



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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BY TIM JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D.C. — They arrived on multiple buses — all in an effort to stand for life in the National March for Life that marked the 40th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion.

Although families and people of all ages participated in the national march, it has garnered tremendous numbers of young people — high schools, youth groups, college students and young adults from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The University of Notre Dame's Right to Life Club led the entire march and carried the banner. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades marched with people from the diocese and other religious leaders. The diocesan and statewide Knights of Columbus and right-to-life organizations throughout the diocese took a stand for life.

"I was very surprised to see the number of people," noted Maria Hite, a student at Marian High School in Mishawaka, and parishioner of Queen of Peace in Mishawaka. She estimated between 400,000 and 500,000 participants.

"Seeing everyone at the march, especially people my age, helped me to realize how important this faith for life is," Hite told *Today's Catholic*. "It also helped me see that we are truly making a difference."

Hite said she plans to share the experiences she had in Washington and encourage others "to take a stand

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PROVIDED BY STEVE ZIEMBA

One hundred sixty-five Indiana Knights and their families from across Indiana participated in the 2013 March for Life in Washington, D.C. remembering the 40th anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling on *Roe v. Wade*. This marks the fourth consecutive trip to the march by the Indiana Knights. The state banner and abortion cross were prominently shown on EWTN at the rally in the Washington Mall and during the march itself.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC ENVELOPE INSERTED

In this issue of *Today's Catholic*, an offering envelope is inserted requesting our valued readers to



help us finance a portion of the production and delivery costs of this newspaper to all registered Catholic homes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Your generosity gives you a share in the works of evangelization throughout the diocese. We thank you for your financial support.

Year of Faith app, blog inspire faithful across the globe

BY KAY COZAD

When Pope Benedict XVI declared Oct. 11, 2012 the beginning of a Year of Faith for the worldwide community of Catholic faithful, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend took heed. Director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Cindy Black, along with Associate Director of Youth Ministry Megan Swaim, formerly Megan Oberhausen, and Program Assistant Emily Barnes, formerly Emily Burman, put their heads together at the request of Mary Glowaski, division director and Secretariat for Evangelization and Special Ministries, and devised a way to not only celebrate the Year of Faith in the diocese, but use new media and technology as well.

The My Year of Faith app was created by Patrick Leinen and Little iApps, the group that created the Confession App, and went live on Oct. 11, offering a customiz-

able faith formation resource for Catholics and others across the globe. It is available for iPhone and Android mobile device users and offers features that lead to a deeper understanding of the faith, an increased prayer life and reflections from nationally known bloggers and writers. Swaim calls it, "putting out into the digital deep." Those without Smartphones can follow the blog at www.myyearoffaith.com.

Swaim reports that there are two major components to the app.

"The first is the blog reader, which allows users to access the posts right from their phone," she says. "The second is a calendar, which provides challenges that correspond to the blog posts that helps users grow in their faith everyday through prayer, reading and action."

In this era of the New Evangelization set forth by Blessed Pope John Paul II, Black

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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: Michelle Castleman,
Karen Clifford, Bonnie Elbersen, Denise
Fedorow, Diane Freeby, May Lee
Johnson, Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC,
Jodi Magallanes, Joe Kozinski, Vince
LaBarbera and Deb Wagner

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Sean McBride

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Kathy Voirol
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen (Fort Wayne area)

(260) 456-2824

Jeanette Simon (South Bend area)

(574) 234-0687

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

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

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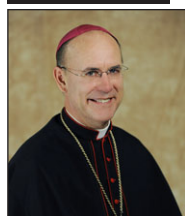
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Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

As you may know, the Bishops of the United States have launched a Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty. We invite Catholics during this Year of Faith to pray for rebuilding a culture of life, the strengthening and defense of marriage, and the protection of our religious liberty.

We have issued this call since these three great goods are threatened in our day. For decades, we have seen the erosion of respect for human life. This past week, hundreds of people from our diocese joined me in Washington, D.C., for the March for Life. After 40 years of legalized abortion in our nation, we continue to stand up for the right to life of the unborn and for the protection of all human life from conception to natural death. In the Call to Prayer, we encourage prayer for this specific intention.

The Call to Prayer includes prayer for the protection of marriage. Current trends in both government and culture promote the redefinition of marriage as the union of any two persons. This ignores marriage's fundamental meaning and purpose as the universal and natural institution that unites a man and a woman with each other and with the children born from their union.

The Call to Prayer also includes prayer for religious liberty. Religious liberty is America's first freedom. This freedom is threatened in various contexts today, most notably by the HHS Mandate that requires almost all employers to pay for employees' contraception, sterilization, and abortifacient drugs, regardless of conscientious objections.

The Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty also includes a call to penance and sacrifice for these three goods.

The Call to Prayer specially recommends five practices:

Eucharistic Holy Hours.

Daily Rosary.

Prayers of the Faithful at Masses.

Abstinence from meat and fasting on Fridays.

Observance of a second Fortnight for Freedom in late June and early July 2013.

I encourage the five components of this Call to Prayer in the parishes and other institutions of our diocese. Of course, individuals and families are also encouraged to participate in the practices recommended by the Bishops for these important intentions.

I would like to elaborate on the 4th recommendation: abstinence from meat and fasting on Fridays for the intentions of life, marriage, and religious liberty. Since the law dispensing from the canonical obligation of abstinence from meat on Friday back in 1966, it seems that we have lost the observance of Friday as a day of penance in memory of the passion and death of Our Lord. I encourage a renewal in our



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERITZ

In this file photo, Father Anthony Stanganelli uses a censer during Eucharistic Adoration at SS. Philip and James Church in St. James, N.Y. The Bishops of the United States have launched a Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty. "We invite Catholics during this Year of Faith to pray for rebuilding a culture of life, the strengthening and defense of marriage and the protection of our religious liberty," says Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in this week's In Truth and Charity column.

diocese of the observance of Friday as a day of Penance, not only during Lent, but throughout the year. One way to do so is to abstain from eating meat on every Friday of the year, unless it is a liturgical Solemnity (a major feast of the Church). I encourage this act of penance for the intentions of life, marriage, and religious liberty.

Of course, people may choose other practices of self-denial and sacrifice as ways to observe Fridays as penitential days. Yet, I think it is especially appropriate to have a common act of penance, in this case, abstinence from meat. Also, as Pope Paul VI said back in 1966: "fast and abstinence have a privileged place" among the forms of penance. Abstinence from meat is obligatory on all the Fridays of Lent, yet I hope that we will voluntarily abstain from meat on all Fridays of the year for the intentions of life, marriage, and religious liberty.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "the seasons and days of penance in the course of the liturgical year (Lent, and each Friday in memory of the death of the Lord) are intense moments of the Church's penitential practice" (#1438). Our penance during Lent and on Fridays throughout the year should be both internal and external, individual and social. Not

excluding other means of penance, I am particularly recommending the practice of Friday abstinence from meat for the intentions of life, marriage, and religious liberty.

The Lenten season will begin soon, on February 13th, Ash Wednesday. This penitential season is an opportunity every year to unite ourselves to the mystery of Jesus in the desert. This season prepares us for the celebration of Easter through more frequent prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I hope that our observance of Lent during this Year of Faith will be especially fruitful.

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has called the Year of Faith "a summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the one Savior of the world." In our journey of faith, we all need purification and continual conversion. The practice of penance reminds us of this need and helps to configure us to Christ whose death expiated our sins.

Let us approach the season of Lent with hope in God's mercy and trust in the help of His grace. May the Holy Spirit give us the grace for repentance and conversion!

May the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty bear good fruit in our nation!

Statement of Bishop John M. D'Arcy



Jan. 24, 2013

I wish to thank Bishop Rhoades and all the people of our beloved diocese for the prayers of so many, which have been poured out on me. They are an enormous consolation. Please continue them.

Pray that my "YES" to God and His Will, be full and whole-hearted and never begrudging, but a strong "YES." I hope my "Yes" has the same spirit of Our Lady at the Annunciation and also her "Yes" at the foot of the cross.

It is good to be home. I send you all my love and gratitude.

John M. D'Arcy
Bishop John M. D'Arcy

Pro-life pilgrims gather for diocesan Mass

BY TIM JOHNSON

ARLINGTON, Va. — While many Catholic National March for Life participants had ample opportunity to pray and celebrate the sacraments, diocesan pilgrims gathered Saturday morning with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades who celebrated Mass at St. Ann Church in Arlington, Va.

The memorial of the day was that of Ss. Timothy and Titus.

Bishop Rhoades told the pilgrims he was grateful for all who came to Washington from the diocese "to bear witness to the Gospel of Life."

"As believers in Christ, we must defend and promote the right to life as we recognize the incomparable value of every human life from its very beginning at conception until its natural end," Bishop Rhoades emphasized as he began his homily. "So many lives are destroyed by abortion and that is why we came to Washington to march. We cannot be passive or indifferent to this tragedy, to the culture of death and its perverse idea of freedom. The Lord calls us to show reverence and love for the life of every person, for human life is His gift and His image, including life in the womb."

Ss. Timothy and Titus were companions and coworkers of St. Paul in the apostolic ministry. In the first reading of the day, St. Paul tells Timothy, "For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, ... but bear your share of hardship for the Gospel with the strength that comes from God."

"Courageous faith is needed in the Church today," Bishop Rhoades said. "In working for a culture of life and love, we encounter powerful forces promoting the culture of death. But the power of love is the greatest power we have."

"It is this power that is ultimately victorious, as Jesus shows us in His life, death and resurrection," Bishop Rhoades added. "In all we do, we must rely on the help of God, His grace, and His power, for nothing is impossible for God. It is He who sustains us in the great struggle between good and evil, between light and darkness, in our own individual lives and in our culture. He gives us the strength,



PROVIDED BY DEACON MEL TARDY

Youths from the St. Augustine Youth Group, South Bend, get a photo with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and chaperones, Deacon Mel Tardy and his wife Annie, at St. Ann Church in Arlington, Va. Bishop Rhoades celebrated Mass on Jan. 26 for diocesan pilgrims who attended the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 25. In the photo, from left, are Tania Wilson, Gabriell Jones, Deacon Mel Tardy, Bishop Rhoades, Tiana Wilson, Annie Tardy and Annie Johnson.

as He gave strength to Saints Paul, Timothy and Titus, to bear our share of hardship for the Gospel of life."

Bishop Rhoades spoke of the day's Gospel where Jesus sent the 72 disciples on a mission. He sent them "like lambs among wolves."

"We may feel, at times, like lambs among wolves as Catholics in today's culture," Bishop Rhoades said. He told the pilgrims Jesus warned the 72 disciples that they would meet opposition as they carry out Jesus' mission. Jesus also told them not to carry money or provisions.

"He wanted them to rely on God and the hospitality of others rather than on their own resources," Bishop Rhoades said. "The same for us today. We are to rely on God and trust in His care for us as we go out like lambs among wolves. Our strength lies in acknowledging our weakness and our dependence on God as we bear witness to the Gospel of life and bring God's love and peace to others."

Jesus instructed the disciples to tell those they visit, "The Kingdom of God is at hand for you."

"Though God's reign will not be established in its fullness until the end of the world, it begins to be present in peoples' lives through the healing and preaching of Jesus' disciples," Bishop Rhoades said. "The Kingdom of God becomes a reality in their lives as they are freed from the grip of evil. The

coming of the Kingdom of God means the coming of God's final triumph over evil. It means the coming of God's reign over everyone and everything — His reign of love."

Bishop Rhoades said, today, God is establishing His Kingdom through the proclamation of the Gospel and His Gospel is the Gospel of Life.

"As Jesus sent the 72, He sends us to proclaim and to serve the Gospel of life," Bishop Rhoades said. "In so doing, the Kingdom of God grows and produces abundant fruit in the Church and in the world today."

Susan Richter, principal of Saint Joseph High School in South Bend, attended the national march and Masses with 157 students and 15 chaperones.

"Bishop Rhoades' homily was very meaningful and helped all present to understand their part in the Right to Life movement," Richter told *Today's Catholic*. "It's not just about marching, but how we live out the Gospel every day. This is critically important as we continue to fight for respect for life."

"It takes real courage, sacrifice and commitment to stand up to so many others in our society who believe that pro-choice is right," she added. "We must persevere in this battle — we must fight to defend those that cannot defend themselves, especially the unborn."



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Feb. 3, 4 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame
- Tuesday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m. — All Schools Mass, Joyce Center, University of Notre Dame
- Tuesday, Feb. 5, 5:15 p.m. — Mass at Saint Albert the Great Chapel, Zahm House, University of Notre Dame
- Wednesday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m. — Lecture of Archbishop Gerhard Muller, Prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, University of Notre Dame
- Friday, Feb. 8, 5:15 p.m. — Mass for Edith Stein Conference, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame
- Saturday, Feb. 9, 4 p.m. — Mass at "Rekindle the Fire" Conference, Century Center, South Bend

Pope marks Holocaust Remembrance Day, calls for end to hatred

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day calls humanity to work to overcome all forms of hatred and racism and to respect the dignity of each human person.

Praying the Angelus Jan. 27 with visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square, the pope called attention to the international day for remembering the victims of the Nazis.

"The memory of this immense tragedy, which so harshly struck the Jewish people most of all, must represent for everyone a constant warning so that the horrors of the past are not repeated, all forms of hatred and racism are overcome and respect for the dignity of the human person is promoted," the pope said.

Pope Benedict later invoked the intercession of Sts. Damien de Veuster and Marianne Cope of Molokai, Hawaii, as he also marked World Leprosy Day.

In a statement released Jan. 25, Archbishop Zygmunt Zimowski, president of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry, said the fact that some 220,000 men, women and children contracted Hansen's disease in 2011 demonstrates that too many people do not have adequate access to health education and basic health care and that a strong stigma still is attached to the disease, which prevents people from seeking a diagnosis and treatment.

For the recitation of the Angelus, Pope Benedict was joined by a boy and a girl representing some 3,000 members of the children's section of Catholic Action Rome. An annual meeting with the pope marks the end of the youngsters' "Caravan of Peace," a project that raises awareness and money to help other children living in situations of tension and conflict.

In parishes throughout Rome,



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Benedict XVI releases a dove from the window of his apartment overlooking St. Peter's Square after praying the Angelus at the Vatican Jan. 27.

the children raised money this year for the Jesuit-run "Art and Life" project that benefits street children in Alexandria, Egypt.

Keeping an annual tradition, the pope told the children, "Now, let's release the doves, symbols of the Spirit of God who gives peace to those who welcome His love."

The pope and the kids released two doves from the window of the pope's apartment overlooking St. Peter's Square. Unusually this year, neither of the birds flew back into the papal apartment, prompting the pope to say, "That was successful."

However, a few minutes later, a large sea gull swooped down on one of the doves. The dove did manage to escape.

Christian cooperation key to proclaiming the Gospel, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

ROME (CNS) — Christians must work together to offer the faith they share to a world that seems to find it more and more difficult to believe, Pope Benedict XVI told Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant leaders.

"Unity is in itself a privileged means — almost a requirement — for proclaiming the faith in an increasingly credible way to those who do not yet know the Savior or who, having received the proclamation of the Gospel, have almost forgotten this precious gift," Pope Benedict said Jan. 25.

Presiding over an evening prayer service at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the pope said that, even as divided Christians continue their theological dialogues in the search for full unity, "It is necessary to pursue concrete collaboration among the disciples of Christ on behalf of the cause of transmitting the faith to the modern world.

"In today's society, it seems that the Christian message has a diminishing impact on personal and community life, and this represents a challenge for all churches and ecclesial communities," Pope Benedict said in his homily at Rome's Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

The key to meeting the chal-



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Benedict XVI leads an ecumenical evening prayer service at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome Jan. 25. The service concluded the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

lenge, the pope said, is for Christians to pray to God for the gift of unity and step up their efforts at "reconciliation, dialogue and mutual understanding."

"Communion in the same faith is the basis for ecumenism," he said.

During the Year of Faith, which the pope established to encourage Catholics to study the basic tenets of their faith and strengthen their religious practice and witness, he said Christians should recognize and give thanks for their shared faith in God, in Jesus as savior and in the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies and continues to give life to the Church.

"Without faith — which primarily is a gift of God, but is also a response of man — the whole ecumenical movement would be

reduced to a form of 'contract' to which we adhere out of our common interests," he said.

Instead, ecumenism itself is an expression of faith in Jesus, who prayed that His disciples would be one, the pope said.

The theme — "What does God require of us?" — and reflections for the 2013 week of prayer were developed by Christians in India, working with the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The material highlighted the believers' biblical obligation "to do justice, love goodness and walk humbly with God."

"True faith in God is inseparable from personal holiness, just as it is inseparable from the search for jus-

stice," the pope said.

He prayed for Christians in India, "who sometimes are called to witness to their faith in difficult circumstances," and he said that while walking humbly with God means trusting God completely, "it also means walking beyond the barriers, hatred, racism and social and religious discrimination that divide and damage the whole society."

Pope Benedict offered special greetings during the prayer service to members of the Joint International Commission for Theological Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Oriental Orthodox Churches, which include the Armenian Apostolic, Coptic Orthodox, Ethiopian Orthodox, Syrian Orthodox, Malankara Orthodox Syrian and Eritrean Orthodox churches.

Meeting commission members earlier in the day, the pope said many of the Oriental Orthodox faithful live in areas "where Christians, as individuals and communities, face painful trials and difficulties which are a source of deep concern to us all."

The pope asked the Catholic and Oriental Orthodox leaders to convey to their faithful in the Middle East his prayers that "this land, so important in God's plan of salvation, may be led, through constructive dialogue and cooperation, to a future of justice and lasting peace."

Bishops offer resources for World Marriage Day, National Marriage Week

WASHINGTON (USCCB) — Marriage initiatives this February affirm the priority of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to support and strengthen marriage, said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who oversees the bishop's efforts in this area.

World Marriage Day, which is promoted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, is being sponsored Sunday, Feb. 10, in U.S. dioceses and parishes.

Bishop Rhoades will celebrate Mass and World Marriage Day on Saturday, Feb. 2, at 4:30 p.m. at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church in Bristol.

"World Marriage Day received the Apostolic Blessing of John Paul II in 1993," noted Bishop Rhoades. "It has continued to grow and spread among many countries and faith expressions ever since."

Resources for celebrating World Marriage Day can be found at <http://wmd.wmme.org>.

Bishop Rhoades also highlighted National Marriage Week USA, which will be observed Feb. 7-14.

"This project is a collaborative effort to influence the culture by faith communities, business, media, education and nonprofit groups," said Bishop Rhoades, one that is working to "focus national attention on the need to strengthen marriage," launching "new efforts for marriage education and crisis intervention," and promoting "a message about the benefits of marriage."

Bishop Rhoades noted that National Marriage Week USA also recognizes that children are best served when raised in the context of a marriage with a father and a mother.

Bishop Rhoades also recommended numerous online resources of the USCCB, including www.foryourmarriage.org and its Spanish counterpart www.portummatrimonio.org; the pastoral letter on marriage, "Love and Life in the Divine Plan," at www.usccb.org/loveandlife; advocacy resources on why marriage should be promoted as the union of a man and a woman, www.marriageuniqueforareason.org; a collection of briefing papers entitled "Making A Case for Marriage," a collection of essays, teaching materials and resources for prayer and celebration.

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Child care legislation aims to improve child safety, quality care

INDIANAPOLIS — State lawmakers aim to improve child care standards through a series of proposals this year. “The Church supports the effort as a prudent measure to ensure child safety and quality care,” said Glenn Tebbe, Indiana Catholic Conference executive director, who serves as the official representative for the Indiana bishops on matters of public policy.

Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Markle, plans to tackle some of the changes. Holdman, who serves as chairman of the Interim Committee on Child Care, spent the past several months studying child care issues.

Members of the child care panel became aware of a variety of concerns with Hoosier child care laws. One problem is there are child care providers who are registered and operating under the church ministry designation, but are not churches or ministries.

“Some groups are operating in less than wholesome and sometimes dangerous environments,” said Tebbe.

“When people or organizations that are not authentic churches or ministries operate under the guise of a ministry they do a disservice to not only those they claim to be serving, but are tarnishing the reputation of churches and authentic ministries that are providing quality care.”

Holdman said he took his committee on a road trip and visited a child care facility operated by a husband and wife who had formed a nonprofit corporation and registered as an

exempt church child care provider. “When we visited the child care center, we found two adult women caring for 56 children,” he said. “The business enterprise was quite profitable,” said Holdman. He said that within a five-year period, they had collected \$10 million from child care vouchers from their child care business. “This business enterprise was avoiding a lot of costs associated with safety compliance standards like adult-child ratios because they were operating under a church ministry exemption, but were doing so in name only.”

Holdman explained that current law doesn't define a church, but rather allows any nonprofit with the word ministry in its title to operate a child care facility as a registered exempt church or ministry. “Anyone could start a nonprofit organization with the word ministry in its name and get the church exemption,” said Holdman. “These are child care business enterprises that should not be getting the church exemption.”

Holdman said the religious exemption was put in place to allow churches to provide care without having to meet the same stringent requirements as other licensed centers because it could place a cost prohibitive burden on some churches that could not comply with certain building standards, yet he said many legitimate ministries are providing high quality care, and have their own safety standards in place.

Sen. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn,

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

is authoring a bill to clarify the definition for a church or ministry for child care purposes, which allows legitimate churches or ministries to continue to operate as they are, yet would require child care businesses to comply with safety standards of legally licensed child care centers.

Holdman said, “It is not our intent to burden churches through this legislation, but to help provide safe, quality care for children.”

Tebbe is tracking at least nine bills this year that will address certain nuances of improving child care.

Rep. Vanessa Summers, D-Indianapolis, is authoring a proposal requiring certain child care providers to get national criminal history background checks to protect children from previous sex offenders. There are three proposals, one in the House also authored by Summers, and two in the Senate to improve quality care for lower income families who are receiving child care vouchers by requiring providers who receive vouchers to meet basic safety standards and provide activities that enhance early childhood development.

Holdman is also authoring a proposal to assist early childhood development by offering a tax credit to families who choose to send their child to a high quality child care provider that meets certain curriculum and safety standard.

Indiana law currently allows at least three types of child care providers: 1) a licensed child care center; 2) a licensed child care home; and 3) an unlicensed, registered child care ministry. Under current law, each type comes with certain requirements.

Holdman said he is optimistic that lawmakers can get something passed this year to improve child care safety, but encouraged Hoosiers to contact their lawmakers and urge their support for improved child care safety.

“The sad thing is sometimes something bad has to happen before a law is passed,” said Holdman. “There are some problems in Indiana with child care safety, and we need to get this resolved before a child gets hurt.

As Christians, I think Jesus calls us to protect and defend the least among us — and those are our children. We have an obligation, and it is our Christian duty to do so.”

Web Resources

Indiana Catholic Conference
www.indianacc.org

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States. www.faithfulcitizenship.org

To explore the ICC's electronic public policy tool and join the ICC legislative network go to the ICC Web page at www.indianacc.org and click “Legislative Action Center.”



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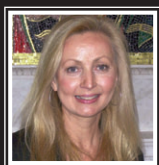


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Judge says HHS suit filed by archdiocese, other plaintiffs 'premature'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Jan. 25 dismissed a lawsuit filed against the federal contraceptive mandate by the Archdiocese of Washington and its co-plaintiffs, saying the case is premature in light of the government's "promises to amend the mandate. Importantly, this ruling was not based on the merits of our case," said a statement issued by the archdiocese. "In fact, the court's ruling today places the onus squarely on the government," it said, "to fulfill its binding commitment to address the religious freedom concerns" of the archdiocese, The Catholic University of America, the Consortium of Catholic Academies, Archbishop Carroll High School and Catholic Charities of D.C. "This requires the government to revise its HHS mandate in a way that truly respects our right to serve all those in need without violating our religious beliefs," the archdiocese said. U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson issued the ruling, saying that "if after the new regulations are issued, plaintiffs are still not satisfied, any challenges that they choose to bring will be substantially different from the challenges in the current complaint." Jackson was referring to the federal government stating that it will publish notice of proposed rulemaking in the first quarter of this year and issue a final rule on the mandate before August. In the meantime, the Obama administration has in place a "safe harbor" period that protects employers from immediate government action against them if they fail to comply with the mandate. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate requires employers, including most religious employers, to include coverage for contraceptives, sterilization and some abortion-inducing drugs free of charge, even if the employer is morally opposed to such services.

Lack of faith can hurt marriage, may affect validity, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A lack of faith in God can damage marriage, even to the point of affecting its validity, Pope Benedict XVI said. "Faith in God, sustained by divine grace, is therefore a very important element for living in mutual dedication and conjugal fidelity," he said. The pope said he was not suggesting there was a simple, automatic link "between the lack of faith and the invalidity of marriage." Rather, he hoped "to draw attention to how such a lack may, although not necessarily, also hurt the goods of marriage," given that referring to God's plan "is inherent in the covenant of Marriage." The pope made his comments Jan. 26 during a meeting with members of the Roman Rota, a Vatican-based tribunal that deals mainly with marriage cases. The current crisis of faith has brought with it a state of crisis for the Christian vision of marriage as an indissoluble

NEWS BRIEFS

MASS CELEBRATED IN HONOR OF TWO NEW US SAINTS



CNS PHOTO/NANCY PHELAN WIECHEC

A national Mass of thanksgiving for the canonization of St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Marianne Cope is celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, Jan. 26. The images of the two new U.S.-born saints that flanked the sanctuary were on loan from the Vatican. These banners hung from St. Peter's Basilica during their Oct. 21 canonization ceremony.

bond between a man and a woman, the pope said. "The indissoluble covenant between man and woman does not require, for the purpose of sacramentality, the personal faith of those to be married," he said. "What is required, as the minimum condition, is the intention of doing what the Church does" when it declares a Marriage is a sacrament. While the question of intent should not be confused with the question of the individuals' personal faith, "it is not always possible to completely separate them," he said.

Faithful urged to preach pro-life in and out of season like St. Paul

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As thousands of Catholics prepared to brave freezing temperatures to participate in the 40th annual March for Life, Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas asked them to imitate the example of St. Paul, who preached "in season and out of season." St. Paul "was not afraid to stand in the center of Athens and preach the Word of God to politicians and intellectuals," Bishop Farrell said in his homily at a Jan. 25 Mass that closed the annual National Prayer Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. The apostle preached "whether it was

convenient or it became uncomfortable for others to listen to him," he added. The Mass was celebrated on the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, a rarity in that the date of the March for Life is typically Jan. 22 — the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 decision that legalized abortion virtually on demand nationwide — except when the anniversary date falls on a weekend. But with the public ceremonies for the presidential inaugural taking place Jan. 21, March for Life organizers chose Jan. 25 for the march to assure enough hotel rooms in the Washington area for those coming to the march and related events. Bishop Farrell's diocese is where lawyers for Norma McCorvey, the "Jane Roe" of Roe v. Wade, originally brought the case to court. As a pregnant 22-year-old in 1969, McCorvey was referred by an adoption attorney to lawyers seeking a plaintiff for an abortion suit against the state of Texas.

The sick, their caregivers can gain indulgences on World Day of Sick

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The sick, their caregivers and any Catholic who prays for or lovingly assists someone who is ill can gain an indulgence with prayers and service on or around the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, which the Catholic

Church marks as World Day of the Sick. A special Mass and services marking the Feb. 11 day of prayer for the sick will be celebrated at the shrine of Our Lady of Altötting in Germany. Catholic faithful can receive one indulgence each day Feb. 7-11 by joining observances at Altötting or at any church or shrine designated by their local bishop, according to the Vatican decree announcing the indulgence. Catholic health care professionals, volunteers and family members of the sick who cannot attend a special World Day of the Sick service "can obtain the same gift of a plenary indulgence if, during those days, they generously offer at least a few hours of loving assistance (to the sick) as if they were offering it to Christ the Lord Himself," and fulfill the prayer requirements in a timely manner. The sick and the aged who cannot attend special services can obtain the indulgence by "spiritually participating" in them, particularly if the Mass in Altötting or a local World Day of the Sick Mass is being broadcast on a local television or radio station. The Vatican decree also said a partial indulgence is available in early February "to all the faithful every time they turn to the merciful God with a contrite heart" and pray for the sick.

Archbishop says his college years awakened him to truth of abortion

DENVER (CNS) — Denver Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila's own awakening "to the truth of the dignity of human life" came while he was a college student considering a career as a doctor. After starting college in 1968, he also worked as a hospital orderly, and during a couple of work shifts, he "witnessed the results of two abortions and the memory haunts me," he said. "I witnessed the death of two small people who never had the chance to take a breath. I can never forget that," Archbishop Aquila wrote in a pastoral letter released Jan. 22, the 40th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions legalizing abortion virtually on demand in the United States. "I have never been the same. My faith was weak at the time," he said in the pastoral, noting that he wasn't "even aware" some states "had approved abortion laws. But I knew by reason, and by what I saw, that a human life was destroyed," he continued. "My conscience awakened to the truth of the dignity of the human being from the moment of conception. I became pro-life and eventually returned to my faith." Forty years of "sanctioned killing" because of Roe "has given the culture of death a firm footing and foundation in our nation," he said, and urged Catholics to commit anew to "a culture of life." Special Masses, prayer vigils and other events around the country marked the Roe anniversary.

Responsibility for seminaries, religious instruction reassigned

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In an administrative move, reaffirming his efforts to promote a Catholic revival in the West and greater adherence to traditional Church teaching, Pope Benedict XVI has reassigned responsibility among Vatican offices for the religious education of laypeople and future priests. According to two papal decrees released by the Vatican Jan. 25, responsibility for seminaries has shifted from the Congregation for Catholic Education to the Congregation for Clergy, and responsibility for catechesis has moved from the latter office to the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization. The pope announced the changes in October, during the world Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization, but did not sign the decrees putting them into effect until Jan. 16. Under the new regime, Pope Benedict wrote, the Congregation for Clergy is now in charge of the "promotion and governance of all that pertains to the formation, life and ministry of priests and deacons." Emphasizing the need to link the preparation of seminarians with their lifelong education after ordination, the pope quoted a warning from Blessed John Paul II that any "discontinuity or even difference between these two formative phases would lead immediately to grave consequences for pastoral activity and the fraternal communion among priests, particularly those of different ages."

IPFW hosts Sisters for Life

FORT WAYNE — Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne, (IPFW) Newman Catholic Fellowship and IPFW Students for Life will host several Sisters of Life from their community in New York City, who will give a public talk at IPFW on Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. in Neff Hall Auditorium, room 101.

Immersed in contemplative Eucharistic prayer within a vibrant community life, the Sisters of Life community was founded by John Cardinal O'Connor in 1991. Their missions include caring for vulnerable pregnant women and their unborn children; inviting those suffering after abortion into the healing mercy of Jesus; fostering a culture of life through evangelization; retreat works; and upholding the beauty of marriage and family life.

The main speaker, Sister Antoniana Maria, lives in the Bronx and currently serves the community as director of vocations.

Her talk, "Perfect Love Casts Out Fear: Living Fully Alive in the Culture of Death," will give a window into the hope that is found in Christ. The sisters will also share stories of the many lives they've been privileged to serve in the heart of New York City.

For more information contact Theresa McHugh at mchuta01@students.ipfw.edu.

Sacred Music at Notre Dame receives Lilly Endowment grant

NOTRE DAME — With the support of a Lilly Endowment grant of \$1.9 million, Sacred Music at Notre Dame (SMND) is poised to help congregations across the region renew worship practices and enliven musical expression to engage people more deeply, across the generations.

The grant will enable SMND to begin building creative partnerships between academia and communities of worship and to sponsor activities designed to teach sacred music to young people. A central project will be sending graduate students from Notre Dame's newly founded Doctor of Musical Arts and its successful Master of Sacred Music programs into local churches to strengthen existing children's choirs or establish new ones.

Applications will be available by March 15 for churches interested in hosting an organist or choral conductor from Notre Dame for a period of two or three years.

Projects funded by the grant will be led by Margot Fassler, co-director of SMND and Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Music History and Liturgy in the College of Arts and Letters' Department of Theology and Department of Music.

"The long-term vision for this work is to promote the transformation of a large region in northern Indiana into a hotbed of vibrant musical practices in a

AROUND THE DIOCESE

WOMEN'S HEALTH LINK OPENS DOORS TO HELP WOMEN



JOE ROMIE

Women's Health Link, the new women's health resource, opened its doors recently as a free referral service that will assist women with physical, mental, spiritual and emotional health needs in the Fort Wayne area. Pictured from left are Dr. Geoffrey Cly, OB/GYN and Women's Health Link Steering Committee member, Marianne Stroud, Women's Health Link Board of Directors Chairwoman, Julie Perkins, executive director of Women's Health Link, Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry and Senate President Pro Tempore David Long cutting the ribbon on opening day at the facility. To contact Women's Health Link call (260) 203-2365 or visit 2126 Inwood Dr., Fort Wayne. More information is also available at www.womenshealthlink.org.

variety of faith traditions," Fassler says. "The work done with and for children and youth in musical training and theological understanding will lay a foundation for the practice of church music well into the next generation — and beyond."

Toward that end, the grant also provides seed money for the formation of the Notre Dame Children's Choir, a laboratory choir to be conducted by Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow Mark Doerries and accompanied by Hillary Doerries, who will also manage the choir.

Finding a creative balance between the old and the new is the key to successful church music programs, Fassler says.

"Yet much traditional repertory in nearly every Christian tradition has been lost in recent decades," she notes. "Christians are often out of touch with their own musical heritage, and skilled musicians of the recent past have often not been replaced in kind.

"We seek both the learning of new, well-crafted music and the restoration of traditional repertoires through renewal of musical skills for the young. The children we teach will be the future congregants, lay leaders, church

musicians, priests and pastors, and scholars involved in music and the arts," Fassler says. "By encouraging the children's choirs of today, we prepare for the churches of the future, both choir members and congregants."

Fassler says this work is inspired to a great degree by the Vatican, which calls for preserving the treasury of sacred music, active congregant participation with full heart and full voice and well-trained children's choirs. By the end of the four-year grant, she anticipates more than a dozen established children's choirs across northern Indiana.

Endowment grant funds will also be used to bring young people from across the region together to share in fellowship related to their musical training with activities such as an annual children's choral festival at Notre Dame as well as the on-campus "lab" children's choir.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is a private, philanthropic foundation that supports the causes of religion, education and community development.

Poor Handmaids stand with immigrants

DONALDSON — Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in the American Province have ministered with and to immigrants for over 144 years. Initially it was with the German immigrants in Fort Wayne. Throughout the years of their presence in the United States, the sisters have assisted many different kinds of immigrants and/or refugees, but especially those from Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, Ireland, Poland, Central America, Burma (Myanmar) and Mexico.

Currently in Fort Wayne, the Catherine Kasper Place, a ministry of the Poor Handmaids, provides programs, services and opportunities that advance the integration of immigrants, refugees and political asylees into the community of northeast Indiana through social, spiritual and economic independence and strategic networking.

In 2012 Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese, presented a world view on immigration during a Lampen Lecture series at Ancilla College. Many Poor Handmaids attended.

During the Poor Handmaids Provincial Chapter of Affairs in January 2013, the Sister delegates continued to discuss and then voted on a proposal to concretize what they have been doing and living out all these years.

By a unanimous vote, the Chapter delegates affirmed the proposal that read "As one voice, we Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ stand with our immigrant brothers and sisters supporting the passage of comprehensive just immigration reform including family reunification."

MAKING A STAND FOR LIFE



PROVIDED BY TOM POLICINSKI

Remembering the abandoned: the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade was marked in South Bend by a march around the federal courthouse sponsored by St. Joseph County Right to Life. About 55 persons participated amid 6 degree temperatures on Jan. 22 and a punishing stiff wind.

Bremen parishioners mark the anniversary of Roe v. Wade

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

BREMEN — Wind, light snow and frigid temperatures could not keep St. Dominic Parish students, some teachers and adults from marching nearly a mile to and from the downtown intersection of Plymouth and Center Streets in Bremen to mark the anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

"Nobody should want to kill babies. That is why I do this," said young marcher Kiersten Meyers, 9, who carried a bilingual pro-life sign.

At least 70 children and adults participated in what has become an annual tradition in Bremen for at least 20 years.

This year's guest speaker, Cindy Casper, of the Women's Care Center of Plymouth-Bremen, spoke to a packed hall including those who couldn't participate in the march due to the weather.

Hot chocolate and cookies helped to warm participants up after their chilly pilgrimage. Many local drivers, who saw those marching, honked their car horns in support of the cause.

Casper first read the book "Angel in the Waters" with student Belinda Valerrama, 7, who held a microphone while Casper read slowly and purposely. The book, which is written from the perspective of an unborn child and then a new baby, has the baby listening to his or her guardian angel. The book concludes on a happy note with a mom and dad holding the baby and the baby knowing the angel will always be there until he or she goes to heaven.



Trying to take in the warmth inside the parish hall before they walked in frigid cold outside as participants in the annual St. Dominic pro-life march (left to right) Anahi Torres and Diana Diaz posed with their signs before taking off with the group.

PHOTOS BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY



Cindy Casper of the Women's Care Center, reads the book, "Angel in the Waters" to St. Dominic Parish in Bremen religious education students and parishioners in the parish hall after many marched in their annual pro-life march to the downtown intersection of Plymouth and Center streets. Belinda Valerrama, 7, held the microphone while she read.

After reading the book, Casper invited all to pray the Guardian Angel prayer, asking everyone to pray for the unborn children and their mothers — praying that they would choose life.

Casper invited high school students and adults to meet separately from the children in a meeting room. She then addressed an abortion questionnaire with eight questions.

Question 7, stated "Women who believe in God: with answers a) would never have an abortion; b) believe that God will forgive them for the abortion; and c) experience more guilt than those who do not believe in God.

Casper noted that of the answers that: a) abortion rates among women of faith are the same as abortion rates for non-

believers; b) a profound feeling of being "unforgivable" can be a great suffering for post-abortive women who believe in God.

"The need for post-abortion healing is very real, and it is very hard work," Casper said.

She finished her discussion with a challenge to the youth present and inspired them to change the culture by being examples to their peers — by actively choosing chastity.

Casper encouraged them to begin by rejecting popular images of beauty and dating and embracing modesty and true friendships as the foundation of a healthy self-esteem. She encouraged them to become the kind of friends that young women facing unplanned pregnancies know they can turn to for real help.

Hannah's House celebrates 20 years of life

MISHAWAKA — Hannah's House, the Maternity Home with a Heart, joyfully celebrates 20 years of life in 2013. Since opening its doors in 1993, Hannah's House has provided residential care in Michiana for approximately 35 women and 35 babies annually. In the past 20 years many areas of Hannah's House have grown to support programming for resi-

dents, graduates and families, but the mission has stayed the same: care for women who have chosen life for their baby.

The Board of Directors at Hannah's House has a major goal for the 20th anniversary year — to open a second home in Mishawaka. This home has already been donated and will house approximately 20 more women and 20 more babies each year.

Additional financial support of \$200,000 will be needed on an annual basis to fund this endeavor.

"We are at capacity in the original house. Over the past five years, we have seen the number of women we have had to turn away grow too much. We needed to act," reports Linda Hammond, board president. "Our board is taking action because it's not acceptable to us to tell a pregnant woman that 'there's no room at the inn.' Each woman and each baby is important. The mission of supporting life in Michiana will be much stronger once we are able to open the second home."

Hannah's House provides not only guidance and care but at times "tough love" to assist residents in making positive changes in their lives, with the goal of helping her to break the cycle of poverty and homelessness.

The house is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week providing women not only a place to live, but a place to learn. They learn to prepare healthy meals, to care for a baby, to get a job, to earn a GED, and above all to be a good mom. Women are supported and assisted in their decision to parent or place their baby for adoption.

For additional information or to find out how you can help, please visit www.maternityhomewitha-heart.org or call (574) 254-5309.

Victory Noll Center to host 'Couples' Night' Feb. 15

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center will host "Couples' Night" on Friday, Feb. 15, allowing couples to indulge in a Friday-night date. There will be delicious appetizers, energizing activities and conversations, and sessions designed to refresh relationships. The night is perfect for newlyweds or those couples who have spent a lifetime together.

The program runs from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$40 per couple. Registration is required by Feb. 8.

Presenter for the night is Mary Glowaski, who has served the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in different capacities for more than 25 years including pastoral associate of St. John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne. Currently, Glowaski is the Division Director (Secretary) for the Secretariat of Evangelization and Special Ministries for the diocese. The focus of her ministry has been pastoral care and concern especially for those suffering loss and the challenges of life transitions.

For information or to register for the program, call (260) 356-0628, ext. 174.

Discover the spirituality of business leadership

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will explore the spiritual side of business leadership at the inaugural Servus Omnium Series lecture, "From Career to Calling: The Vocation of the Christian Business Leader," on Feb. 12, from 7-8:45 a.m. at the University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, 431 Berry St., downtown Fort Wayne.

Dr. Michael Naughton, the Moss Chair in Catholic Social Thought and director of the John A. Ryan Institute for Catholic Social Thought at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., will discuss the spirituality of business leaders and their pivotal position in what Pope John Paul II called the New Evangelization of modern society.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will offer the blessing and opening prayer at 7 a.m. A Mardi Gras breakfast buffet and the speaker will follow.

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door or \$80 per table.

Visit sf.edu/sf/arts-sciences for additional information or contact Dr. Lance Richey at (260) 399-8112 or lrchey@sf.edu.



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Back2Africa:

Lutherans, Catholics join together on mission trip to Tanzania

BY VINCE LABARBERA

ARCOLA — St. John's Lutheran Church in Lake Township Indiana helped raise \$150,000 to fund a team of 33 people on a mission trip to Mwanza, a city in the nation of Tanzania on the eastern coast of Africa, in 2007. Working with some interdenominational missionaries there, the team erected a hospital wing in just three weeks for the East of Lake Victoria Lutheran Diocese.

The Michael Doseck family, parishioners of St. John's, contributed to the fundraiser but did not travel with the mission team. However, a couple of years later, Doseck's teenage daughter, Hayley, asked her dad if they could do more. That's when planning began for a return mission trip in 2012 titled, Back2Africa.

"We were going to help the same missionaries in Mwanza," said Michael Doseck. For the next three years he and several others began the necessary fundraising, again asking the 600 members of the church to help sponsor a team.

"We had many chicken-and-noodle dinners, fish fries and garage sales," said Doseck. The Lutheran Foundation agreed to underwrite through a grant for half the travel expense, and Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, donated a CAT generator and X-ray equipment.

"It was hard work but really, really worth it!" he added, indicating the church congregation contributed \$50,000 from individual donations of \$5 to \$2,000. The final total was \$125,000 when all other sources were included.

Doseck, his wife, Kathy, and daughter, Hayley, planned to join the team. Their son, Logan, a junior at Indiana University,

could not accompany the family since he has cystic fibrosis and tuberculosis is rampant there, Doseck explained.

About a month before the 21-member team of professionals was about to leave they received a call from the missionaries in Mwanza saying they had separated their relationship with the Lutheran diocese. This after the team had purchased a shipping container for \$4,000, sent it to Tanzania for an additional \$14,000 and wired \$10,000 to build a foundation for the generator.

Doseck, vice president of the commercial vehicle division of Belcan Corp., Cincinnati, remembered working with Midmark Corp. in Versailles, Ohio, a medical equipment supplier, who funded a similar mission to Tanzania supplying dental and birthing equipment through a Catholic organization there called The Mission of the Body and Blood.

He called one of Midmark's executives, Mitch Eiting, and said, "I have a real problem!" Doseck explained what had happened, how visas had been issued, inoculations and vaccinations given, and a team of experts was ready to go.

Eiting put Doseck in touch with the Society of the Precious Blood Catholic missionaries in Tanzania. And instead of flying into Kilimanjaro International Airport and taking a "puddle jumper" — as Doseck called the small airplane — to Mwanza, the trip was swung south from Kilimanjaro to Itigi, a town of 4,000 inhabitants in central Tanzania. It took 15 hours by bus to get there.

And, instead of installing what would have been a backup generator in Mwanza, an eight-member team put the CAT generator in a



PROVIDED BY MICHAEL DOSECK

Michael Doseck and the mission team took more than 300 Frisbees to Tanzania for clinics to teach the children how to throw, catch and play games.

small town of 800 people called Malongwe, which never had electricity before. Since the roads are dirt and in poor condition, it took three hours to get to Malongwe from Itigi via another "bone jarring" ride in an SUV, Doseck said. Again, instead of equipping Mwanza with additional X-ray equipment, digital X-ray equipment was installed in a small dispensary in Itigi, saving them thousands of dollars over their old method using film processing. Finally, instead of conducting a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the ill-fated albino children of Mwanza, who often are killed because of superstition, the team held VBS's in Itigi's Catholic church, and in the nearby capital city of Dodoma for 250 HIV children, the majority who lost both parents to AIDS.

Pastor Ralph Easterhaus of St. John's, Lake Township, and

Precious Blood Priest Father Israel Fidelis of Tanzania, used the occasion as a "teachable moment," talking about Jesus' birth, death, resurrection and ascension. The Village of Hope and the St. Gaspar Referral and Teaching Hospital for HIV/AIDS orphans is located in Dodoma, run by the Society of the Precious Blood Catholic missionaries and sisters.

With a grant of \$2,500 the mission team brought musical instruments, more than 300 frisbees, nearly 400 cross necklaces, and arts-and-crafts projects for the children.

"Even though we are not Catholic, we walked a mile with Father Israel to attend Mass at 7 a.m. in Precious Blood Catholic Church the six days we were in Itigi," said Doseck. "There was no Catholic-Protestant distinction — it was just us. The relation-

ships were the best thing!" he said.

After installing the generator in Malongwe and the X-ray equipment in Itigi the teams did a "walk about" through each town with the children following them, Doseck said. When they returned from their walks the people had assembled a celebration attended by the elders, and both the Christian and Muslim children danced and sang for them. In Malongwe, the team was presented a gift of 10 gallons of black African bee honey.

At one point during the 16-day mission the team ran out of money to house the team. Again, Eiting answered the call, sending the money through the Mission of the Body and Blood. "We had \$2,500 left over so we turned it over to the priests," Doseck said. "It's God work! It really is," he exclaimed.

During a "thank you" dinner in the rectory, there was talk from the priests about starting a nursing program in Itigi. And since Hayley, a freshman at IPFW in Fort Wayne, is studying nursing, they discussed beginning an exchange program. A member of the 2007 team now is a certified EMS technician and Lutheran Hospital again is showing an interest in contributing to another mission project.

"I think we can put it together," Hayley's proud father said. "It starts with a spark and, of course, money!" In fact, Father Israel is planning to travel to Fort Wayne in 2014 to help begin another fundraising effort for 2015 to furnish Malongwe with a much-needed ambulance. Doseck said he is hopeful other churches in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be able to join with the next mission and associated fundraising project.

APP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

says this app encourages social media sharing by making it easy to like and share on Facebook and Twitter.

"There are interactive web challenges that encourage people to put their faith in action and then share with others," Black says.

So, who is using the app and blog? Black says, "Many young adults from our diocese who live in other areas of the country have told me they follow it and love that their home diocese created such a useful evangelizing tool that they can easily share with people close to them."

She adds, "Just last week at our Small Christian Community meeting, a man in our group said

that he bought the app, reads it daily and suggests it to others as a great resource to grow in faith."

But that's not the end of the use. Barnes reports that in the first week the app had hits from over 30 countries. "Now," she says, "we've reached all 50 states and 122 different countries. Between the blog and the app, we have reached about 20,000 unique readers with approximately 3,000 app users."

Mike O'Connell, the high school youth minister at Holy Spirit Parish at Geist in the Indianapolis area says he heard about the app through friends and Facebook, and has read it every day.

"I think it is a great idea and really answered the pope's call to engage the world through social media," reports O'Connell. "The writers are excellent and give great insight. Plus it is a quick and easy thing to do to increase



and deepen my faith."

O'Connell has shared the app with his youth group and says he finds the topics enjoyable.

Jessy Kirkwood, middle school religion teacher in Crescent Springs, Ky., and parishioner at St. Barbara Parish in the Diocese of Covington, learned about the app on Facebook and says, "I am a junior high religion teacher and am very in love with my Catholic faith. For me to have a consistent and solid go-to every day to help

form and mold me into a better instrument of faith is incredibly awesome."

Reading every day reminds Kirkwood that she is part of the apostolic Church.

She says of the app, "I could not be happier with how My Year of Faith applies both the liturgical calendar events and our worldly events to lead us and guide us on our faith journeys."

Kirkwood finds the content so inspiring that she reads posts to her students and likes to share especially meaningful posts on her Facebook page.

She says, "I cannot thank the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend enough for this incredible opportunity to be a part of the Catholic Church in this way. They most certainly saw potential for this Year of Faith and have truly made it beautiful."

Black says the app and blog use has exceeded her expectations

"in reach and enthusiasm from others in blogosphere."

She relates, "We cannot know the impact it may have in the hearts of people who read posts or watch video posts. Someone may read an excerpt from the catechism and be moved to deeper faith. Someone else may be open to the Catholic faith because a friend shares a post on the sacraments."

Swaim reminds users, that "in the coming months, we will be featuring even more incredible authors, bloggers and speakers. It's an all-star cast. We can't wait to see how it continues to grow and bear fruit in the coming months."

The "My Year of Faith" app costs 99-cents and is available for iOS and Android and includes tablets such as iPad and the Kindle Fire.

US Franciscan province offers 'text-a-prayer-intention' service

NEW YORK (CNS) — Often, prayer intentions are offered with hands folded, but a new service allows hands and fingers to move freely — provided a cellphone is handy.

The New York-based Holy Name Province of the Franciscans has started a service it calls "Text a Prayer Intention to a Franciscan Friar."

The service debuted in January.

Here's how it works: Text the word "prayer" to 306-44 and hit "send." Senders will then receive a welcome message inviting them to then send in their prayer intentions. Senders will receive a text in reply stating that their prayer has been received and will be prayed for.

The intentions are received on a website, and will be included collectively in the friars' prayers twice a day and at Mass.

"With technology changing the way we communicate, we needed to offer people an updated way to ask for prayers for special intentions and needs either for themselves or others," said a Jan. 8 statement by

Franciscan Father David Convertino, executive director of development for the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province.

"We have been working on this for some time and it's a great way to bring in the New Year," Father Convertino added. "If the pope can tweet, friars can text!"

Pope Benedict XVI launched his very own Twitter account in mid-December.

The Holy Name Province is the largest U.S. province of the worldwide Order of Friars Minor, with 300 members serving throughout the East Coast in college, parish, social service and urban ministry, with some on overseas assignments as well.

However, with cellphone technology and access virtually universal, the province's range could be even larger.

"This is one more way of reaching people who ask us to pray for them," Father Convertino said. "We hope it can reach people all around the globe."



CNS PHOTO/OCTAVIO DURAN

Franciscan Brothers Richard Mcfeely and Robert Frazzetta read prayer requests on their mobile phones Jan. 3 at St. Anthony Friary in Butler, N.J. The largest group of Franciscan friars in the United States is offering the faithful a new way to pray in the digital age by accepting prayer requests via text messages.

People around world pledge to say rosary daily during Year of Faith

EASTON, Mass. (CNS) — The Family Rosary division of Holy Cross Family Ministries in Easton has gathered more than 80,000 pledges from people around the globe who said they would pray the rosary daily during the 2012-13 Year of Faith.

The pledges, which came in response to a program offering free rosaries, were gathered in a book and presented recently to Pope Benedict XVI by Holy Cross Father John Phalen, president of Holy Cross Family Ministries.

"There are even pledges in languages we can't understand, like some of those from India and Bangladesh," Father Phalen said in a statement. "It was an honor to present His Holiness with the book and ask his apostolic blessing on our ministry."

The pope received the book at the Vatican in December as part of the Year of Faith observation and to mark the 70th anniversary of Family Rosary, founded by Holy Cross Father Patrick Peyton, known as the "rosary priest." He died in 1992 and the cause for his canonization was opened in 2001.

Father Peyton started the campaign to provide free rosaries and gather pledges in 1991. Back then, the plan was to send 1 million rosaries to Russia. It has since evolved into a worldwide effort to send the prayer beads to families, schools, parishes and individuals on every continent. To date, more than 20 million rosaries have been given away. About 5 million of those were provided by volunteer rosary-making groups in parishes.

Those promising to recite the rosary daily were asked to pray for peace and to post a pledge card in their homes as a reminder of their commitment, as Father Peyton used to ask people to do.

Social networks need more logic, love and less ranting, rage, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Social media need to promote more logic, kindness and Christian witness than bluster, star-status and division, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Given that the online world exposes people to a wider range of opinions and beliefs, people need to accept the existence of these other cultures, "be enriched by it" and offer others what "they possess that is good, true and beautiful," the pope said.

Christians are called to bring truth and values to the whole world — online and off — remembering that it's ultimately the power of God's word that touches hearts, not sheer human effort, he said in his message for World Communications Day.

The theme of the 2013 celebration — marked in most dioceses the Sunday before Pentecost, this year May 12 — is "Social Networks: Portals of Truth and Faith; New Spaces for Evangelization." The papal message was released on the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron of journalists, Jan. 24.

Social media "need the commitment of all who are conscious of the value of dialogue, reasoned debate and logical argumentation," the pope said.

Social forums need to be used wisely and well, which means fostering balanced and respectful dialogue and debate, he said, and paying special attention to "privacy, responsibility and truthfulness."

Too often, popularity — garnered either from fame or strategic powers of persuasion — determines the "significance and effectiveness" of online communication, not "intrinsic

importance or value," he said.

Catholics can "show their authenticity" by sharing their hope and joy, and its source in Jesus Christ. Catholics also should give witness by the way they live their lives and how their "choices, preferences and judgments" are fully consistent with the Gospel, he added.

Msgr. Paul Tighe, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, told reporters during a briefing that the pope is asking everyone to take responsibility for creating a more humane culture online by being respectful, honest and contributing to the growth and wellbeing of individuals and society through social networks.

Very often in new media "the more provocative I am, the more strident, the more extreme I am in my views, the more attention I get," he said. But, he said, the pope "is calling for the importance of the quiet voice of reason; we need moderation, reason and logic otherwise our debates are going nowhere."

Archbishop Claudio Celli, the council's president, said even Catholic sites and forums can be plagued by an aggressive and divisive atmosphere.

"The problem isn't so much displaying straightforward fidelity to particular dogmatic statements of the faith," he said; the problem is how to best show God's mercy and love, which is often more credibly and effectively done with actions and not just words.

"I knew my mother and father loved me not because they showered me with solemn declarations, but because they let me experience first-hand what it means to be loved," the archbishop said.

The same needs to happen in the realm of faith, because what human-

ity needs more than anything is to experience first-hand God's love and mercy, he said.

In his message, the pope said, "Dialogue and debate can also flourish and grow when we converse with and take seriously people whose ideas are different from our own."

Social networks are an important place for people of faith to reach out to others "by patiently and respectfully engaging their questions and their doubts as they advance in their search for the truth and the meaning of human existence," the pope said.

If evangelizing is to bear fruit, he said, people need to remember that "it is always because of the power of the word of God itself to touch hearts, prior to any of our own efforts."

The level of debate can be toned down and sensationalism avoided when people begin to put more trust in the power of God's work "than any confidence we place in human means," he said.

"We need to trust in the fact that the basic human desire to love and to be loved, and to find meaning and truth — a desire which God Himself has placed in the heart of every man and woman — keeps our contemporaries ever open to ... the 'kindly light' of faith," Pope Benedict said.

He also reminded people to use online networks to invite others into a faith community, religious celebrations and pilgrimages: "elements which are always important in the journey of faith."

Pope Benedict has new App-titude, lets users follow live events

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican launched a new "Pope App" on the eve of the release of the pope's World Communications Day message, which is dedicated to social networks as important spaces for evangelization.

The new app provides live streaming of papal events and video feeds from the Vatican's six webcams. It sends out alerts and links to top stories coming out of the Vatican's many news outlets, and carries words and images of Pope Benedict XVI.

"The Pope App" went live Jan. 23 for iPhone and iPad, while an Android version is expected to be ready at the end of February. It's currently available in English,

Spanish, French, Portuguese and Italian.

The Vatican has been stepping up its digital presence in recent years — the latest example being the papal Twitter feed @Pontifex, which has attracted more than 2 million followers in nine languages since its debut Dec. 12.

The new app will also allow people to follow live broadcasts of papal events — such as the Sunday Angelus and Wednesday general audience — from any mobile device or smartphone. Users will receive an alert when an event is about to begin.

The app also shows views from any one of the Vatican's six live webcams. Two webcams are located on the dome of St. Peter's Basilica: one pointed at St. Peter's Square and the other at the Vatican governor's office.

Others are located high on the colonnade around St. Peter's Square, taking in the basilica and papal apartments; directed at Blessed John Paul II's tomb in St. Peter's Basilica; high on the Vatican hill, pointing toward the dome of the basilica; and aimed at the gardens of the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo.

"The Pope App" was launched the day before the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron of journalists, when the Vatican traditionally releases the pope's message for World Communications Day.

The theme of this year's message, "Social Networks: Portals of Truth and Faith; New Spaces for Evangelization," is linked to the Year of Faith and Pope Benedict's latest calls for a New Evangelization.

December floods

Typhoon Bopha ripped through the Philippines on Dec. 4, leaving nearly 1,500 dead. The storm pushed about 200,000 people into shelters, many without homes to return to. The death toll surpassed that of Tropical Storm Washi, which claimed 1,268 people in the Philippines just a year before.

Wind gusts of up to 138 mph and torrential rains set off flash floods and brought down homes where people sought shelter, even above where floods usually occur. In one city alone, Cagayan de Oro, 891 lives were claimed by the storm. Entire families were washed away and killed. Perhaps more heartbreaking are the stories about families where all but one person were washed away. One cameraman caught a mother looking through wreckage in tears simply repeating, "I have three children." She was unable to find

any of them. It's unimaginable.

The flood seems a perfect image for what happened on the other side of the world just 10 days later in Newtown, Conn., where 20 children were killed. Parents showed up at the fire station that day to retrieve their children. All hoped to see their faces jump out of the crowd. Some never did. One parent was seen walking away, without child, sobbing, "Why?! Why?!" Others stayed at the fire station for hours, unable to accept the fact that they were going home empty-handed.

Matthew's Gospel quotes a prophecy from Jeremiah to describe the pain of the parents of children (two and under) who were slaughtered by King Herod. These children are called the Holy Innocents. Coincidentally, some scholars think there were about 20 of them in the village of



REAL
LIFE
CATHOLIC

CHRISTOPHER STEFANICK

Bethlehem.

"A voice is heard in Ramah," Jeremiah wrote, "weeping and great mourning; Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." — Mt 2:18. The gaping hole left by the death of a child can't be filled by anything on this side of eternity.

Within 10 days this past December, we saw the height of

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No one is beyond God's mercy



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 4:21-30

The Book of Jeremiah provides the first reading for this weekend. This book is regarded as one of the major Hebrew prophetic works because of its extent and the brilliance of its language. Jeremiah descended from priests. He was from a small village, Anathoth, only a few miles away from Jerusalem.

As occurred with many, indeed even most, of the prophets, his prophecies drew sharp rebukes. He even was accused of blasphemy, a crime that had death as its punishment in the Hebrew code of law. (It was this statute that centuries later led to some of the demands for the crucifixion of Jesus.)

Despite the ordeals created by these rebukes and accusations, Jeremiah never relented in proclaiming fidelity to God as a personal, and national, imperative, and he never doubted that he was on a mission from God.

In this weekend's reading, Jeremiah recalls the day when God called him to the mission of prophesy. He gives the date. It was during the reign of King Josiah, who ruled the Kingdom of Judah from 640 to 609 B.C. God told Jeremiah to be bold. God predicted the controversial response to Jeremiah's

prophesying, urging the prophet not to be daunted by unfriendly or angry reactions.

As its second reading for this weekend, the Church offers a passage from the First Epistle to the Corinthians. It is one of the most compelling, and best known sections of the entire corpus of Pauline literature.

Clear and straightforward, it is the beautiful explanation of love. Few better definitions of love, this ability unique to humans in nature, exist.

Paul then reveals what happens when a person embraces the Gospel. Imperfections fade away. Knowledge increases. Maturity is reached. The insecurities, smallness and shortsightedness of youth pass.

St. Luke's Gospel is the source of the last reading. Jesus, as the story clearly states, appears in the synagogue in Nazareth. In earlier verses, not part of this weekend's reading, Jesus stands to read a section of the Book of Isaiah. In this section, Isaiah recalled his own calling to be a prophet. Isaiah gave details as to what this calling meant. It meant that he was God's spokesman, sent by God to bring liberty to the oppressed, hope to the poor and sight to the blind.

Then, continuing in the passage read this weekend, Jesus declares that this prophecy has now been fulfilled. In other words, Jesus is the long awaited spokesman of God.

At first, the audience is impressed. But then Jesus recalled an incident, mentioned in the Old Testament, in which God showed mercy upon gentiles.

This mention of divine favor for anyone outside the chosen people infuriated the audience in the synagogue so much that they tried to murder Jesus. He, of course, escaped.

Reflection

The Church remembers the great feasts of Christmas, the Epiphany and that of the Baptism of the Lord in early January. In these feasts, it celebrated the mercy of God that came to us through and in the Lord Jesus.

Now, in February, building upon this idea of God's gift of mercy and consequent eternal life, the Church this weekend presents these readings.

As the Gospel made clear, no one is beyond God's mercy. But, we must do our part in receiving this mercy. We ourselves must love others, with love as pure and unselfish as that described by St. Paul.

It is more easily said than done. Reactions to Jeremiah and to Jesus remind us that human insights are limited.

God supplies to us that which we cannot find or create on our own, eternal life but also genuine wisdom and courage. Thus God sent Jeremiah to prophesy. Thus God sent Jesus, the source of the strength to believe and to love.

READINGS

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19 Ps 71:1-6, 15-17 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 Lk 4:21-30

Monday: Heb 11:32-40 Ps 31:20-24 Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4 Ps 22:26-28, 30-32 Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15 Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18 Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24 Ps 48:2-4, 9-11 Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Heb 13:1-8 Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8-9 Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21 Ps 23:1-6 Mk 6:30-34

Today's Catholic, voice of the bishop and the diocese

Donation supports evangelization mission

BY TIM JOHNSON

Whether it is reporting on the battle for conscience rights protections, abortion, the dignity of life, attacks on marriage between a man and woman, state school choice vouchers, or other issues of the day, *Today's Catholic* is the resource to help Catholics understand the Church's teaching and perspective.

The newspaper, now in its 87th year, is the official publication of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is the publisher of *Today's Catholic* and the newspaper serves as a means of communications between the bishop and the faithful 43 weeks out of the year.

Recent surveys showed that Catholics still get their Catholic news primarily from the printed version of the diocesan newspaper. Our own survey at several parishes across the diocese indicated that the majority of Catholic readers still rely on *Today's Catholic* as the primary source of Catholic news in the diocese and the world.

The newspaper is delivered to nearly 50,000 registered households in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. If a household is registered at a parish in the diocese, the household receives the newspaper.

The newspaper is funded in part by the Annual Bishop's Appeal, advertising, from subscriptions of readers outside the diocese, and by the generous donations of readers. Although *Today's Catholic* is a good steward of its resources, there are still rising costs involved with printing, postage, salaries and news service providers.

This week, *Today's Catholic* has a donation envelope inserted into the newspaper. We would appreciate any donation you, our readers, can make to help us carry on our ministry of evangelization.

The ministry of evangelization extends to our readers. How often do colleagues and coworkers, neighbors or friends ask you questions about the faith, or about issues of the day? *Today's Catholic* can be a resource to help you answer those questions and share your faith — thus, you are evangelizing. We are dedicated to share with you the teachings of the diocesan bishop, the pope and the U.S. bishops to help you understand the issues from which these questions may arise.

February is Catholic Press Month. It is a time to help the staff of *Today's Catholic* reflect

on their mission to evangelize and spread the truth of the faith.

Our ministry goes beyond the print edition. Did you know that you can receive *Today's Catholic* each week as a PDF document link in your email? This electronic version looks exactly like the printed edition, is in full color and can be enlarged as needed for better readability. It is delivered on Wednesdays. Some readers have opted to go strictly digital and canceled the mailed version. Others prefer both means.

To sign up for the digital copy, visit our website at www.todayscatholicnews.org and click on "circulation."

Also, visit the website for updates on national and world stories, additional photos from event coverage, videos, archived editions and audio files such as the "Today's Catholic Podcast."

Each week, the staff puts together a 15-minute audio newscast with highlighted stories and Bishop Rhoades' column, In Truth and Charity. Our partner in evangelization, Redeemer Radio — Catholic Radio 1450 AM — also airs the podcast Sunday afternoons in their broadcast schedule.

Another new and exciting facet of *Today's Catholic* is *Today's Catholic Life*, a lifestyle magazine featuring local Catholics, ministries, businesses and more.

The magazine is delivered six times each year to diocesan churches. To receive your magazine by postal mail, subscriptions may be purchased by calling (260) 456-2824.

The website, www.diocesefwsb.org, Facebook and Twitter connections keep you updated on diocesan and parish activities.

We thank you for allowing us into your home each week and we thank you for reading *Today's Catholic*.

Tim Johnson is the editor of *Today's Catholic* newspaper.

The generational rosary

My father, now in his 70s, remembers coming downstairs in the morning as a child and seeing his mother in a chair, fingering her rosary beads and quietly praying. This example probably had a lot to do with dad's own devotion to the rosary as an adult. Children emulate what they see, and when what they see is good, it bears great fruit.

During Lent in my own days of childhood, dad would gather his family in the family room and together we would recite the rosary. Some would kneel. Some would sit. Dad would look up. Those who were sitting would kneel.

During those nightly recitations my mind would often wander. But the soothing sound of voices together praying would bring me back to concentrated prayer. No wait. Actually it was mom clearing her throat because she saw someone slouching. Some would complain (I'm not naming names), or wiggle (lots of little kids). Dad would stop to firmly ... but kindly ... correct. Some would recite the words very quickly. Mom would slow them down.

In looking back I imagine it took a lot of effort for Mom and Dad to institute this family devotion. I grew up in a family of 13 children so evenings were busy and making time to pray was a challenge. First of all, the dinner dishes (which, piling up looked like a small restaurant's after the busy lunch hour) had to be cleared, and the kitchen cleaned. That in and of itself caused kids to

slip into one of the several bathrooms for a good long exercise in avoidance. It took a few knocks on the door and gentle reprimands to get offenders out and emptying the dishwasher. I'm sure it would have been easier for mom to simply pick up the kitchen mess herself, but she was wise and kept pulling us back.

Another reason it took effort to institute the family rosary is that we kids usually had a lot of weeknight homework (on account of the good Catholic schools we attended, of course). It would have been easy for mom and dad to excuse us from prayer for valuable academic work, but they didn't. A third reason it took effort to institute the family rosary is that mom and dad had to corral all their children, who by post-dinner, post-dragging-out-of-the-bathroom time were often scattered about the house. Also — and this is very important — they had to first discipline themselves to want to gather the children and pray. How easy it would have been simply to skip the whole effort.

I share the little challenges of instituting the Lenten family rosary time because I want to paint a realistic picture of what this entails. Most Catholic families are not perfectly organized, with their members, old and young, happily pitching in to make a sparkling kitchen after the dinner meal. Most parents don't have at least a little challenge in gathering (even very good) children to pull out their rosary beads and pray.

It's worth the effort, of course, and it's important to try. God takes us where we are, and the act of try-



Theresa A. Thomas

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

ing is a good first step.

I called this thought to mind when my husband and I introduced our own children to the Lenten rosary when they were little. We would try. We would really try. In fact, I decided that we were going to do it even better than my parents did. I would let my kids sit, not kneel. How could they complain? To help the children learn the mysteries, I purchased a set of laminated 8x10-inch illustrations for them to hold, look at and hopefully ponder piously during the recitation. I knew the tricks of youth. I would nip those in the bud. I was sure. I was confident.

I was wrong.

The kids still pulled their tricks. They even thought of new ones. I still had to extricate toddlers from underneath sofa legs and deal with deep sighs of annoyance of the older ones on occasion. Ah, human nature.

I tried not to let it deter me. "You guys at least get to sit," I told my children, "I had to kneel." My husband thought kneeling was a good idea so that was that. As the circle of life continued we faced

simply so that when we want to shout that prayer, we have someone to pray it with. Where is God when we're in pain? On the cross, next to us.

A friend of mine recently got word from a missionary in the Philippines. He was amazed at the faith there. He saw a group of people building a structure from the rubble. Was it a shelter? A new house? A barn for animals? No. It was a chapel. In the midst of the wreckage they knew the only answer that would suffice. We see the same faith in the small community in Newtown, where churches were full, not empty following the tragedy, and where the local youth group just days after the shooting had planned a Holy Hour.

There's only one answer to our questions at times like these: God Himself.

Ten days after the Newtown tragedy we were reminded of God's answer to the problem of pain — Emmanuel, God with us. He didn't change the fact that we experience pain and death. He changed what pain and death mean for us. He conquered them from within.

Thank you, Lord, for stepping into the floodplain with us.

Christopher Stefanick is director of youth outreach for YDisciple.

similar challenges that my parents had in instituting praying the rosary as a family. Life is funny. But still, like my parents, my husband and I pressed on.

Today, when my older young adult children call or email to share a concern or upcoming stressful situation, the words just roll off my lips, or the words off my typing fingers, "I'll say a rosary for you." I usually hear a sigh of relief on the other end of the phone, or if the conversation takes place via email, a quick "THANKS!" is quickly received.

The rosary is powerful ... nec-

essary ... and parents absolutely need to pass this devotion to their children, particularly critical for our modern times.

At Fatima, in a series of Church-approved apparitions, the children visionaries shared the words that the Blessed Mother spoke there: "Say the rosary every day..."

Every day.

With or without children.

Whether or not they slouch, or hide or grumble.

It is a parent's privilege and responsibility.

Great faithfulness will bear great fruit.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for February 3, 2013

Luke 4:21-30

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: Jesus' first preaching in his hometown. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED	QUOTE
CURE YOURSELF	CAPERNAUM	NO PROPHET
ELIJAH	THREE	YEARS
SEVERE	FAMINE	SIDON
ELISHA	CLEANSED	NAAMAN
SYRIAN	SYNAGOGUE	TOWN
BUILT	HURL HIM	MIDST

CURE YOURSELF

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

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natural evil and unnatural, willed evil destroying communities and lives. Anyone close to these events, no doubt, wanted to shout to God like Martha, Lazarus' sister, after he died, "Lord if you were here this wouldn't have happened!" (Cf. Jn 11: 21).

How do we make sense of it all?

There are solid responses to the problem of pain that explain how a loving God would permit us to suffer, and how He'd only allow evil with a plan for a greater good — even some spiritual good that we might not grasp in this life. This plays out perfectly on the cross, the greatest evil (deicide) and the greatest blessing in human history. I'm not sure how much these explanations help people in times of crushing sorrow though.

Job had experienced crushing sorrow. Many scholars think Job is the oldest book in the Bible. Perhaps this is because the problem of pain has perplexed the world longer than any other question. Job loses everything and God's response to his pain is stunning. After Job complains and questions his Maker about

the "injustice" of life for most of 37 chapters, the answer he gets isn't a theological lecture. Instead, God brings Job to his knees. He turns the tables, questioning Job: "Were you there when I laid the foundations of the earth? Did you set the boundaries of the sea? Can you bind chains of the Pleiades or loosen Orion's belt?" (Cf. Job 38)

God gives no answer but the stark reminder that He is God and Job is not. That might seem harsh, but sometimes no other answer will do. And when we remember that, it doesn't take the pain away, but it offers a consolation that nothing else can give. It comes from accepting the fact that someone else is in charge, and that no thread falls outside of God's tapestry.

This is the final answer God gives on the Cross. By no means does He brush aside death or pain or deny their existence. The central image of our faith, hanging prominently in most churches, is a man in agony. This is not a man who promises us freedom from pain, but His presence with us in our pain.

Christ entered the darkness of our human condition so profoundly that in the depths of it He prayed, "My God, my God why have You forsaken Me?" While there are layers of meaning for this prayer, I think one is

Saint of the Week

Joan of France

1464-1505
February 4



Also known as Joan of Valois, this French foundress was the daughter of King Louis XI and the wife of King Louis XII, her father's cousin. She was mistreated by both men, and reportedly was physically handicapped from birth, though she may have been merely undersized and plain. Her husband sought to have their marriage annulled so he could marry Joan's sister-in-law, who inherited Brittany; he succeeded in 1498. Thereafter Joan lived in Bourges, where she devoted herself to prayer and good works, and established, under Franciscan direction, the Order of the Annunciation with 11 local schoolgirls. A year before her death, she renounced all her possessions, including her title as Duchess of Berry. She was canonized in 1950.

Sports

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING SECTION RECAP Saint Joseph wrestler Ryan Jankowski captured the school's first individual wrestling sectional championship in four years Saturday, capturing the 182-pound weight class title at Mishawaka High School. The Indian junior won by pin in his first two rounds, before outdueling Mishawaka's Wesley LaFleur, 6-3, in the championship round. Jankowski will be joined by teammates John Watkins (132), Norm Hezlep (160) and Jake Kazmierczak (195) at Saturday's regional at Rochester. Marian qualified three wrestlers for the regional — William Felix (113), Derek Glon (145) and Joe Walter (182). — *Chuck Freeby*

St. Joseph, Holy Family flex muscles to stay at top of ICCL standings

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — Just a week away from the season's finale, teams flexed their muscles and tried to stay at the top of the Inter-City Catholic League standings.

The matchup of the day would have major playoff implications as the Eagles of St. Joseph matched their heralded twin towers of Trey Shabazz and Josh De St. Jean against the Holy Family front court of Will Jeffers and Mark Mayfield.

Right out of the gate, the St. Joseph duo controlled the action

as the high-low combination netted seven points in the first stanza. The Eagles methodically posted a three-point lead.

The next quarter would be all Trojans as they clawed, ran and shot their way to a 12-0 run thanks to points by Stephen Farris, Mayfield and Jeffers.

The momentum and the game was firmly in the Trojans' grasp until De St. Jean ended the dominance with a two footer and added a couple of free throws closing the gap to three. But just as the half was to end, Holy Family's Lucas Kancszuzewski was fouled in the act of shooting a three. He made one as they left

the court up, 17-13.

The third quarter would be more counter punches, as Shabazz and De St. Jean would strike. They were followed by a Jeffers-and-Mayfield attack settling in on a draw, 22-22, at the end of the round.

St. Joseph would score the first five in quarter four and hold that line until Trojan Courtney Rowell knocked down two free throws with 34 seconds left on the clock, making the margin a paper thin one point.

The Eagles' De St. Jean followed with two charity shots of his own fouling Jeffers out of the contest, but a fast break layup by

Mayfield, just five seconds later again, made the margin one with 7.3 seconds remaining.

A hurried fast break attempt by the Trojans would end up being stolen by the pesky Eagle defense ending the game and making the final, 29-28, for St. Joseph.

"I was really happy with the way Josh (De St. Jean, 13 points) got things going. And then Shabazz (9 points) really worked the block well. Our team is so diverse. Usually someone steps up and today it was those two," commented Eagle Head Coach Brian Ratigan. "We knew that Holy Family was a good team and able to score in numbers. The key was the way our defense really worked hard to limit their scoring opportunities."

In other games played, the Bulldogs of Our Lady of Hungary bullied the Falcons of St. Jude, 31-13, behind Jordan Brown's 14 points.

The Blazers of St. Matthew stayed one game out of the top

spot as they knocked off the Pumas of Queen of Peace despite the 20-point effort of Luke Kaznia. Justin DeClark finished with 17 and his teammate Robbie Sink added 10 in the victorious effort.

In an old fashioned shootout, Christ the King toppled the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic, 55-40, behind Hunter West's 15. Alexander Horvath paced the purple and gold clad Saints with 23 to be the leading scorer of the day.

St. Pius X controlled their own destiny by upending the Spartans of St. Thomas, 50-37, as their duo of Tony Carmola and Trent Stoner scored in double digits outdueling the 12 points netted by Gunner Sadawey.

The regular season will conclude Super Bowl weekend as the teams take to the hardwoods of Marian and Saint Joseph high schools. A complete list of game times and locations can be found at www.icclsports.org.

CYO Twins rally with victories this new year

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Long-time coach Paul Gerardot could not be more pleased. His St. Rose-St. Louis Twins boys' basketball team has had a great start to the new year.

"I have been blessed with another great group of young men this season. We have made much improvement since the beginning and are playing very well as a team right now," Gerardot explained.

The Twins tipped off 2013 with a tough loss to the reigning champs from St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, but went on to win their last three in a row and have posted a 3-2 record in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Blue League to date.

On Jan. 12, his young squad beat Huntington Catholic, 41-31, and then on Jan. 19 they downed St. Aloysius, 32-26. And last weekend, they defeated Most Precious Blood, 36-31.

But it's not just the winning streak that Gerardot is so happy with, "It's the little victories I see each week. We have silent leaders taking charge on the court. We have somebody new hustling on defense, another guy making his first basket, somebody learning the post position and newcomers to the sport catching a passion for the game of basketball."

With just five players signed up from the seventh and eighth grades — Charlie Oberley, Alex Briones, Tyler Campbell, Ray Davis and Blake Rhymer — Gerardot and his assistant, Larry Castleman, decided to call up sixth graders just to make enough to wear the green and white.

"We really wanted to make it happen for the eighth-graders," he said.

Although it has been tough to schedule practices and extra games without conflicts, Gerardot detailed, "The three extras — Will Oberley, Dirk Herschberger and Evan Whitman — have made a huge contribution. They have been a great bonus. We could not have a team without them."

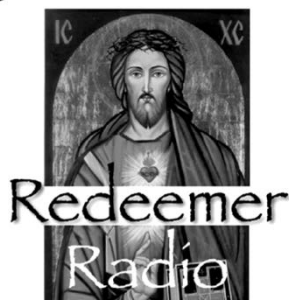
Through the years, Gerardot has always taken his coaching role seriously, feeling it is his responsibility to instill a passion for the game in each player and to teach the fundamentals. "We work week in and week out on shooting, passing, dribbling," he said.

During their most recent victory over Most Precious Blood,

the Twins were 8-12 from the free throw line. "I will take that any day," grinned Gerardot.

The Twins will be off this weekend with a bye, but have one big CYO contest left for the final game of the regular season against Queen of Angels on Feb. 9. A win would secure a third-place seed in the upcoming tournament, one of the team goals. As the season winds down, Gerardot also hopes his Twins will continue to meet the rest of goals for the season: have fun, do something just a little more confidently and believe in yourself just a little more than last game. And of course, he will remind his players with a wink, "Play like you're coached."

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Catholic Hall of Famer Stan Musial dies at 92

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — A funeral Mass was scheduled for Jan. 26 at St. Louis Cathedral Basilica for Stan Musial, the Hall of Fame outfielder-first baseman for the St. Louis Cardinals.

Musial, a Catholic who played all 22 of his major-league seasons with the Cardinals, died Jan. 19 at age 92 at his home in nearby Ladue, surrounded by family.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, a former auxiliary bishop in St. Louis, will celebrate the funeral Mass. Bishop Richard F. Stika of Knoxville, Tenn., who as a priest of the St. Louis Archdiocese was Musial's pastor in Ladue, will preach the homily.

Musial, frequently called "Stan the Man" for his hitting prowess, won seven National League batting championships. At the time of his retirement following the 1963 season, he held 17 major league batting records.

He banded out 3,630 hits during his career — split evenly, with 1,815 at home and 1,815 on the road. He belted 475 home runs, 725 doubles and 175 triples, an uncommon mix of power and speed. He won the National League's Most Valuable Player award three times, as well as three World Series championships with the Cardinals. The owner of a .331 lifetime batting average, he became President Lyndon Johnson's physical fitness adviser following his retirement.

Although he never led the National League in home runs or

stolen bases, he topped the league in virtually every other important category, including games played, at-bats, hits, doubles, triples, runs batted in, total bases, walks, intentional walks, batting average, on-base average and slugging percentage.

Originally a pitcher, Musial's hopes for a career on the mound vanished when he injured his shoulder fielding a ground ball in the minor leagues, but his bat helped him make the jump from Class C ball to the majors in just one year. A statue of Musial stands outside Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

In 2011, during ceremonies at the White House, Musial was awarded the Medal of Freedom, considered the nation's highest civilian honor.

He was boyhood friends with the late Archbishop Nicholas Elko, once head of the Pittsburgh Byzantine Diocese and later appointed by Pope Paul VI as auxiliary archbishop of Cincinnati. He and Musial both had grown up in Donora, Pa.

Musial, who was of Polish descent, was long involved in growing the sport of baseball in Poland. He was involved with a Little League project in Poland, helping to build a training and conference center for coaches, trainers and players all over Eastern Europe.

He also helped out in the St. Louis area as well, including at the St. Vincent Home for Children, a residential treatment center for children with educational, emotional and behavioral difficulties. Giving back and helping others "gives you



St. Louis Cardinal baseball Hall of Famer Stan Musial tips his hat to the crowd before he throws out the ceremonial first pitch prior to the start of 2006 World Series in St. Louis. Musial, a Catholic, died Jan. 19 at age 92. He was awarded the Medal of Freedom in 2011 by President Barack Obama and over the years was supportive of charities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

CNS PHOTO/JOHN SOMMERS II, REUTERS

The slugger met Blessed John Paul II, including twice before Blessed John Paul ascended to the papacy. Musial said they first met when he was archbishop of Krakow, Poland. In 1971, he dropped in on then-Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, who received him even though he was ill with a bad cold.

"I tried to tell him that I was a baseball player, and that my father was born in Poland," Musial recalled in 1988, after his first meeting with Blessed John Paul at the Vatican. The two had some trouble communicating, but when Musial returned to Poland two years later, the Blessed John Paul was already speaking fluent English, he said. "He probably doesn't remember it, but I do," Musial said.

Musial was co-chair of Blessed John Paul's 1999 pastoral visit to St. Louis.

"Alleluia! A great man! A superb athlete!" Cardinal Dolan said in a blog posting within hours of Musial's death. "Married seven decades to his beloved Lil; proud father; committed Catholic — he readily admits one of the highpoints of his life was getting to know his fellow Pole, Blessed John Paul II; never missed Sunday Mass; no steroids or drugs; no brawls, enemies, or DUI. Just a gentleman, day-in-day-out reliable, never complaining or demanding; no controversy or foul language."

Cardinal Dolan recalled when, at age 10, he and his brother met Musial at the St. Louis airport: "Hi Stan," we blurted out. "The Man" looked at us. "Whaddaya say, slug-gers?" Never forgotten it. I was 10-foot tall."

Bishop Sitka said in 2009 that, although he was moving to Tennessee for his Knoxville episcopal assignment, he would never be able to root for any baseball team other than the St. Louis Cardinals, especially because of former parishioner Musial, whom he called "a good friend and a true model of a baseball player."

a great feeling," he said.

Musial would remind youngsters that among his records was the record for making the most outs — more than 7,000 — yet he still was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. In his first game with the Cardinals, he said, he faced a knuckleball pitcher and popped out. "I thought, 'This is going to be tough,' but the next time up I hit a double and it started me on my way," he said.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

FISH FRIES ALREADY

Fish fry

South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 15, from 4-7 p.m. in the school gym. Tickets at the door are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children 5-12 (age 4 and under are free). Tickets can be purchased in advance at a reduced price by calling (574) 289-5539.

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 1, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$8 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

Fish fry and salad bar

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry and salad bar on Friday, Feb. 15, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and carry-out, \$4 for children 5-12 and children under 5 free.

Fish fry supports Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club

Fort Wayne — A fish fry will be Friday, Feb. 15, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Bishop Luers' Cafe. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-11, 5 and under are \$1. Drive-through and carry-out available. Proceeds will help fund a new washing machine for the athletic department.

Knights plan fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 1, from 5-7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

USF School of Creative Arts sponsoring February museum trip

Fort Wayne — The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) at the University of Saint Francis is sponsoring a trip to the Indianapolis Museum of Art on Feb. 20. The group will depart from the Rolland Center for Art and Visual Communication on Leesburg Road at 8:30 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$30 for students and \$40 for the public. To reserve a spot, contact SOCA's Molly McGowan at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.

Trivia night planned

South Bend — St. Joseph Grade School will have a Trivia Night Saturday, Feb. 9, at the new Saint Joseph High School gym. Doors open at 6 p.m. and trivia begins at 7 p.m. Table of 10 is \$100 and individual seats are \$10; additional donations are accepted. European vacation theme, raffle prizes and more. Additional information at www.stjoeparish.com. To register, please contact event chair Patty Karban at pkarban7@gmail.com. Proceeds benefit financial aid for St. Joseph Grade School students.

K of C breakfast for Holy Family School

South Bend — Knights of Columbus Council 5570 will have a pancake breakfast for the Holy Family School Drama Club on Feb. 17, at the Holy Family School cafeteria. Breakfast will be served from 7:30-11 a.m. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 7 to 12, and free for children under 6 years old.

Hungarian Goulash and Langalo dinner

South Bend — Our Lady of

Hungary School, 735 W. Calvert St., will have a Hungarian Goulash and Langalo dinner Saturday, Feb. 2, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 per dinner, children 6-12 \$4.50 and children under 6 free. Additional Goulash \$5, additional Langalo \$1.50. Carry-out available. Tickets available by calling (574) 287-1700.

Casino night

Monroeville — St. Rose Parish is hosting a Casino Night and Texas Hold'em Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 16, at the Monroeville Park Pavilion, 421 Monroe St. Free admission. Must be 21. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for food and casino games. Texas Hold'em Tournament begins at 7 p.m. (registration at 6:15 p.m.) Pre-register by calling (260) 623-6368 or email asimshauser1@frontier.com. Indiana License No. 129706.

Little Flower men's group to meet

South Bend — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, at Little Flower Church, 54191 Ironwood Rd. After Mass all men are invited to hear Bishops Rhoades speak to the Little Flower Men's Breakfast Group about the "New Evangelization."

Super FAT Saturday Trivia Night

Huntington — Huntington Catholic School will have a Trivia Night Mardi Gras style Saturday, Feb. 2 in the school auditorium, 820 Cherry St. Doors open at 6 p.m. Trivia begins at 7 p.m. Team of ten is \$100. Bring your own snacks. Cash prizes. Contact Andy Zay at (260) 356-1588 or azay@sbcglobal.net to reserve a table or for information.

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Edith Salzer, 97, St. John the Baptist

Esther T. Prante, 93, Cathedral of the Immac. Conception

Dolores Ludwiski, 58, St. Jude

William E. Brandt, 87, St. Joseph

Marie E. Bodinka, 86, Most Precious Blood

Michael J. Hayes, Queen of Angels

Granger

Marjorie A. Jewell, 89, St. Pius X

Monabelle R. Diltz, 90, St. Pius X

Catherine Joan Roncz, 88, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Agnes L. Van Hoecke, 90, St. Bavo

Josephine K. Kuespert, 91, St. Monica

Notre Dame

Harold Anthony Berger, 92, Holy Cross Chapel

Father Charles Arthur Delaney, CSC, 91

Eleanor Rebecca Burke, 97, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

South Bend

Eugene A. Lesicki, 85, St. Anthony

Douglas Daniel Kaczorowski, 48, Corpus Christi

John M. Kandzierski, 87, St. Adalbert

Irene Kish McGill, 90, St. Matthew Cathedral

John P. Thurin, 75, St. Matthew Cathedral

Deloris Eileen Waite, 83, Christ the King

Ernest Eugene Engle, 88, St. Anthony de Padua

Lyle E. Massing, 81, St. Jude

Margaret M. Bartkowiak, 88, Holy Family

Joseph G. Ganus, 95, Corpus Christi

Waterloo

Henry Paul Zecca Jr., 63, St. Michael

PRINCIPAL Catholic High School

St. Theodore Guerin High School, in Noblesville, Indiana, is accepting applications for a Principal.

Guerin Catholic, nationally recognized for Catholic identity, is a diocesan (Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana), college preparatory school dedicated to its mission of serving students (over 700) from diverse backgrounds and preparing them to be servant leaders through authentic faith formation, academic excellence and student life opportunities.

The Principal at Guerin Catholic reports to the President and provides direct supervision to the Academic and Athletic Directors, as well as the Dean of Students. The Principal also works collaboratively with other directors of the school including Campus Ministry, Catholic Mission, Advancement, Technology, Admissions, Finance and Communications.

Guerin Catholic, founded in 2004, is committed to offering courses inspired and taught from a Catholic worldview, based on the Christian concept of the human person, and in communion with the Magisterium of the Church.

Thus, the successful candidate will:

- Be an active, practicing Catholic, in good standing with the Church.
- Have the ability to assume spiritual and academic leadership in a Catholic school.
- Be forward and imaginative in thinking.
- Have knowledge and openness to technological advances in the classroom.
- Have an inclusive philosophy and ability and commitment to work with internal and external communities.
- Have budgeting and financial management experience.

The candidate will also have achieved at least a Masters Degree in Education, hold or be eligible for an Indiana Administrative license and have 3-5 years of classroom teaching experience. Administrative experience is preferred.

Qualified candidates should email a current resume, cover letter and three reference letters, plus a pastor reference, to:

Paul Lunsford, President of Guerin Catholic,
at principalsearch@guerincatholic.org.

Preference will be given to applications submitted prior to February 28, 2013.

EOE

www.guerincatholic.org

Just a reminder...

The Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne will be removing Christmas Wreaths after February 20, 2013. If you want to save your Wreath, please remove it NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 20, 2013. If you want to save your Christmas Wreath but cannot remove it by February 20, 2013, please call the Cemetery Office, 260-426-2044, no later than February 15, 2013, and we will save it for you for thirty (30) days only, after which it will be discarded.

Thank you.

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Visit www.diocesefwsb.org for a complete calendar.

MARCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for life, because it is the most precious gift we have and it needs to be protected.”

The Marian student reported that 65 people from the school traveled by bus to Washington. Students from Bishop Luers in Fort Wayne and Saint Joseph in South Bend also had a strong contingency.

Saint Joseph High School Principal Susan Richter, who traveled to Washington with 157 students and 15 chaperones, said, “This gives me great hope for the future — it will be their generation that will continue this fight for life.”

“I felt a tremendous sense of pride seeing our young people supporting the march by actively participating in the rally and both of the Masses,” Richter said. “Witnessing them living their faith by living the Gospel was awe-inspiring. This confirms that our mission is being fulfilled. Our students understand their role as disciples of Christ. The passion and commitment of our students, faculty, staff and parents was wonderful. Many of our chaperones willingly volunteer to go on the march year after year.”

Bishop Dwenger student Eddie Byrne, who was one of 100 participants from the school, said, “My favorite and most reaffirming part of the whole pilgrimage was probably the youth rally Mass for Life. The entire 17,000-person congregation worshipping God in an arena where a hockey game was played the night before was so uncommon but so beautiful at the same time. The homilist, Father Carter Griffin, centered part of his homily around the fact that arenas were/are places of battle. He said we weren’t entering a physical battle, but a spiritual battle in the society we live in.”

Byrne added, “Another cool part from the Mass was Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò’s (apostolic nuncio to the U.S.) message from Pope Benedict XVI.

Knowing that the pope was fighting for life with us from the Vatican made me realize how huge this fight is in our world’s history, even if the mainstream media does not recognize it. I have no doubt that the youth of our generation will end this atrocity in our country.”

At the National Mall before the march, speakers, including those who had accounts of abortion, disabled children who were given life and adopted children made presentations.

Byrne said, “One man who spoke told the thousands of people of his adoption and his adopted family that ‘loved the heck out of (him).’ He also mentioned that of his parents’ 14 children, 10 are adopted.”

“I have no doubt that the youth of our generation will end this atrocity...”

EDDIE BYRNE



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

The University of Notre Dame’s Right to Life Club led the 2013 March for Life on Jan. 25 in Washington, D.C., which this year observed the 40th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion. A group of 50-70 Notre Dame students and faculty carried the large, white “March for Life” banner at the head of the march, which annually draws hundreds of thousands of participants to the nation’s capital.

“This made me know that every child is capable of being loved, even if society tells us that a child conceived from rape or incest or one with a disability is unable to be loved because they are not ‘perfect,’” Byrne said.

Bishop Dwenger student Morgan Kinniry was impacted by those who had abortions and offered testimonials.

“I had never heard from a woman who had actually gotten an abortion and publicly regretted it because it is usually something people have shame about declaring,” Kinniry reported. “Her witness was very strong and offered an interesting perspective to her listeners because she knows first-hand how damaging and hurtful an abortion can be. Her message to us was that even though people can convince women that this is the only way out of an unwanted pregnancy, there is always the option for life.”

For Tania Wilson, the march has become a tradition. Wilson, a Marian High School freshman who attended the march with a youth group from St. Augustine Parish in South Bend, told *Today’s*

Catholic, “While participating in the march, I came across women who once had abortions who held up signs that said ‘I regret my abortion.’ I think it’s amazing that those women went from pro-abortion to pro-life.”

“As I was walking, there were slide shows of aborted babies. I saw a reality that made me feel like I was there for all the right reasons,” said Annie Johnson, a Saint Joseph High School sophomore attending with the St. Augustine youths.

“One thing I noticed while I was walking during the march in D.C. was when they showed on a big screen how abortions look after they’re done. It was very sad,” noted

James Taylor, Washington High School sophomore, who also attended with the St. Augustine youths.

“The March for Life strongly fortified my pro-life beliefs,” Morgan Kinniry noted. “I was overwhelmed by the camaraderie between myself and the other marchers. We were all there for the same cause, so it was nice to see so many other groups of people, from all races and ages, there to stand up for the unborn.”

“During the march itself, I was astounded by how many people came out to support the pro-life cause,” Kinniry added. “I was one in about 500,000 pro-lifers. During the youth rally, I was in awe to see 17,000 pro-life teens along with many seminarians, priests and bishops. Seeing and meeting so many other young people during the rally and Mass made me feel that my generation is definitely a pro-life one.”

Bishop Dwenger student Karen Eckrich was struck with the 55 million figure — the number of children who were lost to abortion in the U.S. over the past 40 years.

“A speaker at the rally put it into perspective,” Eckrich said, “and it’s about as many as the populations of the 20 biggest cities in the U.S. plus the current teenage population.”

“The amount of teenagers I saw on the march was inspiring,” Eckrich said. “I have no doubt in my mind that we will win this battle. And it doesn’t hurt that we’ve got God on our side!”

“During the march, I unintentionally became separated from our diocese group,” said Gabriell Jones, a Marian High School sophomore, who attended the march for the first time with St. Augustine Parish teens in South Bend. “I saw so many people. I didn’t realize how many people came to support the cause, so many that weren’t even Catholic.”

“As I was walking through D.C., I couldn’t help but be moved that so many people were fighting for the same cause,” said Tiana Wilson, a Marian sophomore. “It made me feel like I was doing something worthwhile. I couldn’t help but think that it’s what God wanted me to do.”



PROVIDED BY CHRIS JOZWIAK

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is shown with Rev. Gregory T. Manning of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne as they participate in the National March for Life together marching on the national mall.



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

Pro-life Nellie Gray, who founded the March for Life in 1974 and died in 2012 at age 86, is pictured on a large screen during the annual March for Life rally in Washington Jan. 25.