) administration has won one legal challenge and there are 23 others waiting in the wings," said Mark Rienzi, senior counsel at the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty and a professor of constitutional law at The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law. The Becket Fund represents Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina, Colorado Christian University in Denver, Eternal Word Television Network in Birmingham, Ala., and Ave Maria University in Florida in lawsuits challenging the Department of Health and Human Services' mandate requiring most religious employers to provide contraceptives and sterilization to their employees free of charge. Another 12 lawsuits involving 43 Catholic dioceses, schools, hospitals, social service agencies and other institutions were filed simultaneously in May; several private employers, Catholic organizations such as Priests for Life and Legatus and some non-Catholic colleges also are challenging the mandate in court.

## Provision left after immigration ruling could be model for other laws

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Supreme Court's June 25 ruling overturning much of Arizona's 2010 immigration law should limit other states' efforts to pass some kinds of immigration controls, but legal experts predict more costly litigation lies ahead over the boundaries of the "show me your papers" provision the court let stand. Doris Meissner, former head of the federal immigration agency, said she would expect states that want to dive into immigration-law waters might find something of a model for types of laws that could pass muster with the court, by targeting areas of law usually left to the states. In a 5-3 ruling, the Supreme Court tossed out as unconstitutional several key provisions of the law known as S.B. 1070. Namely, it rejected sections of the law that criminalized the act of failing to carry proof of legal immigration status (under federal law, being in the country illegally — called illegal presence — is a civil code violation); criminalized the act of applying for employment without a federal work permit; and allowed police to arrest someone without a warrant if the officer suspects the individual might be subject to deportation. The three sections were rejected as preempting federal jurisdiction. The Supreme Court let stand a fourth provision, which allows police to investigate the immigration status

## POPE PRESENTS BALTIMORE ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM E. LORI WITH PALLIUM AT VATICAN



CNS PHOTO/CHRISTOPHER GUNTY, CATHOLIC REVIEW

Pope Benedict XVI presents a pallium to Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore during a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican June 29. The pope gave 44 archbishops the woolen pallium as a sign of their communion with him and their pastoral responsibility as shepherds.

of an individual if the officer has reason to suspect the person might be in the country illegally. In the ruling written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the court said the so-called "show me your papers" provision didn't on its face conflict with the Constitution or impinge on federal jurisdiction. But Kennedy and the other four justices warned that the key to the provision's survival is that it is not interpreted in a way that prolongs the detention of people who are stopped by police.

## New particle may unlock new discoveries, says Vatican astronomer

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The discovery of a new sub-atomic particle — the so-called Higgs boson — may help scientists discover how the hidden structure of all matter in the universe works, a Vatican astronomer said. "It indicates that reality is deeper and more rich and strange than our everyday life," U.S. Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno told Catholic News Service. When people go about their everyday business working or relaxing, they don't think about the tiniest building blocks of physical matter, but "without these underlying little things, we wouldn't be here," he said. Physicists working with the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research laboratory in

Geneva, announced July 4 that they were 99.999 percent certain they found evidence of a new particle that might be key to the structure of the universe and to understanding nature. British physicist Peter Higgs first hypothesized the existence of the particle in the 1960s as the final missing element in a framework called the Standard Model, which explains how sub-atomic particles and forces interact. Over the decades, with the help of increasingly powerful and sophisticated high-energy particle accelerators, scientists have been searching for what atoms are made up of, what the smaller components of atoms are made up of, what the nature of those smaller components is, and so on, Brother Consolmagno said. But it wasn't clear why some materials, such as protons and electrons, have mass and therefore are attracted to each other by gravity, while other materials, such as photons, have no mass, he said. "Higgs, 50 years ago, worked out a model called the Standard Model, that would provide reasons for attraction and why there is mass," the Jesuit said.

## Nuns join with Chicago neighbors in efforts to keep new strip club out

CHICAGO (CNS) — The Missionary Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo and scores of their neighbors in Chicago are really hoping

that the owners of a nearby soon-to-open strip club will "get it": They don't want that kind of business in their backyard, and they are not going to be quiet about it. The Scalabrini sisters and more than 100 neighbors in Stone Park and Melrose Park and their supporters gathered July 2 to pray that the club — to be called Get It — will not open. The bar backs up to the convent's property line, looming over the sisters' vegetable garden. An adjoining block of neat, modest single-family homes runs along its side. The club will feature alcohol and partially nude dancers on a site that was formerly a factory. The sisters say the club will degrade the community, depress property values and create dangerous situations for children who sometimes play in the alley that runs along the property. It will also further harm the reputation of the community of about 5,000 people, which already has at least five adult entertainment venues, according to a community group calling itself United for a Better Stone Park. "We want to create a safe, secure community for our children," Scalabrini Sister Alma Rosa Huerta Reyes said. The July 2 vigil started with participants releasing white, helium-filled balloons into the hot evening sky. Markers were available for people to write their prayers on the balloons before sending them heavenward. "For justice and love," one read. "Peace," read another.

## Region hit by storms recovering from power outages, damage

WASHINGTON (CNS) — After a violent windstorm swept into the mid-Atlantic region from the Midwest June 29, leaving a trail of devastation across 10 states, volunteers marched in to help those who were worse off. "People are motivated to help," said Patti Phillips, Catholic Charities communication and marketing director in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, W.Va. The storm left millions of households and businesses without power in Maryland, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and New Jersey. It caused several deaths and massive power outages that affected more than 4 million. The destruction was followed by a heat wave, with temperatures reaching triple digits in several cities. In West Virginia, one of the states' most affected by the storm, thousands were still struggling with heat, lack of food, water and gasoline a week later, Catholic Charities officials said. "There is not enough ice, not enough water, not enough food," said Elizabeth Hardy, Catholic Charities regional director in West Virginia. The social services agency was working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and state authorities to point residents to several shelters and cooling stations where they could escape the week's heat wave until their electricity was restored.

## Appeals panel overturns language mandate for pro-life pregnancy centers

RICHMOND, Va. (CNS) — In a ruling hailed by Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori as "a major victory for the First Amendment," a federal appeals court in Richmond said two Maryland pregnancy centers cannot be compelled to post notices that they do not have licensed medical professionals on staff. In separate decisions, a three-judge panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned ordinances passed by the Montgomery County Council and the Baltimore City Council in 2010 but never enforced because of court challenges. Writing for himself and Judge G. Steven Agee in the Montgomery County case, Judge Paul V. Niemeyer said the county "is entitled to believe that pregnancy is first and foremost a medical condition, but it may not compel unwilling speakers to express that view." He said pregnancy centers that did not provide or refer for abortions were being "singled out for disfavored treatment." Archbishop Lori said that "at a time when religious freedom is being challenged on many fronts," the decision represented a win "for those people who seek to live their lives and their faith according to" the First Amendment. "I applaud the court for recognizing that these centers were being targeted for their pro-life views and for sending a strong message to the rest of the nation that these kinds of onerous, discriminatory laws have no place in a nation founded on freedom," he added.



## St. Michael's youth partners with the PHJC Ministry Center

DONALDSON — Thirteen young people from the St. Michael's High School Youth Group from Plymouth participated in a service project at the PHJC Ministry Center on July 1.

This is the fourth year that the youth group participated in a mission trip to help others. However, this year was a little different. Instead of traveling to another state, they decided to find local projects. The PHJC Ministry Center was the recipient of their service. The group cleaned and scrubbed statues and benches to remove years of dirt.

As they cleaned the statues of saints, Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sisters Linda Volk and Roberta Christianson talked about the saint and provided history on each of the statues.

Because of the weather, plans were altered. The group had planned to cookout at the ministry center but had to eat elsewhere. They came back for a 7 p.m. Mass in the Ancilla Domini Chapel with Father Kummer, pastor of St. Michael Parish in Plymouth.

When asked why she gave up part of her summer to volunteer, Jennifer Sibal stated, "I really like helping people. I like working with the youth group kids and getting to know them better. It is great to give back to the community. You start to realize how much other people have done for you and getting to serve something greater than yourself is just a good way to give back and be thankful."

This group has taken mission trips to Virginia, Ohio and Michigan where they have volunteered in a number of ways: painting and putting in new floors in an elderly person's home, helping to rebuild a church, working in neighborhood centers, working with special needs children and adults, recycling TVs and computers so they do not end up in landfills, and helping in nursing homes.

After enjoying time with the youth group, Sister Roberta Christianson couldn't say enough about how great they were. She told them, "You are such a good example by what you do, and in the spirit in which you do it."

The group's motto, "We are God's hands," says it all.

## Msgr. Christopher J. Schreck appointed 16th rector, president of the Pontifical College Josephinum

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Official correspondence from the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, by means of a decree from Cardinal



MSGR. CHRISTOPHER J. SCHRECK

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## ST. MICHAEL AND POOR HANDMAIDS JOIN TOGETHER



PROVIDED BY THE POOR HANDMAIDS OF JESUS CHRIST

High school youth group volunteers from St. Michael Parish, Plymouth, participate in a service project at the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Ministry Center, Donaldson, cleaning statues.

Zenon Grochowski, Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome, announced that Msgr. Christopher J. Schreck has been named the 16<sup>th</sup> rector and president of the Pontifical College Josephinum. Msgr. Schreck is a priest of the Diocese of Savannah, Ga., and currently serves as the executive vice president of the Josephinum.

"I am grateful to Cardinal Grochowski; to our apostolic nuncio and chancellor, Archbishop Viganò; to our board of trustees; and to all of our supporting bishops for the confidence they have placed in me in this appointment," Msgr. Schreck said. "I am honored and humbled to assume these new responsibilities and, at the same time, richly blessed with the opportunity to benefit from the collaboration and assistance of the outstanding group of resident priests, administration, faculty, staff, seminarians, alumni and benefactors who make up the Josephinum family."

Ordained for the Diocese of Savannah in 1977, Msgr. Schreck has a notable career in priestly formation and wide experience in seminary administration. Following his ordination, he served for five years as parochial vicar at St. James Parish in Savannah.

From 1983 to 1986 and 1991 to 1993, he served at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, Fla., where he was associate professor, professor and academic dean. In 1993, Msgr. Schreck began teaching at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, where he was also vice rector for many years.

In 2007, Msgr. Schreck joined the faculty of the Josephinum as a professor of Sacred Scripture and as executive director of the Institute for the Formation and Ministry of the Permanent Diaconate, the seminary's distance learning program for permanent deacons. Three years later, in April 2010, he was appointed executive vice president of the Josephinum and for the past two years has been responsible for the temporal concerns of the institution, working closely with the treasurer and with the vice rectors of the College of Liberal Arts and School of Theology.

Msgr. Schreck holds an AB in classical studies from The College of William and Mary in Virginia, Williamsburg, Va.; an STB from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome; an SSL from the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome; and an STD and PhD from the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium.

As the 16<sup>th</sup> rector and presi-

dent of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Msgr. Schreck succeeds Father James A. Wehner (Diocese of Pittsburgh), who has held the position since 2009.

Father Wehner heralded his colleague's appointment as "great news" for the Josephinum community. "Msgr. Schreck is a man of priestly communion who has earned the highest respect from administration, faculty and seminarians," said Father Wehner. "He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position, having served most of his priesthood in seminary formation. Moreover, his leadership as executive vice president has contributed to many of the recent achievements of the Josephinum, including the completion of major renovations and an increase in our annual appeal."

The advancement of a current administrator to the position of rector and president reflects the high caliber of the seminary's faculty and its programs. The Josephinum's efforts of recent years have led the institution to the national forefront of priestly formation. With a steadily-increasing enrollment and the successful recruitment of new dioceses and priest-faculty, the Josephinum is in a position of tremendous strength and stability. A seamless transition

in leadership will provide valuable continuity as the seminary looks to the future.

"It is a particularly advantageous time for me to assume these new responsibilities at the Josephinum," said Msgr. Schreck, "where the generous dedication and renowned success of Father Wehner have brought the seminary to a new level of nationally recognized achievement. It is an honor to succeed him in full continuity with his accomplishments, as well as with the Josephinum's rich tradition and heritage, and on that foundation to build for an even brighter future."

Msgr. Christopher Schreck assumed leadership of the Pontifical College Josephinum on July 1, 2012; inaugural festivities will be held in the fall when seminarians and faculty have returned to campus for the new year of formation.

## Indiana Private College Week, July 23-27

NOTRE DAME — Summer is a favorite time for college prospects and their families to visit institutions they are interested in attending. The week of Monday, July 23 through Friday, July 27, is Indiana Private College Week, sponsored by Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI). Saint Mary's College will join the 30 other private, non-profit institutions across the state in welcoming prospects and their parents to campus. Opportunities will be offered to learn more about financing tuition.

Saint Mary's College offers tours daily during the summer Monday through Friday at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., including during Indiana Private College Week. The Office of Admission suggests calling ahead to make the most of your visit to (800) 551-7621. In addition, Saint Mary's regularly offers a variety of campus visit options including Fall Day on Campus, Spring Day on Campus and Senior Preview Days.

Visitors between the ages of 16 and 20 touring one or more ICI campuses during Indiana Private College Week will have the chance to enter a drawing for an Apple iPad. Entry forms and rules will be available at each campus.

## St. Aloysius to sponsor Gator Gallop July 28

YODER — The 12th Annual Saint Aloysius Gator Gallop 5K Run/Walk will be held, Saturday, July 28, at St. Aloysius Church, Yoder. Registration is at 6 p.m. with a 7 p.m. start.

"To beat the heat this is an evening event," say Gator Gallop organizers.

A family rate is available.

St. Aloysius is located on State Road 1 (Bluffton Road) just south of the I-469 exit No. 6.

For more information and entry form visit [www.orgsites.com/in/gatorgallop5k](http://www.orgsites.com/in/gatorgallop5k) or contact Chad Ware at (260) 466-4272.



## TIPPMANN EARNS EAGLE SCOUT AWARD



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Bryan Tippmann was presented with his Eagle Scout Award at the Court of Honor at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, on May 5. Tippmann's Eagle Scout Project consisted of building a stone path to replace the muddy path used by the softball players to access the softball diamond. Tippmann is a 2012 graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School, and is the son of Ed and Becky Tippmann.



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## St. Mary's Heritage Fund awards 29 grants totaling \$172,920

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has awarded 29 grants totaling \$172,920 from the St. Mary's Heritage Fund to various organizations from throughout the diocese, including parishes, schools and agencies. Total requests amounted to \$723,930. The following were awarded grants upon the approval of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades:

### Parishes receive \$20,000

- St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend — \$5,000 in school scholarships
- St. Bavo, Mishawaka — \$2,500 to help Vietnamese single parents send children to Mishawaka Catholic School
- St. Joseph, Fort Wayne — \$7,500 to subsidize children attending school
- St. Mary, Fort Wayne — \$3,000 for Emergency Assistance Fund for Ave Maria House
- St. Monica, Mishawaka — \$2,000 for tuition assistance

### Schools receive \$100,000

- Fort Wayne:**
- Bishop Luers High School — \$25,000 for tuition assistance
  - Queen of Angels — \$5,000 for financial aid to families in need
  - St. John the Baptist — \$7,500 to increase number of students able to afford a Catholic education
  - St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel — \$2,000 for tuition assistance
  - St. Therese — \$7,500 for financial assistance to families in need

### South Bend:

- Corpus Christi — \$5,000 for tuition assistance
- Our Lady of Hungary — \$7,000 for part-time resource teacher
- Our Lady of Hungary — \$3,000 for part-time counselor
- Our Lady of Hungary — \$3,000 for part-time aid for students in need of extra attention
- St. John the Baptist — \$7,500 for financial assistance

### Area:

- Mishawaka Catholic School — \$10,000 for tuition assistance
- Mishawaka Catholic School — \$12,500 to hire a school counselor
- St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart — \$5,000 for tuition assistance for Hispanic and minority families

### Agencies receive \$52,920

### Fort Wayne:

- Catholic Charities — \$13,000 to help alleviate hunger and food insecurity in the community providing food assistance to those in need
- Clinica Madre de Dios — \$3,500 for diabetic medication and supplies for low income uninsured population
- Clinica Madre de Dios — \$3,000 for lab tests, clinic supplies and equipment for the walk-in clinic
- Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic — \$4,000 for medications for Burmese patients
- The Rose Home, Inc. — \$4,920 to assist women with first two weeks expenses when entering Rose Home

- Vincent Village — \$2,000 to send 10 homeless children to one-week overnight camp or day camp
- Vincent Village — \$8,000 to provide supervised tutoring, educational and recreational activities for homeless children living in Vincent House or Vincent Village

### South Bend:

- St. Joseph Regional Medical Center — \$4,000 to provide shingles vaccination for seniors in need at the Sister Maura Brannick Health Center

- The Center for the Homeless — \$3,000 for materials and equipment for advancement of the Montessoric classroom

### Area:

- Hannah's House, Mishawaka — \$2,500 for group counselor services
- St. Martin Healthcare, Garrett — \$5,000 to improve health and well being of patients, dental services, prescribed medications and vision services

The \$3-million endowment fund was established in 1997 to help provide financial assistance to the poor and needy throughout the diocese. The St. Mary's Parish complex was completed in October 1998 and dedicated on May 2, 1999. The St. Mary's Heritage Fund was created through the collaboration of the late St. Mary's pastor, Father Tom O'Connor, and parishioners using money received from fire insurance on the historic church. The St. Mary's Heritage Fund has awarded annual grants totaling \$3,577,032.88 from interest gained on the fund's principal.



Katie Stout

Please keep in your prayers

### Katie Stout

who will be entering the

Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist Religious Community.

Katie is a member of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, a graduate of St. Charles Borromeo School and Bishop Dwenger High School.

Please pray for all those discerning the call to Religious Life and the Holy Priesthood.

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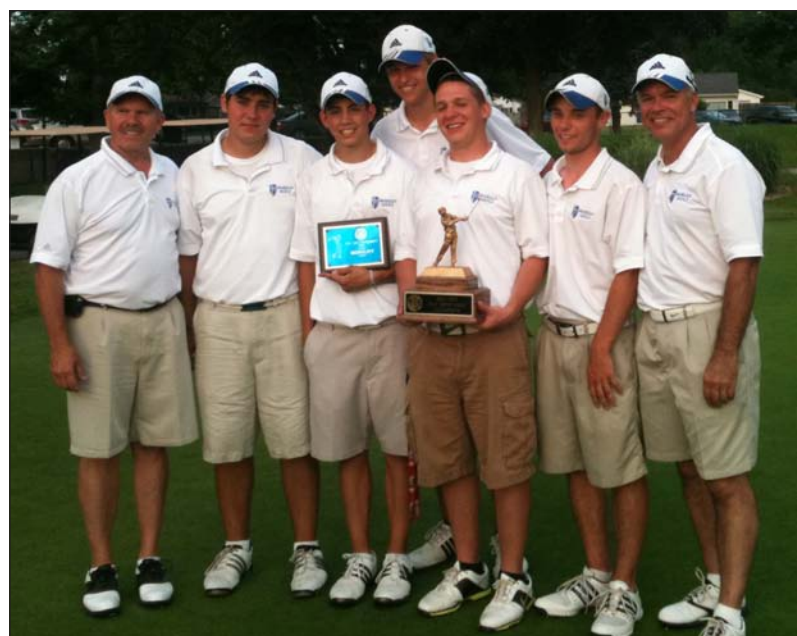
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### MARIAN GOLF TEAM WINS CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT



DAVID STOPCZYNSKI

The Marian High School boys' golf team won the Northern Indiana Conference Tournament and were co-champions of the Northern Indiana Conference, after placing third in the sectionals and second in the regionals. Pictured from left are Head Coach Jim Kryder, Connor Isban, Michael Makris, Matt Rozycki, Alex Disberry, Alex Stopczynski and Assistant Coach Rick Lord.

### QUEEN OF ANGELS DEDICATES SOFTBALL FIELD



NORB SAUTER

Father John Pfister, a former parish pastor, throws out the first ball at the newly refurbished Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne, softball field named in his honor. Improvements include a new concession stand, new dugouts, new bleacher seating for about 150 and new fence totally enclosing the field.


### DONATIONS TO ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OVERFLOW



PROVIDED BY DAVID LOCKE



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart, collected toilet paper July 1 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Elkhart, for the pantry they sponsor. This annual event, known affectionately as "TP Sunday," overfills a refrigerator box placed in the church lobby. The society manages a food pantry and the toilet tissue is an often requested item.

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# Diocese accounts for financial operations

Once again, we are publishing an accounting of the financial operations of our diocese for the fiscal year, which ended June 30, 2011. As we have done in past years, we have also included a consolidated financial report of our high schools and parishes. This is done in the spirit of accountability and transparency.

For fiscal year 2010/11, our total loss was \$1,688,552, which you see on the attached sheets. Part of that was our health and accident insurance fund, which lost \$2,220,641. Claims were up significantly for fiscal year 2010/11. If you add that back to our total loss, operationally we were actually in the black by \$532,089. Total expenses were right on budget, with some fluctuations in departments up and down, but in total right on budget. Offertory income in our parishes was up 1.3 percent during fiscal year 2010/11, the first increase after the prior two fiscal years actually had reductions. Investment returns for the year were up 12.8 percent — two years back-to-back of double digit returns.

## DIOCESAN AUDIT

The diocese is audited every year by Leonard J. Andorfer & Company, a certified public accounting firm, and, as in the past, no exceptions were noted. This means that the diocesan books, records and accounting principles are conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This audit, along with the management letter, is presented not only to the Audit Committee, but to the entire Diocesan Finance Council; and the council is given time alone with the auditor, without the presence of diocesan officials, to be sure that they were given full access to all appropriate financial records.

For the past several years, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has required that the Diocesan Finance Council sign a report indicating the following: 1) that the council has met quarterly; 2) that the audit and the management letter have been reviewed; 3) that the budget has been reviewed. This report and certification must then be sent to the Metropolitan Archbishop of the Province, which, in this case, is the Archbishop of Indianapolis. We require similar reporting from our parishes to the diocese.

## PARISHES

It is also important that there be accountability and transparency in parishes. According to canon law, every parish must have a parish finance council. We have two retired accountants who do a financial review of every parish every two years; in addition, every parish is audited at the time of a pastoral change. During the past five years, we have sent this financial report, done by our two auditors, to each member of the parish finance council. This enables the review to be discussed at a regular meeting. As indicated above, controls have now been established similar to the accountability of each diocese.

It is important to understand how the Annual Bishop's Appeal has sustained the parishes. It was the hope of our lay leadership prior to the institution of the appeal that the parishes would benefit. This has become a reality. The appeal has increased the incentive of parishes to seek funds. During the 25 years since the appeal began, our parishes have engaged in major capital fund drives. Since the appeal began, fund drives for parishes have brought in over \$125 million for new buildings and renovations approved by the Diocesan Finance Council. This includes parish initiatives linked to the Legacy of Faith. Also, over \$129,000,000, which would have been paid to the diocese under the previous system, now remains in the parishes. In addition, \$5 million from the appeal has been given in grants to parishes in need. The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop's Appeal was the highest in terms of pledges, attaining \$6,285,981.

## LEGACY OF FAITH ENDOWMENTS

|                                   | Contributions       | Distributions        | Balance             |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Source — Hispanic | \$100,000           |                      | \$116,953           |
| Priest Retirement                 | 955,400             |                      | 1,052,647           |
| High Schools                      | 955,400             |                      | 1,052,647           |
| Catholic Charities                | 1,908,800           | (\$400,000)          | 1,922,656           |
| Religious Education               | 1,908,800           | (288,889)            | 1,952,812           |
| Hispanic Ministry                 | 955,400             | (75,000)             | 977,647             |
| Elementary Schools                | 19,118,745          | (4,468,300)          | 17,986,234          |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>\$25,902,545</b> | <b>(\$5,232,189)</b> | <b>\$25,061,596</b> |

## TWINNING PARISHES

A number of parishes have agreed to twin with certain targeted parishes to help them provide a full Catholic education. From January 1999 thru April 2012, a total of \$2,202,979 has been received by 16 parishes. This is true Christian stewardship; and most of the parishes making these contributions do it as part of their parish stewardship effort. These parishes give a proportionate gift to other parishes in need. This twinning program has saved several parish schools.

## HIGH SCHOOLS

Over \$56 million has been raised for building projects in our four high schools. The four high schools continue to flourish; but not without challenges. The Annual Bishop's Appeal gives \$1.7 million to the high schools every year, which has created a sense of stability. Next year, tuition will increase by \$200 in our high schools. Our high schools are audited every year by an independent CPA firm. Each high school has presented a balanced budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012. Three high schools have debts to the diocese and all are paying on those debts. Saint Joseph High School will start the 2012/13 school year in their new facilities. This is quite an accomplishment considering the current state of the economy.

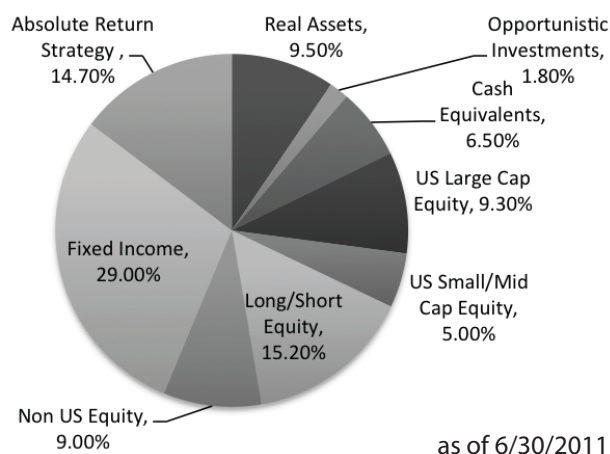
## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHEAST INDIANA

Both the Development Office and the Business Office helped put in place the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana, which enables parishes, high schools and other diocesan institutions to raise funds for an ongoing endowment. Currently, there are 123 endowments in the Catholic Community Foundation. Talk to your pastor or school board about establishing an endowment for your parish and/or parish school. To establish an endowment and experience endowment growth involves planned giving — bequests, annuities, remainder trusts, as well as gifts and other creative ways by which you can make contributions. Funds placed in this trust will remain there and grow, and the interest realized will continue to fund the designated purpose for years to come. These are gifts that keep on giving. Those who contribute will determine the area where these funds are to be restricted. Regular annual reports and quarterly newsletters are sent to the donors. The Catholic Community Foundation now contains \$38,276,755.

## INVESTMENTS

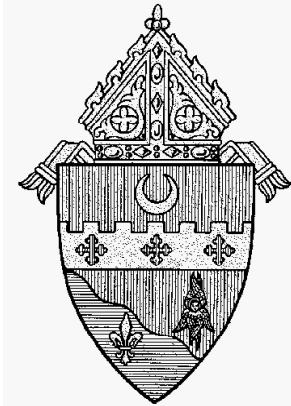
Our investments are overseen by Slocum & Associates of St. Paul, Minn. Investments are placed carefully so as to avoid excessive risk. We have a very diversified portfolio, fully in keeping with Catholic moral teaching. Slocum & Associates meet with our Investment Committee on a quarterly basis. In the fiscal year in question here, investments gained 12.8 percent. The current asset allocation is detailed in the pie chart below.

## Asset Allocation



If you take a snapshot of the diocese 10 years ago and next year's budget, two categories stick out — Seminarian Education and *Today's Catholic*. The net burden to the diocese has gone up over \$1,100,000 for these two departments. The number of our seminarians has more than

## The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



doubled in this timeframe. This is a problem we welcome and will find a way to fund. This funding was assisted by the Pentecost Collection, which started in 2011 and continues in 2012. You were very generous in this endeavor, raising over \$250,000 each year. *Today's Catholic* we see as a means of evangelization for us. We see the benefits of sending the paper to over 50,000 households most weeks throughout the year. As part of this, we have to take some austerity measures to balance our budget and be good stewards of the funds we have. With the 2012/13 budget, we have accomplished this. Another concern for us as we go forward is the funding of our defined benefit lay pension plan. The funding ratio as of Jan. 1, 2011 was 87.1 percent. That has improved from 85.9 percent at Jan. 1, 2010. Long term, is the burden to the parishes and our different locations, sustainable? This fall, in September, we are sending out a mass survey to all of our full-time employees to get their opinions on the value of this plan versus current compensation or maybe a contribution to the diocese's 403(b) plan, which at the present time is non-contributory. We also see increased volatility in the investment market for the next fiscal year. This is another challenge for us as we go forward. In our health and accident insurance fund, again, for the next fiscal year, we have raised costs significantly to our locations and our employees. We are still trying to recover past losses and to at least break even during 2012/13. It appears that claims are stabilizing a bit and we are starting the year off on a good foot. School enrollment has increased — our schools are filling up the empty seats. One of the reasons for that is school choice legislation was passed by the Indiana General Assembly in the spring of 2011 to support scholarship funding for needy families sending their children to our schools. We see that continuing to increase for the next school year. There are many benefits to having full classrooms and enabling the children who otherwise could not afford or even look at our schools to attend our schools. We have much to be thankful for. This past fiscal year marked continuing financial advancement for our parishes and schools as we work to build sound financial footing. Revenues are increasing; expenses generally fell in line with the budget expectations. May God continue to bless us in our ministries.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph G. Ryan, Chief Financial Officer

## DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL

Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades  
Msgr. Robert Schulte  
Mr. James Fitzpatrick  
Ms. Alice Kopfer  
Mr. Arthur Decio  
Mr. Thomas Skiba  
Mr. Jerry Kearns  
Mr. Albert Gutierrez  
Sister Jane Marie Klein, OSF  
Mr. Jerry Hammes  
Mr. George Witwer  
Mr. Michael Hammes  
Ms. Linda Teeters  
Mr. Christopher Murphy  
Mr. Vincent Tippmann  
Mr. Scott Malpass  
Mr. Joseph Ryan



## Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Statement of revenues and expenses for the year ended June 30, 2011

| SUPPORT AND REVENUE                  | Expendable<br>Funds | Temporarily/Permanently<br>Restricted Funds | Total<br>Funds      |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Parish Quotas and Assessments        | \$2,210,176         | 0                                           | \$2,210,176         |
| Donations and Bequests               | 1,956,138           | 22,339                                      | 1,978,477           |
| Investment Income                    | 2,411,712           | 90,746                                      | 2,502,458           |
| Fund Raising - Bishop's Appeal       | 4,591,591           | 0                                           | 4,591,591           |
| Insurance Premiums                   | 11,492,215          | 77,996                                      | 11,570,211          |
| Interest - Loans                     | 503,422             | 0                                           | 503,422             |
| Collections                          | 235,402             | 0                                           | 235,402             |
| Advertising                          | 217,329             | 0                                           | 217,329             |
| Subscriptions                        | 8,707               | 0                                           | 8,707               |
| Sale of Merchandise                  | 348,264             | 0                                           | 348,264             |
| Fees/Rentals/Workshops               | 730,211             | 0                                           | 730,211             |
| Other                                | 69,740              | 0                                           | 69,740              |
| Gain on Sale of Assets               | 59,639              | 0                                           | 59,639              |
| Net Assets Released from Restriction | 253,585             | (253,585)                                   | 0                   |
| <b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>     | <b>\$25,088,131</b> | <b>(\$62,504)</b>                           | <b>\$25,025,627</b> |

**EXPENSES**

|                                           |                      |                   |                      |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Ministry Services                         | \$3,135,858          | 0                 | \$3,135,858          |
| Educational Services                      | 2,745,364            | 0                 | 2,745,364            |
| Diocesan High School Assistance           | 1,687,000            | 0                 | 1,687,000            |
| Communications                            | 1,149,702            | 0                 | 1,149,702            |
| Fund Raising - Bishop's Appeal            | 383,084              | 0                 | 383,084              |
| Insurance                                 | 13,712,856           | 0                 | 13,712,856           |
| Interest Expense                          | 932,797              | 0                 | 932,797              |
| *Parish Assistance                        | 199,688              | 0                 | 199,688              |
| Priests-Other Countries-Parish Assistance | 35,362               | 0                 | 35,362               |
| Religious/Priest Retirement               | 311,119              | 0                 | 311,119              |
| Assessments                               | 108,125              | 0                 | 108,125              |
| Chancery - Departmental/General           | 1,692,752            | 0                 | 1,692,752            |
| Allowance for Doubtful Accounts           | 100,000              | 0                 | 100,000              |
| Catholic Charities Subsidy                | 435,472              | 0                 | 435,472              |
| ** Charitable Contributions               | 85,000               | 0                 | 85,000               |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                     | <b>\$26,714,179</b>  | <b>0</b>          | <b>\$26,714,179</b>  |
| <b>NET INCOME/(DEFICIT)</b>               | <b>(\$1,626,048)</b> | <b>(\$62,504)</b> | <b>(\$1,688,552)</b> |

**CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS**

|                           | Expenses    | Budgeted Expenses |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| MISSIONS                  | \$16,419    | \$5,654           |
| BISHOP                    | 67,069      | 62,329            |
| RETIRED BISHOP            | 61,737      | 53,190            |
| ADMINISTRATION            | 736,699     | 623,968           |
| PERSONNEL                 | 215,549     | 204,000           |
| ARCHIVIST                 | 44,413      | 46,272            |
| CENTRAL PURCHASING        | 44,507      | 41,956            |
| DATA PROCESSING           | 70,819      | 58,552            |
| ASSESSMENTS               | 108,125     | 106,061           |
| ACCOUNTING                | 143,793     | 146,688           |
| FOREIGN PRIESTS           | 35,362      | 15,750            |
| PROPERTY MNGMNT           | 106,225     | 107,352           |
| FORT WAYNE CHANCERY       | 20,894      | 9,803             |
| CATHEDRAL CENTER          | 14,144      | 12,000            |
| CLINTON STREET OFFICE     | 423,479     | 391,428           |
| BISHOP RESIDENCE          | 18,696      | 17,232            |
| BISHOP RHOADES RESIDENCE  | 22,559      | 26,556            |
| BISHOP SB APARTMENT       | 0           | 1,070             |
| ECUMENICAL OFFICE         | 6,974       | 6,168             |
| SOUTH BEND CHANCERY       | 21,959      | 17,136            |
| MARIAN PASTORAL CENTER    | 55,351      | 41,259            |
| NOLL HALL                 | 26,117      | 21,278            |
| FAITH,HOPE,CHARITY CHAPEL | 3,413       | 4,530             |
| OTHER PROPERTIES          | 39,798      | 40,037            |
| SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION     | 344,111     | 366,909           |
| CSO FUNDED PROJECTS       | 37,862      | 35,600            |
| OFFICE OF CATECHESIS      | 320,076     | 323,391           |
| BOOKSTORE                 | 350,116     | 368,072           |
| SEMINARIAN EDUCATION      | 798,627     | 919,678           |
| CONTINUING ED/PRIESTS     | 86,538      | 52,000            |
| TRIBUNAL                  | 439,225     | 496,041           |
| PARISH ASSISTANCE         | 49,629      | 49,893            |
| HISPANIC MINISTRY         | 133,887     | 143,570           |
| FAMILY LIFE/PRO LIFE      | 293,832     | 262,971           |
| SPECIAL MINISTRIES        | 1,225       | 0                 |
| VOCATIONS                 | 59,931      | 58,621            |
| CAMPUS MINISTRY           | 181,377     | 246,497           |
| WORSHIP/MUSIC             | 133,681     | 137,056           |
| SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT     | 107,621     | 153,890           |
| YOUTH MINISTRY            | 187,212     | 173,557           |
| HOSPITAL MINISTRY         | 127,394     | 129,543           |
| VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORD.  | 2,483       | 4,523             |
| PERMANENT DIACONATE       | 78,109      | 90,362            |
| CATHEDRAL MUSEUM          | 4,774       | 6,106             |
| MIAMI STREET - CHARITIES  | 24,010      | 23,519            |
| CATHOLIC CHARITIES        | 435,472     | 435,500           |
| CATHOLIC CEMETERIES       | 725         | 350               |
| TODAY'S CATHOLIC          | 860,630     | 784,198           |
| COMMUNICATIONS            | 119,514     | 140,724           |
| DIOCESAN DIRECTORY        | 17,551      | 22,892            |
| TV MASS                   | 152,008     | 145,415           |
| BISHOP'S APPEAL           | 294,470     | 274,732           |
| DEVELOPMENT OFFICE        | 67,256      | 80,694            |
| PLANNED GIVING            | 21,359      | 41,762            |
|                           | \$8,034,806 | \$8,028,335       |

**\* Parishes receiving grants from the Annual Bishop's Appeal**

St. Henry, Fort Wayne  
St. Therese, Fort Wayne  
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne  
St. Monica, Mishawaka  
Holy Cross, South Bend  
Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend  
Holy Family, South Bend  
St. Augustine, South Bend  
St. John the Baptist, South Bend  
St. Patrick, Ligonier

**\*\* Groups receiving grants from the Annual Bishop's Appeal**

St. Vincent de Paul Society,  
Fort Wayne and South Bend  
Christ Child Society,  
Fort Wayne and South Bend  
Vincent Village  
Women's Care Center  
St. Augustine Soup Kitchen  
Little Flower Food Pantry  
Chiara Home  
Sister Maura Brannick Health  
Center  
COPOSH (Homeless Center, SB)  
Logan Center  
St. Mary's Soup Kitchen  
Matthew 25  
Hannah's House  
Life Athletes  
The Franciscan Center  
Catholic Charities  
St. Martin's Health Clinic

### DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS

**Consolidated Financial Report Fiscal Year 2010/11**

**INCOME**

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Tuition/Fees              | \$15,104,372        |
| Diocesan Assistance       | 1,447,000           |
| Other Grants/Scholarships | 155,568             |
| Fund-Raising              | 2,315,309           |
| Athletic/Other            | 3,819,497           |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>       | <b>\$22,841,746</b> |

**EXPENSES**

**Administrative**

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Cost of Employee-Teaching   | \$3,131,254        |
| Other Administrative        | 3,079,486          |
| <b>Total Administrative</b> | <b>\$6,210,740</b> |

**Instructional**

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Cost of Employee-Teaching   | \$8,320,645         |
| Academic Department-Cost    | 147,701             |
| Other Expense-Teaching      | 373,292             |
| Cost of Employee-Supportive | 1,130,800           |
| Other Expense-Supportive    | 301,685             |
| <b>Total Instructional</b>  | <b>\$10,274,123</b> |

**Operational**

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Cost of Employee          | \$982,543          |
| Other Expense-Operational | 1,547,597          |
| <b>Total Operational</b>  | <b>\$2,530,140</b> |

**Miscellaneous**

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Capital/Miscellaneous      | 0                  |
| Other Miscellaneous        | 3,344,502          |
| <b>Total Miscellaneous</b> | <b>\$3,344,502</b> |

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

**\$22,359,505**

**SURPLUS/(LOSS)**

**\$482,241**

**\* Diocesan Assistance**

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Bishop Dwenger High School | \$461,570          |
| Bishop Luers High School   | 301,410            |
| Saint Joseph High School   | 350,891            |
| Marian High School         | 333,129            |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>\$1,447,000</b> |

### 82 DIOCESAN PARISHES

**Consolidated Financial Report Fiscal Year 2010/11**

**INCOME**

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Church Income       | \$52,983,714        |
| School Income       | 31,017,922          |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b> | <b>\$84,001,636</b> |

**EXPENSES**

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Church Expense        | \$35,255,378        |
| School Expense        | 46,732,425          |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$81,987,803</b> |

**SURPLUS**

**\$2,013,833**



## The Catholic churches of Israel

A recent press trip to Israel provided a wealth of information about the religious makeup of the country where Jesus lived 2,000 years ago. While Israel is only 2.1 percent Christian, most of those are Catholic and attend churches that are run by Franciscan priests. And 75.5 percent of Israel is Jewish and 16.8 percent of the people are Muslim. Yet, the Catholic churches that we saw were glorious and, new and old, they testified to the faith of this minority of Israel.

### The Church of the Holy Sepulcher

The first church that we visited was The Church of the Holy Sepulcher. It is located in the Christian quarter of the walled "Old City" and is at the place where Jesus was crucified (Golgotha.) In addition, it contains "The Sepulcher" — Jesus' burial place. Although the cave

of Joseph of Arimathea is no longer intact, a room was built as a memorial to that location — the location of the Resurrection of our Lord. This church has been one of the most important and popular Christian tourist sites since it was built in the fourth century. It is one of the first Christian churches ever built.

This church is truly ecumenical. It is operated primarily by the Roman Catholics, the Greek Orthodox Church, the Armenian Apostolic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. The Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the Syrian Orthodox Church and the Coptic Orthodox Church have secondary responsibilities. But the relationship between these denominations has not always been amiable. They have quarreled over who caused damage to the church, making modifications and numerous other factors. Several of these disputes have actually turned into fist fights, proving that ecumenism will only function when it is

based on the foundation of the love and selflessness of Christ.

### St. John Baharim Church or the Church of the Visitation

St. John Baharim is a Catholic church located in a small community of Ein Karem on the western side of Jerusalem. This church is relatively new. It was built over churches that were built and destroyed during the Roman and Byzantine periods. Then a church was built by the crusaders and was destroyed by the Ottomans in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Incidentally, it is common in Middle Eastern countries to see buildings built over the ruins of prior eras.

The current monastery was completed in 1895 and the church was finished by the Franciscans in 1920. Beneath the church is a cave. It is believed that John the

PILGRIM, PAGE 13

## Jesus commissions the Twelve Apostles



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 5:21-43

The Book of Amos provides of this weekend's first reading. Amos is one of the relatively few prophets of whom some personal details are known. Many prophets give some information about themselves, but most give little or none.

By contrast, it is known that Amos was from Tekoa, a small village about 10 miles south of Jerusalem in Judea. He herded sheep, and he tended fig trees. He obviously was intelligent, and he knew the traditions of his ancestors.

He wrote during the reign of King Uzziah of Judah, or between the years of 783 and 742 B.C.

Amos saw himself as an authentic prophet. The other so-called prophets of his time, he thought, were hired by the king ultimately to validate the king's rule over the people. Under such arrangements, the other prophets could not be trusted to preach the undefiled word of God. Amos had no use for these imposters. They were not God's servants, not sent by God.

So, this weekend's reading reports a clash between Amos and a priest in the Jerusalem temple. Amos reasserts his role, insisting that he was called by God to be a prophet.

The Epistle to the Ephesians

provides the second reading. In the first century, Ephesus was a major commercial center in the Roman Empire, an important port on the Mediterranean Sea. (Only ruins remain today.)

Ephesus hosted a fast traffic in vice usually associated with major ports. In addition, it was one of the most popular pagan religious shrines in the empire. Its great temple, dedicated to Diana, the goddess of the moon, was one of the marvels of the ancient world. Pilgrims came from everywhere in the empire to venerate the goddess.

Accommodating these pilgrims was itself a big business in Ephesus. The epistle sought to reinforce the commitment of the Christians in the city. This reading serves this purpose by reminding them that Jesus died for them, and that in faith they are one with the Lord, their Redeemer.

St. Mark's Gospel furnishes the last reading. In this reading, Jesus summons the "Twelve," the Apostles whom the Lord had deliberately called by name to the Apostolic vocation. Jesus sends them out into the highways and byways. He instructs them. He tells them not to burden themselves with supplies or provisions. God will supply.

They were obedient. They were the Lord's representatives and spokesmen. They went out into the countryside. They preached what Jesus had taught them. They possessed the Lord's power. They drove devils away. They anointed the sick, using that ancient gesture of healing and strengthening mentioned elsewhere in the Bible, and they cured the sick.

Jesus warned the Apostles that they would not be welcomed everywhere. In actual fact, according to tradition, only John did not die as a martyr.

### Reflection

The reading from Amos sets the stage this weekend. God communicates with us and guides, but only through those persons whom God expressly commissions. The reading from Mark validates the role and identity of the Apostles. No upstart can claim to equal any genuine prophet or Apostle.

The Epistle to the Ephesians was written for believers besieged on all sides by paganism and by hostility. The epistle reassured them. It reassures us. We have been redeemed. God has chosen us. Christ is with us.

We find God, and we hear the Lord, not by coincidence or luck. God sends the Good News of salvation to us through the very Son of God, through the Twelve to whom the Lord commissioned the continuing work of mercy and salvation.

Quite simply, these Twelve live, and still act, in and through the Church. Imposters will challenge them and attempt to usurp their role, and maybe the imposter is the tendency within ourselves to sin.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Am 7:12-15 Ps 85:9-14 Eph 1:3-14 Mk 6:7-13

**Monday:** Is 1:10-17 Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23 Mt 10:34—11:1

**Tuesday:** Is 7:1-9 Ps 48:2-8 Mt 11:20-24

**Wednesday:** Is 10:5-7, 13b-16 Ps 94:5-10, 14-15, Mt 11:25-27

**Thursday:** Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Ps 102:13-21 Mt 11:28-30

**Friday:** Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 (Ps) Is 38:10-12, 16 Mt 12:1-8

**Saturday:** Mi 2:1-5 Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14 Mt 12:14-21

## Polish witnesses

During a recent extended stay in Krakow, Poland, my wife and I traveled to Lublin for a weekend visit with our good friend, Father Alfred, a professor at the university and seminary there. Father Alfred arranged accommodations at his place, the seminary, accommodations which included breakfast in the priests' refectory. This was an impressive room, dominated by a beautiful large painting of the Visitation. Afterward, he invited us to see the students' refectory. Larger, but less grand than the dining room for the priests, it had no grand painting. However, along the side wall was a series of photographs, and it was these that our friend wanted us to see.

Looking down on the tables where the young seminarians ate their meals were the portraits of five men — four priests and a bishop — who had been taken by the Nazis and executed simply for being priests. I asked Father Alfred if these were here to teach the seminarians. "Precisely," said our friend, "at every meal they are reminded of the possible cost of the vocation they have accepted." Their predecessors, who had studied in this same seminary and who had eaten in this same refectory, were arrested suddenly, transported to the extermination camps, and killed simply for being Catholic priests.

Upon our return to Krakow, I took the time to visit the Lady Chapel of our parish church of Sts. Stanislaw and John Bosco, with its own photos of parish priests who had died at Nazi hands. Dominating the back wall of the chapel is a painted portrait of Blessed Josef Kowalski, who was taken to Auschwitz and drowned in a cesspool. (When the Nazis wished to send a message they could be brutally clear.) And yet having lost so many of its priests, this same parish contributed a great gift to the Church universal, a gift that we experience today.

To understand that gift it is necessary to walk into the main church. Along the left wall is a small shrine with the inscription "Bones of the Servant of God Jan Tyranowski."

Jan Tyranowski was a simple man, a tailor who lived and worked in a modest apartment on a narrow street about three blocks from the church. He was not important enough to draw the attention of Krakow's Nazi overlords. With priests and professors to arrest, no one pays attention to the tailor. Jan was also a devout Catholic, devoted to the rosary and Carmelite spirituality. In particular, he studied the writings of the Spanish mystic St. John of the Cross. But he was no theologian, not a professor. Professors were all arrested and transported to the Dachau concentration camp in 1939. Although Tyranowski studied Church Doctors, he was not important enough to deport. To Nazi eyes he was just a quiet, simple tailor.



GUEST COMMENTARY

ADRIAN REIMERS

During those dark years of occupation, when terror in the form of an unexpected Nazi soldier or the sound of the command "Halt!" haunted every street and neighborhood, Tyranowski quietly gathered some young men and formed what he called the Living Rosary. One of these young men, who lived on Tyniecka Street by the Vistula River, was the quarry worker Karol Wojtyla, whose studies of Polish language and literature had ended with the Occupation.

As young Wojtyla entered into the Living Rosary, the tailor introduced him to St. John of the Cross's writings on the complete love of God. In this spirituality and teaching, young Wojtyla found immense spiritual help and impetus for his growing awareness of his own vocation. While the war still raged and soldiers patrolled the streets, Karol Wojtyla began his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained in November 1946. Subsequently he became professor of ethics at the Catholic University of Lublin (where my friend is now a professor). In 1964 he became archbishop of Krakow. Then, to the world's surprise, this Pole was elected Pope John Paul II in October 1978.

The Church in Poland, brutally persecuted by the "Thousand Year Reich" and then stifled by totalitarian Communism, gave the Church an unexpected gift in Pope John Paul II. But this gift did not spring from a vacuum. Those heroic priests whose images look down from the walls of the seminary in Lublin and the Lady Chapel in Krakow showed the future pope courage and fidelity. And an ordinary layman, drawing on the riches of his Catholic faith and quietly working with the young men of his parish, opened young Karol's mind to a rich theology of love characterized by the total gift of self in love.

At the beginning of his papacy Pope John Paul II challenged us, "Be not afraid! Open the doors to Christ!" The courage he showed and called us to is the courage he found alive in the Church in Poland, in her priests who died in concentration camps and also in her laity, especially in the simple tailor who shared his Catholic faith with the young.

Adrian J. Reimers is the adjunct assistant professor at the University of Notre Dame and a member of Sacred Heart Parish at Notre Dame.



# Demand creates the economy of sin

I have been following the Mexican presidential elections with some interest. They fall in the same year as ours once every 12 years. In the Mexican campaign, the big issue is drugs.

Outgoing President Felipe Calderon has been waging a war against the violent cartels that are responsible for a large percentage of the drugs that enter the United States. One account estimates that 90 percent of the cocaine arriving into the United States comes via Latin America.

Calderon's campaign of arrests and seizures was intended to address violence between the cartels, but the violence has escalated. The cartels have retaliated by assassinating cabinet ministers, slaughtering police, killing journalists and even invading drug rehabilitation clinics to murder patients.

The five-year conflict has resulted in some 50,000 deaths. All three of the major party presidential candidates — including the woman running as the candidate of Calderon's conservative National Action Party (PAN) — seem to be putting a reduction in violence ahead of the war against the cartels.

Mexicans may be concluding that their fight against the drug suppliers will be futile and bloody as long as Americans are willing to shell out \$38 billion each year (according to the last United

Nations estimate) for cocaine alone.

In the economy of sin, evil begins on the demand side.

When I was a boy, we lived next door to the Forkers, whose parents were a lot more fun than ours. We learned early on that Mrs. Forker and her housekeeper kept their cigarettes in a drawer in the kitchen. We would sneak in the back door, right off the kitchen, and steal them when the coast was clear. If it looked risky, we would deputize the younger children to do the actual stealing, while we staged diversionary actions out front.

I was never sure how much our parents knew of this, but everybody else knew that the Garvey children smoked more than was good for them. (And wasn't it strange? Where ever did they get the cigarettes?)

Our early delinquency provides a reminder that where demand exists, even strict security and harsh prohibition (we would have been in for it, had we been caught) can be thwarted.

I do not know which policy is the right one for Mexico to follow. The awful rate of killings of the past few years is entirely the moral responsibility of the gangs, but presidents must consider the costs and benefits of any policy that brings with it such heavy loss of life (whoever might be at fault).

On the other hand, drug legalization, which some wise



JOHN GARVEY

## INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

heads are now suggesting, would do little to heal the societal maladies that addiction causes.

A 2010 federal National Survey on Drug Use and Health showed that more than 22 million Americans age 12 and older — or nearly 9 percent of the U.S. population — use illegal drugs.

Supply increases to meet demand, and Americans are to drugs what the Garvey children once were to cigarettes. In our backyard economy of nicotine, the younger children served as mules for the psychological reward of approval from the older kids.

Americans today are willing to pay huge sums of money to satisfy their drug cravings. Given that the love of money is, as St. Paul wrote, the root of all evil, it is little wonder that the suppliers are not schoolboys.

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

# Road-trip reflections: Faith and mobility

I write this from the road, winding through pines and rolling by silos as Highway 94 cuts across Wisconsin.

This is my third road trip in less than a month — a vacation, a wedding, a conference. I would be highway weary except these hills are so green and the sky, a marble band of periwinkle and white; the day is stretching out as wide as the road. Time to “dwell in possibility,” as Emily Dickinson wrote, to untether from deadlines and landlines and float in the space between Point A and Point B.

The highway remains a hallmark of the pre-parenthood 20s: We are exceedingly mobile. Researchers call us “transient,” which sounds like we sleep under bridges. We church hop, we couch surf, we can't be counted on to donate or subscribe or even show up, they say. We go through an average of seven jobs over the course of our 20s. One third of us move to a new residence every year. We live out of car trunks and cardboard boxes, suitcases and laundry baskets, packing and unpacking, hauling and hoping.

It's not that we don't long for roots, but it takes some time for all the pieces to fit together. My cousin finally found a job that allowed her to buy a house, complete with front porch, peony bush and tire swing, and she is reveling in her first summer there.

That is the formidable charge of the 20s: to discover your place and your purpose. A road trip provides

welcome reprieve from that quest. This morning I'm letting my mind zigzag through the white dotted line. I'm taking in the other drivers, imagining who's going where and why. I'm gazing at fences and farm homes and envisioning the narratives unfolding inside.

Road trips now come with Internet, so I can hop on Wikipedia to satisfy the impulse to brush up on state populations and presidential history: 44 presidencies, 43 men, four assassinations, four natural deaths while in office.

These summer trips have been filled with a hundred little discoveries. Like Ogallala, Neb., a town Dr. Seuss could have named, where the Dairy Queen serves food without a single company logo — blank white paper cups, plain silver foil wrappers.

Then there's the bridge contractor from Kansas I met at a fly fishing lesson. He protested the rushed pace of high-profile construction, saying, “Quality takes time.”

Two days later we white water rafted with a 46-year-old Illinois woman who had traveled to Colorado to meet her biological father, a wiry 72-year-old who had known of her existence but not her gender.

Coming home we discovered a 99-year-old antique carousel in Story City, Iowa, an impulsive stop triggered by a highway billboard. In a merry-go-round tucked between the high school and the ball field, painted ponies frolic among hand-



CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

## TWENTY SOMETHING

carved roosters and pigs. We arrived an hour before opening and were offered a free ride by three men testing the band organ.

Last week Pope Benedict XVI spoke of the traveler's life in an address to airport chaplains, cautioning that “continuous mobility and constant technological development ... tend to obscure the centrality of the human person.” He urged the priests to “make sure that every person, of whatever nationality or social background, can find in you a welcoming heart, able to listen and understand.”

That sounds like the mission of any Christian wherever you are, permanent home or six-month lease: to cultivate a welcoming heart. The 20-somethings I know do that well, and road trips help, greasing the hinges of the door to the heart.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at [www.ReadChristina.com](http://www.ReadChristina.com).

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for July 15, 2012

Mark 6:7-13

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: the sending out of the first disciples. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

|            |               |            |
|------------|---------------|------------|
| THE TWELVE | SEND THEM OUT | TWO BY TWO |
| GAVE THEM  | BELTS         | TO WEAR    |
| TUNIC      | ENTER         | HOUSE      |
| STAY THERE | LEAVE         | SHAKE      |
| DUST       | FEET          | TESTIMONY  |
| PREACHED   | DEMONS        | ANOINTED   |
| OIL        | MANY          | SICK       |

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

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# PILGRIM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Baptist was born in this cave, which was a part of the home of his parents — Zechariah and Elizabeth.

Both his father and mother were Levites, and Zechariah was a priest ministering in the eighth month because he was in the family of Abijah. 1 Chr 24:10, Lk 1:5. During one of these times of ministry an angel, who later described himself as Gabriel, appeared to him while he was burning incense in the temple and disclosed the future birth of John (the Baptist) to Elizabeth and Zechariah in their old age. (Lk 1:8-25)

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant the angel Gabriel visited Mary at Nazareth to announce the birth of Jesus. The Annunciation is well documented in Luke 1:26-38. Gabriel shared the joy of Elizabeth's pregnancy. Since Elizabeth was a relative, Mary went to visit her — likely at the cave below this church. (Lk 1:39-56)

## The Basilica of the Annunciation

The Basilica of the Annunciation, in Nazareth, is built on the site of the

Annunciation. It is the largest church in the Middle East. The Greek inscription above the main entrance states, “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,” from the Gospel of St. John 1:14. The Greek word that is translated to the English “Word” has many meanings. Considering the first five verses of chapter one, this occurrence is properly interpreted as “Divine Expression” and refers to the Incarnation of Jesus.

The church is built over a cave, which has been traditionally identified as the location of the Annunciation. It was identified as a church as early as the fourth century. This Byzantine church has been excavated below the existing church. That church had been destroyed and later rebuilt by the Franks. The cycle of destruction and rebuilding continued until the Franciscans rebuilt the church in 1730. It was enlarged in 1871 and then demolished in 1955 to build the current church, which was completed in 1969. The Church of the Annunciation now serves the 7,000 Catholics in Nazareth.

While we saw several other magnificent churches, we will explore those in future articles about the specific locations.

Scott Fleischmann is a writer, editor and publishing coach living in Grayslake, Ill.



# Father-son flag football challenge ends in tie

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — Some feisty youth and their dads met face to face in a challenging flag football game on Father's Day, June 17. The youthful Crewsaders played the Geritol Giants in a hard fought game that left a few battle wounds, but the football players enjoyed the day. The game ended in a tie.

The match, played in Arlotta Stadium on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, was a fundraiser for the St. Augustine Youth Ministry.

The game not only raised funds for the St. Augustine Youth Ministry, but helped them raise awareness of the dangers of sickle cell anemia, which primarily afflicts African Americans.

The team honored Alex "Ray" Gill who was unable to play this

year by loaning his jersey to another player to wear.

There was also a blood drive during which blood donations to Group No. 1001 were honored by the South Bend Medical Foundation with a donation of \$5 back to the St. Augustine Youth Ministry.

One of the highlights of the game was the "Monty play," which allowed longtime player Monty Huddleston to make a touchdown.

"Monty took it very serious and ran his heart out," said Steve Filbert, who played on the fathers' team. "It was the greatest moment ever because every player playing their position tried to catch him, but they couldn't, and Monty ran his heart out."

Trajon Wright, a member of the youth team, said of the match, "What I like was the men were tough opponents, but we were



PROVIDED BY ???

The Crewsaders vs. the Geritol Giants flag teams played in Super Bowl IV, a flag football Game at Arlotta Stadium on the campus of the University of Notre Dame on Father's Day, June 17. The game ended in a tie.

not afraid and played them hard." He added, "My brother KyShawn and I had a chance to play together. We do everything together and this game was really fun."

Another youth player, Jamar

Taylor, said, "The best part of the game for me was getting to play. ...Because the game ended in a tie nobody could boast who was the best or say they won. But the best part of day was seeing every-

one who came out to support us. That made me feel so good."

Holy Cross Father Leonard Collins, pastor of St. Augustine Church, sat along the sidelines in case anyone was in need of a blessing. "These players put in a lot of practice in preparation for the game," Father Collins said. "Not only did the practices prepare them to play, it gave them a chance for fellowship. Fellowship is very much a part of St. Augustine, and it was a great day for all in attendance."


The St. Augustine youth are still taking donations to reach their target goal of \$1,000. Send contributions to St. Augustine Youth Ministry, P.O. Box 3198, South Bend, IN 46619-0198. For information contact Father Collins at (574) 234-7082, or Deacon Mel Tardy, St. Augustine Youth Minister, at (574) 707-1231.

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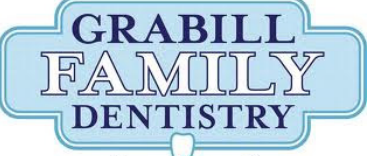


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**WHAT'S HAPPENING** carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or email: fhogan@diocesefwsb.org. Events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

**Class of 1992**

South Bend — The Saint Joseph High School class of 1992 will have a 20-year reunion the week-end of August 17-19. An informal gathering at Brother's Bar, will be Friday at 8 p.m., in the Eddy Street Commons. Saturday from 7-11 p.m., light appetizers and a cash bar will be available at Villa Macri's in Toscana Park. Contact Micki Schueler at Micki.Schueler@deluxe.com or (734) 834-8888 for information.

**Spaghetti dinner planned**

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

**Miracle Mile 5K walk/run planned**

Fort Wayne — St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 10700 Aboite Center Rd., will hold the Miracle Miles 5K run/walk in conjunction with Seton Fest, the parish's summer festival, on Saturday, Aug. 11 at 8 a.m. to benefit the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen and Franciscan Center. Pre-registration fee in addition to one canned good is due by Aug. 3. Fees are \$10 for those 20 and older or \$5 for those 19 and younger. Race day registration is \$5 more. Pre-registered participants are guaranteed a

T-shirt and race day packet.

Course is USATF certified (ID# IN 11006 MW). For information or to register, contact Kristin Spoltman at (260) 616-0687 or kspoltman@gmail.com.

**Rugby camp held**

Fort Wayne — A Rugby camp will be held the week of July 16-19 for all youth, boys and girls, in grades 7-12. The camp coaches will be Sam DiFilippo and two interns with Rugby Indiana visiting the United States this summer from Wales. The camp provides a way for kids to learn the sport and is for all skill levels. To attend, email Ritter at ksrutter1@live.com.

**Theology on TAP – Summer Series: Catholic Citizenship**

South Bend — A Catholic speaker series for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single and married, to share in food, fellowship, and faith will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at The Backstage Grill, 222 S. Michigan St. Topics include, July 24: "Dying to Live: A Theology of Immigration" – Father Daniel Groody, CSC; July 31: "Religious Freedom and the HHS Mandate" – Carter Snead; August 7: "Tackling Poverty for the Common Good" – Bill Purcell; August 14: "Economics and Public Policy: A Primer

for Catholics" – Eric Sims. The series is presented by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/tot.

**Festival and polka Mass**

South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary Parish, 829 W. Calvert, will have a festival and polka Mass Saturday, July 21, from 4-10 p.m. Polka Mass at 5 p.m., Zumba at 7 p.m. Hungarian and Spanish foods, hotdogs, sausage, pop and adult beverages will be offered. Tips, raffles, kids games along with music by "Just Us" and dancing at 6 p.m. For information contact the Domonkos family at (574) 255-1906.

**Knights plan spaghetti dinner**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, July 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$8, children (5-12) \$3.50. Carry-out available.

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Louise Ethel Kelley, 89, Catherine Kasper Chapel

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**Elkhart**

George Palermo, 91, St. Vincent de Paul

**Fort Wayne**

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Maria Del Rayo Garcia, 88, St. Patrick

Suzanne M. Jehl, 78, St. Vincent de Paul

Donald George Till, 91, Queen of Angels

Margaret H. Schuhler, 96, Our Lady of Good Hope

Ruth Zollinger, 89, St. Joseph

Helen Ann Pequignot, 103, St. Joseph

Robert Martin Groff Sr., 46, Most Precious Blood

Judith A. Hershberger, 68, St. Charles Borromeo

Paul F. Witte, 87, Most Precious Blood

Diane L. Fahlsing, 54, Most Precious Blood

Jack J. Kuhn, 86, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Irene P. McDonald, 93, St. Charles Borromeo

Dolores A. Schmidt, 87, St. Vincent de Paul

**Goshen**

Ronald R. Kelly, 74, St. John the Evangelist

**Granger**

Elsie Catanzarite, 78, St. Pius X

**Kendallville**

Lindsey Anne Couture, 24, Immaculate Conception

Agnes F. Van Gessel, 92, Immaculate Conception

**Mishawaka**

Jay William Chase, 59, St. Joseph

Dorothy G. Hintz, 82, St. Joseph

Betty M. Brittain, 90, St. Joseph

Gaylord E. Powell, 81, St. Joseph

**Notre Dame**

Sister Kathleen Marie Till, CSC, 89, Our Lady of Loretto

Sister Aloysia Marie Mulcaire, CSC, 102, Our Lady of Loretto

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Timothy J. Lavallee, 60, Holy Cross

Robert A. Henry, 80, St. Matthew Cathedral

Mable Cleo McIntyre, 98, Our Lady of Hungary

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# FREEDOM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Conference of Catholic Bishops that we hope engage people in issues beyond Sunday morning.”

Gregory and Dianne Mitro from St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne felt empowered by the Mass saying, “It’s a beautiful event and we need to have more protests publicly in order to have our country back in terms of values.”

Gregory adds, “While it is a good thing that Fortnight for Freedom is happening, it’s unfortunate circumstances have made it necessary to have it happen.”

Sacred Heart parishioner Rhonda Kuhn recommends that the observance continue until the November election.

Rita Talamantes from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception believes that “we are at a very historical time and that our actions (through Fortnight for Freedom) will prevent future strife.”

Matthew Bunson, editor of Our Sunday Visitor’s Catholic Almanac and *Catholic Answer* magazine, shares these thoughts about Fortnight for Freedom: “For those of us concerned about religious liberty, Fortnight for Freedom in an opportunity to work together in prayer, fasting and educating ourselves and others about what has, I think, become one of the most pressing issues in modern American Catholic history.

“In particular, the prayers and fasting performed in solidarity as a Church unite us and strengthen us and remind us of the power of the Holy Spirit in transforming hearts and minds. We need the Fortnight for Freedom to remember our bishops. Keep them in our thoughts and support their labors as the authentic shepherds of the Church. Finally, the Fortnight for Freedom reminds us as Americans and as Catholics, we should not have to choose to be one or the other as the bishops recently reminded us.”

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# Nearly 300 attend Stand Up for Religious Freedom rally June 30

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — A second Stand Up for Religious Freedom rally took place on June 30 with nearly 300 people in attendance. Held at Freimann Square in downtown Fort Wayne, the event was sponsored by Allen County Right to Life (ACRL) in opposition to the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate under the Affordable Care Act that requires all employer health plans to provide free contraception, sterilizations and abortion-inducing drugs, regardless of any moral or religious objections.

On May 21, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and several other area Catholic institutions, filed a lawsuit against various government defendants, seeking justice from U.S. District Court (Northern District of Indiana, Fort Wayne Division).

Speakers at the rally included Fred Everett, co-director of the diocesan Office of Family Life, Laura Wegmann, winner of the Right to Life Oratory Contest and a recent Hillsdale College graduate, Pat Miller, local radio personality, Cathie Humbarger, ACRL director and representatives of the Indiana General Assembly.

Sean McBride, communications director for the diocese, opened the event by reading a letter from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, ordinary of Fort Wayne-South Bend, welcoming those in attendance, thanking them “for calling for religious freedom” and adding “we must be free to live the Gospel in the public square.”

“The HHS mandate violates the First Amendment,” Bishop Rhoades continued. “We must not allow the weakening of religious liberty in our beloved nation,” he concluded.

“... The Supreme Court ... in a closely divided decision, upheld one of the most sweeping pieces of legislation to ever pass the United States Congress and gain the signature of the President of the United States,” said Everett in his opening remarks. “Not only sweeping in scope and in its effects on the fiscal and healthcare future of our country, this law, the Affordable Care Act, has, for the first time, put the financial resources of the federal government in support of subsidizing abortion on demand throughout this country. This is something new,” Everett emphasized.

“Soon after the infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision was handed down by the Supreme Court in 1973, Congress limited federal abortion spending to the relatively few instances of pregnancies that endangered the life of the mother or, later on in the ‘90s, that were the result of rape or incest,” Everett explained. “Known as the Hyde amendment, this statutory provision guaranteed that the federal government would not be financially subsidizing abortion on demand... Those days are



PHOTOS BY VINCE LABARBERA

**The day after a devastating thunderstorm struck several Midwestern and Eastern states on June 29, a crowd of nearly 300 made their way into downtown Fort Wayne to attend a “Stand Up for Religious Freedom” rally sponsored by Allen County Right to Life.**



**Fred Everett addresses attendees at a “Stand Up for Religious Freedom” rally in downtown Fort Wayne June 30.**

now over.”

Last year, the HHS included a newly-crafted exemption for religious organizations so they would not have to provide for certain so-called preventive services. However, this exemption is so narrowly tailored that very few religious organizations even qualify for it, Everett said.

“This so-called HHS mandate... is very troubling, especially for those of us who hold religious freedom dear. So troubling, in fact, that many Christian institutions took the extraordinary step ... of filing suit in federal court asking for relief.

“There are two main reasons behind these suits. The first, and most obvious, is because it would coerce conscientiously opposed employers to subsidize or directly fund ethically problematic drugs or devices, especially those that result in the killing of an embryonic human being only several days or weeks old,” said Everett. “Especially for those organizations that are self-insured like the Diocese

of Fort Wayne-South Bend, this would put my employer in the position of actually paying for these types of services directly. While the administration announced a so-called accommodation back in February in which private insurers would be required to pay for these services, this only addressed those religious organizations that had third party insurers not those like the diocese that act as their own insurer.”

“The second reason ... is that it seeks to provide a new definition of what qualifies as a religious organization. No longer is it sufficient that an organization is inspired by religious principles and seeks to serve the common good of all society. The HHS religious exemption is so narrowly tailored that it only exempts those religious institutions whose mission is primarily to inculcate religious values and whose employees and those they serve are of the same faith,” he said. Organizations that seek to serve others — regardless of religious affiliation — apparently do not qualify as religious enough. Everett said this is why organizations as diverse as the Salvation Army or the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America have voiced their opposition to the HHS mandate. As many commentators have now observed, Jesus Christ and His Apostles would not even have qualified for this religious exemption, Everett emphasized.

“Devout Christians, along with Orthodox Jews and religiously observant Moslems, are in the crosshairs,” he stressed.

“What this means is that instead of defending religious liberty as long understood in the tradition of our country, this administration and their secularist allies now only defend what they call the freedom

of worship. In other words, as long as you go to your church, your synagogue or your mosque to pray and worship, and don’t try to engage the general public in dialogue or service, you’re okay. Otherwise, you might pose a threat to the secularist vision of what human society should look like — one that promotes sexual license, an ambivalent attitude to marriage and a willingness to strip human dignity from people at the beginning or end of life who are inconvenient or unproductive.”

“Our country is indeed at a crossroads,” he added. The fastest growing religious affiliation in our country is no religion — making up one in six Americans. “We cannot expect that a country that is losing its religious convictions to appreciate the importance of religious freedom. That is why this effort to defend our religious liberty must go far beyond a legal or political effort. It must be a spiritual and cultural effort. Our main tools in this must be to promote the truth in charity. We must break the cycle of anger and recrimination that fosters ever-increasing levels of discord and polarization in our country. We must reach out in friendship to those who view religion with suspicion. We must make the case for the importance of virtue and religion to society. In the end, democracy cannot be sustained without a commitment to fundamental moral truths. Only seeking a wisdom that comes from above will sustain our religious liberty here below,” Everett concluded.

The next religious freedom rally will be held Saturday, Aug. 11, at 10 a.m. at a location yet to be announced. It will feature Third District U.S. Congressman Marlin Stutzman.