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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Burmese-American Catholics gather for Fort Wayne national conference

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Hundreds of Burmese-American Catholics gathered for the fourth annual National Conference of Burmese-American Catholics held this year in Fort Wayne. The four-day conference opened Friday, Aug. 30, and concluded Monday, Sept. 2.

Conference attendees arrived in Fort Wayne early in the evening on Aug. 30, and gathered for dinner. Confessions were heard by Father Bernard Taylor before the evening drew to a close.

The conference program began early the next morning, Saturday, Aug. 31, when close to 1,000 Burmese-American Catholics, from across the country and as far away as Australia gathered at Bishop Dwenger High School for breakfast and morning prayer by Master of Ceremonies Father Peter Dee De, part-time associate pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The 80 Burmese Catholics registered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were in attendance as well. Conference attendees were welcomed with a presentation on youth activities and a special youth dance.

Welcoming ceremony speakers included Deacon Peter Swan, president of the conference,

More photos are available in the photo gallery. Visit diocesefwsb.org



JOE ROMIE

One of several cultural dance and song groups entertains the close to 1,000 participants in the National Conference of Burmese-American Catholics from the stage of Bishop Dwenger High School's gymnasium on Saturday evening, Aug. 31.

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Bishop Rhoades defines New Evangelization, social justice at ARISE gathering

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was the keynote speaker on the theme of "The New Evangelization and Social Justice" at an event recently hosted by the ARISE Parish Planning Team of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The gathering, held at the North Campus Building of the University of Saint Francis, included ARISE small group leaders and team members from other Fort Wayne and area parishes as well.

ARISE Together in Christ, begins its third season titled "Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus." It focuses on social justice and includes some 6,000 participants throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

After leading recitation of the "Come, Holy Spirit" prayer, Bishop Rhoades asked the attendees to extend an invitation to others to experience

the renewed commitment to living as faithful disciples of Jesus in the midst of the present culture. He then spoke about what the term New Evangelization means and tied it to the theme of social justice.

"New Evangelization is the great task of the Church in our time," he said. "The Church has always had the missionary mandate to make disciples of all nations. ... That's how the Catholic Church has grown and spread throughout 2,000 years, and now has more than a billion members in the world."

The Church is embarking today on a New Evangelization directed to those who, even though they are baptized, have drifted away from the Church and even live without reference to the Christian life. Recent popes have traveled throughout the world leading this New Evangelization. Pope Benedict established a new Vatican office for it, Bishop Rhoades related, and called for this Year of Faith presently being celebrated, all to

help people rediscover the truth, beauty and power of the Catholic Faith.

Last year the World Synod of Bishops met on this very theme — the New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith. Bishop Rhoades referred to Cardinal Donald Wuerl, of Washington, D.C., who served in one of the principal positions at the Synod. He said, "The Church needs to re-propose the Gospel of the Catholic faith today. Across the Church we deal in ... most of the so-called first-world countries, with a dramatic reduction in the practice of the faith among those who are already baptized."

Bishop Rhoades said the synod meeting was not all bleak. "... he and other bishops spoke about ... some very positive signs that we're seeing: better and stronger catechesis, stronger Catholic identity in many of our schools, more young people getting involved in the Church, some increase in

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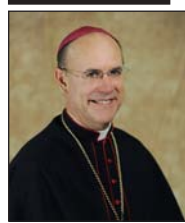
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Speech of Bishop Rhoades on same-sex marriage and relationships



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Our previous edition of Today's Catholic carried an article about Bishop Rhoades' talk (on August 6, 2013) on the topic of same-sex marriage and relationships as part of the Theology on Tap series in South Bend. That article included some remarks attributed to the Bishop which were not sufficiently precise or accurate. Given the importance and sensitivity of this topic, especially with the current debate on the proposed amendment to the Indiana Constitution, we print here the text of his talk in its entirety:

I have been asked to speak tonight about so-called same-sex marriage as well as Charity in our response to same-sex relationships. In a way, this approach fits well with my own episcopal motto: "Veritatem in caritate," "truth in charity." This is what the Lord expects of the Church and all of us: that we adhere to the truth of the Gospel with charity. Fidelity to the truth is essential. So is the virtue of charity. One without the other is a failure. To dismiss the truth revealed by God is not to love God. To lack charity towards others makes it a lie to say we love God. So in the controversial topic we reflect on this evening, it is important that we not water down the truth about human sexuality or marriage, nor that we proclaim this truth without love for those who struggle with same-sex attraction. Proclaiming the truth is part of our duty in charity. Professing the truth without charity is actually not totally professing the truth since charity is a commandment that itself is part of the truth of our faith. Saint Edith Stein wrote: Do not accept anything as the truth if it lacks love. And do not accept anything as love which lacks truth. Blessed John Paul II added: One without the other becomes a destructive lie.

Think about these words of our Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI from his encyclical Charity in truth: Truth needs to be sought, found, and expressed within the "economy" of charity, but charity in its turn needs to be understood, confirmed and practiced in the light of truth.... Only in truth does charity shine forth, only in truth can charity be authentically lived. Truth is the light that gives meaning and value to charity. That light is both the light of reason and the light of faith, through which the intellect attains to the natural and supernatural truth of charity: it grasps its meaning as gift, acceptance, and communion. Without truth, charity degenerates into sentimentality. Love becomes an empty shell, to be filled in an arbitrary way. In a culture without truth, this is the fatal risk facing love. (Caritas in veritate # 2-3).

With this introduction, I think it is best to begin this talk with the recent Supreme Court decision that struck down part of the Defense of Marriage Act. What was most profoundly disturbing to me was that the Supreme Court found the exclusion of same-sex couples legally married under state law from federal benefits (in DOMA Section 3) impermissible largely because it read DOMA as manifesting "ani-

mus" against gay people and targeting them for special disfavor. This argumentation suggests that those who defend the immemorial understanding of marriage as the union of people of different sexes, ordered toward procreation, are anti-homosexual bigots. The Supreme Court says that Americans who affirm marriage as the union of a man and a woman are imposing "a disadvantage" and a "stigma" on others, motivated by an improper animus. Our principal intent is to "demean." We seek "to injure" and are motivated by a "bare... desire to harm." Even the "humiliation" of "tens of thousands of children" fails to move us.

Notice that this language of the Supreme Court majority is not language designed to clarify a difficult legal concept. It is not meant to persuade others regarding a complex public issue. It won't further thoughtful discussion of fast-moving changes to an essential social institution. It's an attempt to shut down discussion by impugning the motives of those who disagree.

This argumentation of the Supreme Court and others suggests that people and institutions like the Catholic Church are prejudiced against people with same-sex attraction. The charge of bigotry hurts. When Cardinal Bergoglio, the future Pope Francis, and the other bishops of Argentina were accused like us of bigotry and discrimination, they responded that "the recognition of a real difference is not discrimination." They wrote: "Nature does not discriminate when it makes us a man or a woman. Our Civil Code does not discriminate when it demands the requirement of being a man and a woman to contract marriage; it only recognizes a natural reality."

Despite the efforts of the future Pope and the Church in Argentina, the marriage redefinition bill passed in the Senate there, making Argentina the first country in Latin America to redefine marriage to include two persons of the same sex.

In Argentina, Pope Francis had to engage with a hostile culture in confronting this issue and others, just as we are doing here in the United States. Pope Francis never made derogatory comments about people with same-sex attraction. Neither do we. To do so would be to reject Catholic teaching that affirms the dignity of all human persons and explicitly affirms that homosexual persons "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (CCC 2358). The Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has said: "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors wherever it occurs."

To proclaim the truth in charity, let us look at the truth of Church teaching about sexuality and homosexuality. What is the place of sexuality within God's plan for humanity? In its document, Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops presented the following summary of Catholic teaching on this topic:

"In the beginning, God created human beings in his own image, meaning that the complementary sexuality of man and woman is a gift from God and ought to be respected as such. Human sexuality is thus a good, part of that created gift which God saw as being 'very good,' when he created the human person in his image and likeness, and 'male and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27). The

complementarity of man and woman as male and female is inherent within God's creative design. Precisely because man and woman are different, yet complementary, they can come together in a union that is open to the possibility of new life. Jesus taught that 'from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh' (Mark 10:6-8). The purpose of sexual desire is to draw man and woman together in the bond of marriage, a bond that is directed toward two inseparable ends: the expression of marital love and the procreation and education of children. 'The spouses' union achieves the twofold end of marriage; the good of the spouses themselves and the transmission of life.' This is the order of nature, an order whose source is ultimately the wisdom of God...."

"By its very nature, then, the sexual act finds its proper fulfillment in the marital bond between a man and a woman. Any sexual act that takes place outside the bond of marriage does not fulfill the proper ends of human sexuality. Such an act is not directed toward the expression of marital love with an openness to new life. It is disordered in that it is not in accord with this twofold end and is thus morally wrong. 'Sexual pleasure is morally disordered when sought for itself, isolated from its procreative and unitive purposes' (CCC 2351)...."

"There are a variety of acts, such as adultery, fornication, masturbation, and contraception, that violate the proper ends of human sexuality. Homosexual acts also violate the true purpose of sexuality. They are sexual acts that cannot be open to life. Nor do they reflect the complementarity of man and woman that is an integral part of God's design for human sexuality. Consequently, the Catholic Church has consistently taught that homosexual acts 'are contrary to the natural law... Under no circumstances can they be approved.'"

This teaching of the Church is part of the natural law, pertaining to the intrinsic order of creation, but also part of what God has revealed in Sacred Scripture. Saint Paul taught that "homosexual acts are not in keeping with our being created in God's image and so degrade and undermine our authentic dignity as human beings. He listed homosexual practices among those things that are incompatible with the Christian life."

"While the Church teaches that homosexual acts are immoral, she does distinguish between engaging in homosexual acts and having a homosexual inclination. While the former is always objectively sinful, the latter is not. To the extent that a homosexual tendency or inclination is not subject to one's free will, one is not morally culpable for that tendency. Although one would be morally culpable if one were voluntarily to entertain homosexual temptations or to choose to act on them, simply having the tendency is not a sin. Consequently, the Church does not teach that the experience of homosexual attraction it is in itself sinful."

"The homosexual inclination is objectively disordered, that is, it is an inclination that predisposes one toward what is truly not good for the human person. ... It is crucially important to understand that saying a person has a particular inclination that is disordered is not to say that the person as a whole is disor-

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dered. Nor does it mean that one has been rejected by God or the Church. Sometimes the Church is misinterpreted or misrepresented as teaching that persons with homosexual inclinations are objectively disordered. No, the person is not disordered or morally defective. The disorder is in that particular inclination, which is not ordered toward the fulfillment of the natural ends of human sexuality. Because of this, acting in accord with such an inclination simply cannot contribute to the true good of the human person. Nevertheless, while the particular inclination to homosexual acts is disordered, the person retains his or her intrinsic human dignity and value."

Those who promote the redefinition of marriage to include same sex unions obviously do not accept the Church's teaching on human sexuality and marriage. They do not accept that "sexuality is ordered to the conjugal love of man and woman" which finds its embodiment in marriage. Yet, this has been the understanding of different cultures, religions, and societies through the centuries, evidence that marriage is part of the natural order of creation. As Catholics, we believe that "the vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution. Its author is God Himself (CCC 1603).

In the Pastoral Letter *Marriage – Love and Life in the Divine Plan*, the U.S. Bishops teach the following: "Marriage is a unique union, a relationship different from all others. It is the permanent bond between one man and one woman whose two-in-one-flesh communion of persons is an indispensable good at the heart of every family and every society. Same-sex unions are incapable of realizing this specific communion of persons. Therefore, attempting to redefine marriage to include such relationships empties the term of its meaning, for it excludes the essential complementarity between man and woman, treating sexual difference as if it were irrelevant to what marriage is.

Male-female complementarity is intrinsic to marriage. It is naturally ordered toward authentic union and the generation of new life. Children are meant to be the gift of the permanent and exclusive union of a husband and a wife. A child is meant to have a mother and a father. The true nature of marriage, lived in openness to life, is a witness to the precious gift of the child and to the unique roles of a mother and father. Same-sex unions are incapable of such a witness.

Consequently, making them equivalent to marriage disregards the very nature of marriage....

By attempting to redefine marriage to include or be made analogous with homosexual partnerships, society is stating that the permanent union of husband and wife, the unique pattern of spousal and familial love, and the generation of new life are now only of relative importance rather than being fundamental to marriage and also to society."

I recommend an excellent book entitled *What is Marriage? Man and Woman: A Defense*. In this book, the authors, using arguments from reason and social science, not religious faith, show that marriage, by its very nature, is conjugal, that is, it has a bodily as well as an emotional spiritual bond. The revisionist view that seeks to redefine marriage to include couples of the same sex identifies marriage as simply a bond between two persons who wish to share their lives together, as essentially an emotional union. They want this sharing of life and love to be recognized as marriage with all its attendant legal benefits. True marriage, however, is more than a consensual relationship between two adults who wish to share their lives together. The book explains how "marriage is, of its essence, a comprehensive union: a union of will (by consent) and body (by sexual union); inherently ordered to procreation and thus the broad sharing of family life; and calling for permanent and exclusive commitment." It is "a human good with an objective structure." Marriage is more than emotional union and cohabitation. It is inherently connected to bodily union and family life. Male-female complementarity is intrinsic to marriage. It is naturally ordered toward authentic union and the generation of new life. These are essential attributes of marriage, not incidental or relative. It should come as no surprise in a culture of increasing relativism that marriage is being relativized.

The Argentinian bishops, under the leadership of Cardinal Bergoglio, issued a statement teaching that "the union of people of the same sex lacks the biological and anthropological elements that are proper to marriage and family." During the national debate in Argentina, Cardinal Bergoglio defended marriage, the natural family and the right of children to have a father and a mother. He wrote: "At stake is the identity and survival of the family: father, mother and children. At stake are the lives of many children who will be discriminated against in advance, and deprived of their human development given by a father and a mother and willed by God. At stake is the total rejection of God's law engraved in our hearts." In a very interesting book of conversations between Cardinal Bergoglio and Rabbi Abraham Skorka entitled *On Heaven and Earth*, they discussed

same-sex marriage. Cardinal Bergoglio said that he considered it an "anti-value and an anthropological regression." He said that this is an issue that transcends religion. He sees same sex marriage as "a weakening of the institution that is thousands of years old and that was forged according to nature and anthropology."

Today, advocacy for the legal recognition of same-sex marriage is often equated with non-discrimination, fairness, equality and civil rights. But I would counter by saying, along with my brother bishops, that "to promote and protect marriage as the union of one man and one woman is itself a matter of justice. In fact, it is a grave injustice for the state to ignore the unique and proper place of husbands and wives, the place of mothers and fathers, and especially the rights of children to a mother and father." (USCCB, *Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan*).

Regarding equality, we maintain that basic human rights must be afforded to all people. This can and should be done without sacrificing the bedrock of society that is marriage and the family. We don't believe that anyone should be denied basic rights nor should anyone be subjected to harassment or unjust discrimination because of their sexual inclinations.

Some advocates of same-sex marriage like to point out that there are many problems with heterosexual marriages today: high divorce rates, children being raised by single parents, abuse in families, etc. They are right – there are many forces in society that have weakened marriage. But these are not reasons to redefine marriage and further weaken it. The problems of divorce, etc. point to the need to strengthen and promote marriage.

There is also the argument that same-sex couples can be good parents. Well, we are not judging anyone's parenting skills in defending marriage between a man and a woman. We respect the hard work done by anyone who parents a child, including single parents. But we hold, and social science shows, that children do best when parented by a mother and a father. Defending the truth about marriage is a duty of charity, especially toward children.

Given the Church's strong teaching in this area, where does all this leave persons with same-sex attractions? They may feel rejected, alienated, excluded by the Church.

First of all, unlike most of society, the Catholic Church refuses to define people in terms of their sexual inclination. We see people primarily according to their identity as beloved children of God, created in his image and likeness. Our fundamental orientation is toward God, and is not reducible to sexual inclinations, however powerful they may seem. We

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PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Sept. 8, 12 p.m. — Noon Mass, Our Lady of Consolation Church, Parkesburg, Pa.
- Monday, Sept. 9, 9:30 a.m. — Meeting of USCCB Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty, Washington, D.C.
- Monday, Sept. 9, 1 p.m. — Meeting of USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth, Washington, D.C.
- Tuesday, Sept. 10, and Wednesday, Sept. 11 — Meeting of USCCB Administrative Committee, Washington, D.C.
- Friday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m. — Rosary and Dinner at Men's Cursillo Weekend, Episcopal Center, Syracuse
- Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 a.m. — Sacrament of Confirmation, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Fort Wayne
- Sunday, Sept. 15, 11:30 a.m. — Wedding Anniversary Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Sunday, Sept. 15, 3 p.m. — Blessing and groundbreaking, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Sept. 16, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, Sept. 17, 11 a.m. — Mass celebrating 150th Anniversary of Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Mishawaka
- Tuesday, Sept. 17, 6:15 p.m. — Dinner and Meeting with South Bend Parish Leadership of Annual Bishop's Appeal, Saint Hedwig Parish, South Bend
- Wednesday, Sept. 18, 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Finance Council, Holiday Inn, Warsaw
- Thursday, Sept. 19, 3:30 p.m. — Mass for Board of Trustees, Trinity Hall Chapel, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne
- Friday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. — Blessing of Apartments, Sacred Heart Home, Avilla

Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty Holy Hour across the diocese

- St. Joseph Church, 1300 N. Main St., Bluffton, will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday, Sept. 11, at 5 p.m., Evening Prayer at 6:40 p.m., Benediction at 6:50 p.m. followed by Mass at 7 p.m. for the call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty
- Immaculate Conception Church, 500 E. Seventh St., Auburn, has a holy hour Mondays 5:30-6:30 p.m. and every Friday from 11 a.m. to noon. The Adoration Chapel is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and people are encouraged to spend time in Adoration and pray for the intentions of life, marriage and religious liberty.
- St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne, has a holy hour all Fridays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka has an hour and a half (3:30-5 p.m.) every Saturday of Adoration and Exposition prior to the Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. They dedicate this time in honor of private prayer for the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
- St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur, hosts Eucharistic Exposition on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30-6 p.m. and on Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and 4:30-8 p.m. The parish asks participants to pray for the protection of marriage, religious freedom and unborn children.
- Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, hosts a holy hour for religious liberty beginning with a rosary at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.



Chaplain appointed

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has appointed **Father Brian Ching, CSC**, as Diocesan Scout Chaplain, effective Sept. 1, 2013. Father Ching continues as Parochial Vicar at Saint Joseph Parish, South Bend.

Faith · Family · Fun
St. John the Baptist Parish Festival

St. John the Baptist Parish

Saturday, September 14, 2013
4500 Fairfield Avenue, Fort Wayne

Children's Games and Inflatables Noon - 5 pm

Silent Auction 4 pm - 7 pm

50's-themed Talent Show 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Bingo 2 pm - 4 pm

Beer Tent and Casino Games 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Nelson's Port-a-Pit

Chicken and Ribs
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Sides by Hall's Restaurant

\$10,000 in prizes

Cash Raffle
9 pm

Music by Truckin' Tim Kelly and Dave Bergeron



Christian Culture
LECTURE

Saint Mary's College

**Civic Healing and Christian Virtue
in the 21st Century**

A lecture by the NPR broadcaster

Krista Tippett

Tuesday
September 24
7:30 p.m.

O'Laughlin
Auditorium



Explore the ways Christian tradition and virtues are equipped to promote healing and provide wisdom in our divisive, young century.



Tickets are required for this free event and are available at the Moreau Center Box Office, online at MoreauCenter.com, or over the phone at (574) 284-4626.

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For more information, visit saintmarys.edu/Tippett

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

must also see our brothers and sisters with same-sex attractions as true brothers and sisters. If they are Catholic, we should see them and they should see themselves as beloved members of the Body of Christ, the Church. It is a terrible sin, a sin against charity, for us to look down upon or reject persons with same-sex attraction. As the Catechism teaches, "homosexual persons must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity." In my opinion, it is just as sinful to lack charity towards homosexual persons as it is to condone the sin of homosexual activity, maybe even more so.

Contrary to claims by the US Supreme Court, our opposition to the redefinition of marriage is not meant to demean, injure, or desire harm towards same-sex couples. In fact, our support of authentic marriage is not at all aimed at denying equality or justice to same-sex couples. But there is not a right to something that, by its very nature, is constituted uniquely, naturally, and essentially as a conjugal union. Contrary to the Supreme Court's ruling, our teaching actually serves the true good of persons with same-sex attraction, their authentic happiness in this life and the next, their spiritual good.

Mother Teresa was once asked in an interview for her views on homosexuality. She announced that she did not like the word "homosexual." She stopped the interview and told the reporters that if they had any more questions about homosexuals, they would refer to them from now on as "friends of Jesus." This is how we should see our brothers and sisters who carry the cross of same-sex attraction.

Here's what the Catechism says: Person with homosexual tendencies "are called to fulfill God's will in their lives and, if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord's Cross the difficulties they may encounter from their condition. Homosexual persons are called to chastity. By the virtues of self-mastery that teach them inner freedom, at times, by the support of disinterested friendship, by prayer and sacramental grace, they can and should gradually and resolutely approach Christian perfection" (CCC 2358-2359).

We must not forget that "love is the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being" (Familiaris Consortio 11). This includes persons with same-sex attraction. Their fundamental and innate vocation is love. But love should not be expressed through homosexual acts, acts which are contrary to the natural law, chastity, and the purpose of human sexuality. Love is much more than sex. Friendship is a great good and can bring great joy and peace to one's life. It is our friendship with Christ and with others that makes life happy and fulfilling. Groups like Courage help our brothers and sisters with same-sex attraction to grow in chastity, to progress in self-mastery, to cultivate good friendships, and to grow in an intimate relationship with Jesus. But this should not be just the mission of Courage. It is part of the mission of the Church and should be part of our lives and the lives of our parishes and other institutions: welcoming and encouraging our brothers and sisters who struggle with same-sex attraction.

How do Catholics with same-sex attraction respond to all this? To be honest, some simply reject the Church and its teaching. Many have left the Church, feeling alienated; some have become public critics of the Church and its teaching. Some are filled with anger

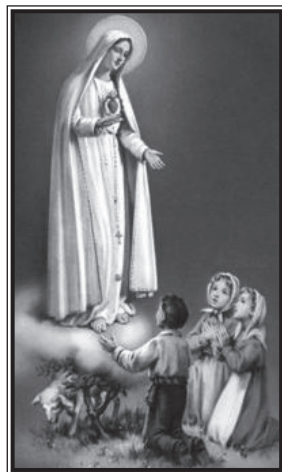
towards the Church. I recently received a hurtful e-mail from someone who accused me of bigotry and hatred because of our teaching. I felt there was hatred in the heart of the one who wrote to me, and I have prayed for him.

Then there are many Catholics with same-sex attraction who believe in the Church's teaching and actively practice the faith. Sometimes they fall in their efforts to live a chaste life. So do many people with heterosexual inclinations. So with faith, they repent and receive the Lord's forgiveness in the sacrament of Reconciliation. They resolve to live a chaste life, with the help of God's grace. For some, their same-sex attraction and temptations can be a very heavy cross.

For young people, this can be a very difficult trial. The knowledge of their same-sex attractions can lead to self-loathing, self-hatred, even harm to self. If rejected by family or peers, they can experience loneliness, isolation, deep hurt, and depression. They deserve our love and strong support. Some pursue a gay lifestyle and the values of a gay subculture that may result in further alienation, exploitation by adults, illness, or a certain way of life that may bring some pleasure, but not true and lasting happiness. It does not serve their true spiritual good.

Finally, as we continue to defend the truth about marriage, we must also continue to reach out with love, respect, compassion, and sensitivity to persons with a homosexual inclination. We are all called to live chaste and holy lives and to help one another to grow in holiness. The bonds of love uniting all of us as one Body in Christ are stronger and more important than anyone's sexual inclinations. We journey together on this earth as fellow disciples and pilgrims, all sinners striving to be holy. Let's help each other on the journey!

Annual Fatima Breakfast



The Fort Wayne-South Bend division of the World Apostolate of Fatima invites everyone to their annual celebration on **Saturday, October 5, 2013**. The morning begins at 8:00 with Confessions, the Holy Rosary, and First Saturday Meditations at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. Holy Mass begins at 9:00. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will be the celebrant and homilist. After Holy Mass, all are invited to the Community Center at St. Mary's parish (1101 Lafayette Street) for breakfast. Father Jacob Meyer of Fort Wayne's St. Charles parish will be the guest speaker.

Pre-paid reservations for the breakfast are required by Friday, Sept 27.

Adult tickets: \$7.50. Tickets for children 10 and younger: \$4.00

To make your reservation, call Carol at 260-437-1202.

In the words of Our Lady to Saint Dominic

"One day through the Rosary and the Scapular, I will save the World."

Harms of pornography to be discussed in upcoming conference

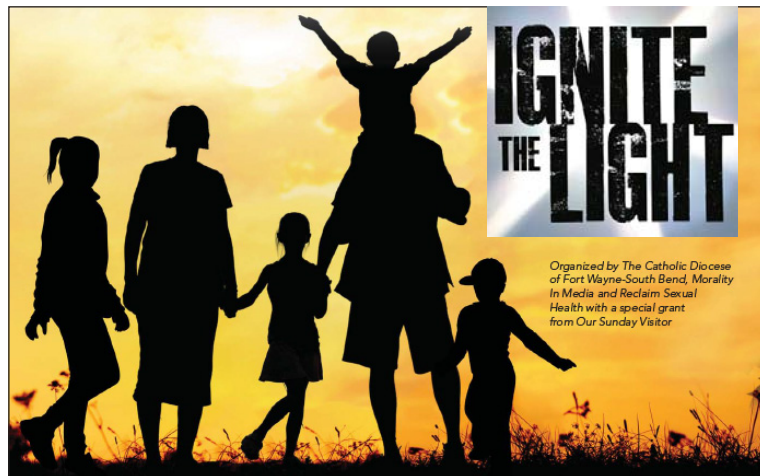
BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — “Nearly every priest will say that pornography is the most frequent sin mentioned in Confession. Pornography is a destroyer of spiritual lives. It is also a destroyer of marriages and families,” said attorney Patrick Trueman, the president of Morality in the Media (MIM) and former chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice from 1988 to 1993.

Trueman, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and nationally recognized experts from Reclaim Sexual Health — will be speakers at the Ignite the Light in a World Darkened by Pornography conference to be held at the North Campus of the University of Saint Francis on Saturday, Oct. 5. The conference is open to adults and teens aged 14 and older.

Topics covered will include the harms of pornography, brain science behind the addiction to pornography, case studies of those harmed, pathways to healing for individuals and families and information on how to insulate individuals and families from the effects of pornography.

In an email interview, Trueman told *Today's Catholic*, “One survey from a few years ago indicated that pornography is a factor in more than



half the divorces in this country. The reason why pornography is so destructive is found in its addictive nature. Many men and women, and even children are addicted to pornography, and like any addiction, the substance addicted to becomes the driving force in the one addicted. Thus, family life and work life become secondary to the driving desire for pornography. Those addicted act out and thus, extra marital affairs, prostitution and sexual abuse follow.”

The conference will minister to several audiences. Trueman noted the following should attend, “Parents wishing to protect their family from the harms of pornography, individuals suffering from the harms of pornography, those wishing to protect society from pornog-

raphy — especially community and spiritual leaders.”

“Also, this conference will be beneficial to young adults looking to avoid pornography before it

Ignite the Light in A World Darkened by Pornography

Oct. 5, 2013
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
University of Saint Francis,
North Campus Auditorium
2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne
Cost: Before Sept 28, \$10;
after Sept. 28, \$15
Online registration: www.PornHarms.com/ftwayne

ARISE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vocations to Priesthood and consecrated life — we’re definitely seeing that here in Fort Wayne-South Bend — and a growing number of deeply committed Catholics, though the decline in Mass attendance and sacramental practice is still a major concern.”

Bishop Rhoades spoke on small Christian communities, saying, “The success of small Christian communities, like ARISE, the renewal of parish life in some places, are components of the New Evangelization and all are priorities of my ministry as bishop.” He spoke of better use of the new media, social communications, the Internet and important initiatives like Redeemer Radio and Catholic television as well.

Bishop Rhoades said, “This begins with our own deepened understanding and appropriation of our faith. ... It’s the encounter with Jesus Christ, with His Gospel and with His Church. ... I especially believe personally in the great value of praying with the Scriptures and praying the holy rosary. These provide the fertile soil for the growth of the New Evangelization.”

Moving to the topic of social justice, Bishop Rhoades said, “I believe it’s a vital component of the New Evangelization. ... It’s truly part of the Church’s mission to proclaim the Gospel in the context of social life and present-day realities.” He

continued,

“That’s why the Second Vatican Council taught that at all times the Church carries the responsibility of reading the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel.”

“We promote fundamental values that are inherent in the dignity of the human person,” he continued. “And the inner wellspring of our activity is always love, the greatest of all the virtues and the core of the Christian message. ... Love is the only force that can lead to personal

and social perfection, allowing society to make progress towards the good. So the Church seeks to build a civilization of love.”

Bishop Rhoades continued, “The New Evangelization necessarily includes the commitment to Christian charity and social justice. Works of charity and justice, inspired by our faith, are part of the plan of God to bring about His kingdom. Being involved in service ministry — and there are a lot of opportunities in our diocese — promotes the New Evangelization.”

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leads to life-long problems, such as addiction,” he encouraged. “Young couples are affected by the harms of pornography more so now than ever before and marriages are suffering as a result.”

“Attendees will get a roadmap to recovery for themselves and others with the provision of teachings on specifically how pornography affects the brain,” Trueman said.

“The overall goal of the conference is to leave attendees feeling hopeful and optimistic about what

they can do in their homes and community to protect against the harms from pornography,” he said.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is collaborating with Morality in Media, a nonprofit committed to fighting pornography through public education and the application of the law, and the national Catholic apostolate, Reclaim Sexual Health to host the Oct. 5 conference. Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington has provided a grant for the conference.



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BURMESE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Meg Distler of the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, Msgr. Robert Schulte, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry.

Keynote speaker and Mass celebrant Archbishop Charles Bo, of the Rangoon Diocese in Myanmar (formerly known as Burma), joined the throngs of Burmese-Americans gathered to enrich their faith and connect with others. The day was laced with cultural music and prayer, talks for youth and adults, and participants took advantage of the opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration, rosary recitation and Confession.

The archbishop spoke to the assembly in the morning before the 11 a.m. Mass about values that included identity, trust, gratitude and love. His afternoon talk drew attention to the "Year of Faith" instituted by Pope emeritus Benedict XVI in Oct. of 2012, and the challenges Burmese-American Catholics face regarding faith, unity among themselves and mutual support. He also encouraged the faithful to give attention to tithes — to offer to God, time, talents and treasure.

Archbishop Bo is cognizant of the struggles this assembly has experienced in their migration to and resettlement in the U.S. Speaking to *Today's Catholic* before the conference the archbishop said, "They themselves face a terrible culture-shock and many find it hard



PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

Following the Mass with the Burmese community Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, center, and Msgr. Robert Schulte, right, admire a chasuble that Archbishop Charles Bo, left, from Rangoon, Burma, gifted to Bishop Rhoades.



Father Peter Dee De, left, a Burmese priest serving as part-time associate pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, plays in the eight-team men's soccer tournament during the conference.

to adjust." He cited challenges such as lack of education, home-sickness, lack of stamina for resettlement and the language barrier.

Archbishop Bo commended the U.S. assistance to his people, saying, "The local

Church in Fort Wayne is trying its best to take care of the migrants and resettlement. Since our Burmese

Catholics have to start from zero, I think it would need much time and attention to do it enough. We thank the American leaders and clergy who offered."

Men's soccer and women's volleyball games were organized in the afternoon in the gym of Bishop Dwenger's campus and the Hefner Soccer Complex at IPFW, where Father Dee De said catechism was taught to the participants. His hope is that the Burmese-American Catholics gathered will learn more about the Year of Faith and share that faith with others. "Faith is a gift and has to be lived out and shared wherever we are, no matter how difficult the situation is. ... The other thing is ... to urge them to participate in the life of the parish they belong to," he said.

On Sunday, Sept. 1, the day began in earnest with song and prayer followed by a talk on the New Evangelization by Archbishop Bo. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, with interpreter Father Nico, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne, where in his homily Bishop Rhoades spoke to the standing room only congregation of the deep and humble faith of Burmese Catholics. "I have been edified by the faith and humility of the Burmese Catholics in this diocese. They learned this path of faith and humility, the path of Jesus, back home in Burma," he said.

Bishop Rhoades told the congregation, "The Burmese-Catholic community in our country, and here in Fort Wayne, is truly a blessing for the Church in the United States." He went on to encourage them to share their faith with others, saying, "The

Church's mission of evangelization needs your witness and your active participation. I encourage you to be involved in the life and activity of your parishes and dioceses throughout this country."

Bishop Rhoades spoke of the commonality the faith affords its faithful. "Though there are language and cultural differences between you and the American community, our common Catholic faith unites us and unites you with your Catholic American brothers and sisters. I encourage you to recognize your gifts and talents and to use them for the building of the Body of Christ, the Church, here in the United States."

He continued, "I hope that you have felt at home in the Catholic Church here. ... We are all brothers and sisters from different races, nations, cultures and languages. The Church is one — we are one Body in Christ. This unity is stronger than any differences among us."

Concluding his homily, Bishop Rhoades blessed the special congregation, saying, "May the Lord bless all of you who have attended this national conference! May the Lord bless Archbishop Bo and all the Catholic faithful in Burma! And may the Lord bless the Catholic Church in the United States!"

Bishop Rhoades also announced that he had accepted Hang Suan Piang (John), the first Burmese man as seminarian for the diocese who served at the cathedral Mass.

Following Mass Deacon Swan thanked Bishop Rhoades for his participation in the conference and presented him with a gift of a chasuble that depicts Mary, the Immaculate Conception.

Deirdre Byrne, religious sister and surgeon, to speak at White Mass event

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Catholic doctors, nurses and healthcare workers will gather together on Oct. 1 at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne for the first annual White Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to honor those men and women who strive to practice medicine according to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The 6 p.m. Mass, co-sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the recently founded Dr. Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana, will be followed by a banquet with speaker Sister Deirdre Bryne, a member of Little Workers of the Sacred Heart, located in Washington, D.C.

Sister Dede, as she is known to many, is not only an active missionary sister and superior, but a board-certified family practitioner and general surgeon as well.

A native of the Washington, D.C., area, Sister Dede followed in her thoracic surgeon father's footsteps and entered medical school at Georgetown University, where she eventually completed a surgical residency. During that time she also joined the Army, to help defray the cost of her education. God's call to religious life was planted in her

heart in high school, Sister Dede says, to be answered later in life.

As Sister Dede continued her medical studies with a family practice residency, God continued to provide opportunities to move more deeply into her relationship with Him. She took assignments overseas in Korea and then Sinai, where the "experience was spiritually rich." It was there, in the desert, that in addition to her medical work, she held Communion services and facilitated a chastity group for young women. She also began to discern a very real call to a vocation, investigating different communities. "God made it very clear that he was calling me," she admits.

She eventually was led to the Little Workers of the Sacred Heart community whose charism involves "performing overseas medical missionary work and providing free medical care for the poor and uninsured." The over 100-year-old community, which includes 400-500 members worldwide, was a perfect fit. By 2000, the board-certified Dr. Deirdre Byrne made her commitment to the Little Workers and began her novitiate training in earnest.

Over the years, Sister Dede has found it easy to integrate her medical and military service into her religious vocation. Though



PROVIDED BY SISTER DEIRDRE BYRNE

comfortable in scrubs, she wears a full black or a white working habit when she can, and is grateful for the impact it has on those to whom she ministers. "I'm not only a pro-life doctor but a pro-eternal life doctor," Sister Dede says, adding, "It's from the Eucharist and our Catholic faith that we can be pro-eternal life doctors. We work on the people not only in helping them make the right health choices on earth, but also the healthiest choice for heaven."

And, though she retired with the rank of colonel in 2009, with 29 years of service in the military, she is grateful for the opportunity to have served the "brave soldiers"

while deployed to Afghanistan. "The military put me through med school. I felt really good about being able to finally give something back, especially when I went to Afghanistan," she says.

Sister Dede's other charitable medical/surgical service includes hands-on ministry in the rubble of the twin towers following the terrorist attack on 9-11, and annual medical missions in Kenya, Haiti and Sudan. She currently acts as the clinic director of the Spanish Catholic Center, serving the uninsured in the Washington Diocese. She is also a general surgeon who works through the clinic to serve

those in need.

Sister Dede is the superior of the D.C. Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts house, where the sisters run a pro-bono physical therapy clinic and diabetic eye clinic, as well as a preschool for underserved children.

Sister Dede plans to allow the Holy Spirit to inspire her speech at the luncheon following the White Mass, but is sure that the love of God will be at the center of it. She will speak about the current state of the medical community and the challenges Catholic doctors face.

Sister Dede would also like to reach out to the medical students as well, saying, "They think sisters sit in a convent and pray and that's all they do. But I've got my sleeves rolled up and am suturing till 3 in the morning! There's a lot of work out there, and I'm hoping to inspire the younger people to either do missionary work or deepen their Catholic faith, or who knows, go into religious life."

Her message, she says, is simple. "To find strength in the Catholic medical community. To stay true to the teachings of the Catholic Church. ... We are not alone. We have to stick together. We have to maintain our Catholic faith and stay strong. ... We can't waiver — we must stay the course!"

Mass for those with disabilities to be celebrated Oct. 6

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will celebrate a Mass for people with disabilities at St. Jude Church, 2215 Randallia Dr., at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will be the celebrant. A light reception will follow the Mass.

Bus transportation will be available from Marian High School, Mishawaka, to Fort Wayne, and then back to Marian High School. Bus travelers would need to arrive at Marian High School by 10 a.m. as the bus will depart at 10:30 a.m. and return to Marian High School by 6:30 p.m.

For bus information, contact Allison Sturm at (260) 399-1452 or asturm@diocesefwsb.org.

For information about the Mass for those with disabilities, contact Mary Glowaski at (260) 399-1458.

Day of Reflection for the Deaf offered Oct. 12

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Office of Evangelization and Special Ministries will offer a Day of Reflection for the Deaf on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the St. Vincent de Paul Spiritual Center, 1502 East Wallen Rd. Oblate of St. Francis de Sales Father Mike Depcik, from the Archdiocese of Detroit, one of only 10 deaf Catholic priests in the world, will offer inspirational talks, Confession and Mass — all in sign language. Cost is \$20, which includes continental breakfast and lunch. Registration form and payment deadline is Oct. 7. Download registration form at www.diocesefwsb.org/Evangelization-And-Special-Ministries. For more information contact Jane Sandor at (260) 399-1450 or email jsandor@diocesefwsb.org. This day of reflection is for deaf participants only.

Golf outing/open house supports St. Henry Parish and Community Center

FORT WAYNE — St. Henry Parish, 2929 E. Paulding Rd., will have a Golf Outing and Open House on Sunday, Sept. 22, at the parish and Lakeside Golf Course.

A welcome home Mass will begin at 10:30 a.m. with an open house immediately following. A lunch at the Parish Center will be served at noon and be provided by Casa Ristorante Italiano. Cost for the meal is \$7. Reservations made early will receive \$1 off the day of event price.

The golf outing at Lakeside Golf Course will begin at 1 p.m. with a shotgun start. Cost for the golf outing is \$55 per foursome for adults and \$25 per foursome for teens. Food and drinks will also be provided.

Call the parish office at (260) 447-4100 or email sainthenrycc57@gmail.com for information.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION, ROSARY AND BENEDICTION



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH PARISH

St. Joseph Parish, Garrett, celebrated the feast of Corpus Christi and the Assumption with a solemn Eucharistic Procession on Sunday, Aug. 18. Many parishioners participated in the procession and recitation of the rosary, followed by Benediction. Pastor Andrew Nazareth, center, carried the Blessed Sacrament, sheltered by canopy bearers, left to right Chris Hoeffel, Bill O'Connor, Doug Kilgore and Chuck Henry. Garrett Knights of Columbus Council provided the Honor Guard. Also in the procession were recent First Communicants and Mass servers. Father Nazareth has emphasized the importance of traditional Catholic devotion as inspiration for the Eucharistic canopy, sewn by parishioners from retired vestments. The canopy is available for use by other parishes by calling St. Joseph Parish Center.

Serra Club of South Bend offers a day of reflection

NEW CARLISLE — The Serra Club of South Bend will hold a day of reflection at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, 55756 Tulip Rd., New Carlisle, on Tuesday, Sept. 24, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Father Paul McCarthy, pastor of St. Stanislaus and Serra Club chaplain, will conduct the day. Mass will begin the day that will include conference sessions, Confessions, recitation of the rosary and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, lunch prepared by parishioners of St. Stanislaus, Benediction and final blessing. All Serrans and potential new members are invited to attend. For information call Dick Dornbos at (574) 271-7853 or Mary Pajot (574) 315-8661.

Bishop Dwenger High School to offer ACT/SAT prep course

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School is offering an ACT/SAT prep course on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m.

Classes will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 17, and end on Thursday, Oct. 31. The 14 sessions will include test familiarity, pacing, strategies, as well as a review of English, math and science concepts. The Tuesday sessions will focus on critical reading, writing and grammar, while the Thursday sessions will address math and science. The class fee is \$195 and includes both an ACT text and SAT text for the course. The class is open to any high school student in the Fort Wayne and surrounding county area. For more information and registration, call Bishop Dwenger High School at (260) 496-4700 or visit www.bishopdwenger.com.

Life of Oscar Romero to be presented at breakfast

NOTRE DAME — PROCLAIM! at the Institute for Church Life will host a morning presentation by Father Bob Pelton and Father Dan Groody on the life and conversion of Oscar Romero. A light Salvadorian breakfast will be served. The event in English will be Saturday, Sept. 7, from

9:30-11:30 a.m. and in Spanish on Saturday, Sept. 14, at the same time in Geddes Hall on the Notre Dame campus. Tickets are \$8 each. Contact Patricia Bellm at (574) 631-1379, pbellm@nd.edu or visit icl.nd.edu/Oscar_Romero.

Secret Sisters Society Luncheon and Style Show set for Sept. 11

MISHAWAKA — The 12th annual Secret Sisters Society Luncheon and Style Show, which raises funds to assist underserved women receive life-saving cancer screenings, will take place Wednesday, Sept. 11, at the Century Center in downtown South Bend at noon.

Organized by the Women's Task Force of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center and sponsored by the Kelly Cares Foundation, proceeds raised from the event will allow underserved women, ages 40-49, to receive free mammogram or cervical cancer screenings.

The luncheon and style show is open to anyone, but seating is limited. Individual reservations are \$35, and patron tables or other sponsor-

ship opportunities are still available. Donations are also being accepted.

For reservations or to donate call (574) 472-6354 or visit www.womenstaskforce.org.

Gerontology institute inaugurates seminar series

NOTRE DAME — The Michiana Gerontology Institute (MGI) of Holy Cross College will inaugurate its MGI Seminar Series — a collaborative venture between numerous MGI member organizations and agencies. Speakers will present on a wide variety of aging and gerontology related topics. All seminars are scheduled on Mondays at 6 p.m. in the Driscoll Auditorium at Holy Cross College. All presentations are free and open to the public.

The fall 2013 schedule includes:

- Sept. 9: The Upside of Aging — Rosemary Cox, Memorial BrainWorks
- Sept. 23: Lifestyle Habits of Effective Minds — Debra Raybold, Memorial BrainWorks
- Oct. 7: The 10 Warning Signs of Early Alzheimer's Disease — Heather Romero, PhD, University of Notre Dame
- Oct. 28: Stressed Out by Your Memory — Rosemary Cox, Memorial BrainWorks
- Nov. 18: Senior Navigators-Helpers on Your Life's Journey — Mary Jo Campbell, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center

Father Groody to speak at Lecture Series

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Father Daniel Groody, associate professor of theology, and director of the Center for Latino Spirituality and Culture at the University of Notre Dame, will speak on the topic, "Dying to Live: A Theology of Migration," on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 7:30 p.m., Stapleton Lounge, Le Mans Hall, Saint Mary's College. The Center for Spirituality (CFS) sponsors the event, which is part of the 2013 Fall Lecture Series titled "Justice and Its Many Facets." The lecture is free and open to the public.

Ladies Luncheon to feature fashions by alum Nathan Hoeffel

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will have a Ladies Luncheon at the Fort Wayne History Center on Sunday, Sept. 22, with social hour beginning at noon and lunch to follow at 1 p.m.

The luncheon will feature a fall fashion show by designer Nathan Hoeffel, class of '09. Nathan Gerard Hoeffel is an independent fashion designer and recently graduated from the Herron School of Art and Design where he earned his degree in Visual Communications.

The luncheon is free of charge but a donation or an item for the LuersKnight auction is requested.

For reservations contact Bishop Luers at (260) 456-1261, ext. 3142 by Friday, Sept. 13.

150 years of Catholic education a

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

AVILLA — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades traveled to the small community of Avilla early Monday morning, Aug. 26, to celebrate Mass with the students of St. Mary of the Assumption School and to help them commemorate 150 years of Catholic education.

“It is a joy for me to come to St. Mary’s School today,” he declared at the opening of Mass. He noted that it was his first school visit in the new academic year and expressed gratitude to the teachers and parents in attendance.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades talked to the students about their school mascot, the eagle, a strong bird that soars toward the heavens. He challenged them to think about soaring like an eagle, about “striving for excellence in all you do.”

He spoke of their education at St. Mary’s as three-faceted, as education of the body, mind and soul.

Physical education is important, he said, as well as nutritious food and a healthy lifestyle.

Education of the mind comes from the school subjects, which are studied daily and require use of one’s intellectual powers. He advised students to use their minds for intellectual as well as spiritual growth.

Education of the soul is most important, he said, for it leads one to salvation, to eternal life through Jesus Christ. School helps us grow in Christ, he pointed out, through study of religion and the Bible. “I pray this school year that you soar like eagles in body, mind and soul,” he concluded.

Following Mass, Bishop Rhoades continued on to the school, where a billboard in the entrance hall welcomed him and displayed the school’s motto, “Children Growing in Wisdom and Grace.” He met briefly with the school board and learned of their goals for the year, which include increased enrollment and visibility in the community. “I’m very committed to Catholic schools” as an important part of the mission of the Church, he assured them.

The bishop then visited each classroom, much to the delight of the students. Kindergarteners showed him hand puppets they had made in his likeness and sang, “I am a Friend of God” for his entertainment. First graders assured him that they knew many prayers, including the Hail Mary, Our Father, Glory Be and Angel of God. He was pleased and reminded them they could also talk to God “like a friend.” Second grade is especially important, bishop told those students, because they will receive two sacraments this year — Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist.

Third graders were learning the Beatitudes and the colors of the Church year. Purple is for preparation, green is the color of ordinary time, white is used for celebration and red signifies fire and blood, they pointed out. Fourth graders were discussing faith and the ways in which God reveals Himself to us. Fifth graders were learning about the sacraments, sixth graders about the Old Testament and seventh graders about the New Testament. Eighth graders were beginning their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Bishop Rhoades clearly enjoyed interacting with the students and appeared to be well pleased with their education in the faith after his tour. “I love to visit Catholic schools,” he said.

St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic School

is a long-standing institution, having educated children from Avilla and surrounding communities for 150 years. The school was established in 1863, fully 10 years after the church was begun by early settlers in Noble County, in response to its parishioners’ desire for a uniquely Catholic education for their children.

One hundred sixty-nine students are currently enrolled in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. The only Catholic elementary school in Noble County, St. Mary’s draws from Blessed Sacrament Parish in Albion, Immaculate Conception parishes in Kendallville and Ege, St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Angola, St. John Bosco in Churubusco and St. Gaspar in Rome City.

Principal Jeffrey Kieffer believes area parents understand the importance of the school’s Catholic identity and want that education in the faith for their children.

Students’ spiritual development is first and foremost, he noted. Each school day begins with a gathering in the gymnasium for announcements and sharing of good news, then the Apostles’ Creed is recited. A prayer also begins each class. Beginning in first grade, students help plan twice-weekly school Masses by writing the prayers of the faithful, reciting the daily reading and psalm, singing the Alleluia and serving as acolytes.

St. Mary’s pastor, Father Daniel Chukwuleta, presents excellent homilies at those Masses, said Kieffer. “He is truly a gift. ... His love of Christ and his excitement at sharing the faith with the children is remarkable.”

Education in other areas claims a high priority as well. Principal Kieffer noted that St. Mary’s received an A rating following ISTEP testing last year, eighth graders compete well in the math bowl quiz sponsored by Huntington University each year, and a long-standing Dekko Fine Arts Grant provides funding for various art education experiences at all grade levels.

Extracurricular offerings are also many and varied. In collaboration with St. Joseph School in Garrett, Oak Farm Montessori and other area schools, students are able to participate in football, basketball, volleyball, golf, soccer and track and field. After-school music offerings include choir and band. And a cheer team is offered for younger students.

This year, an after-school care program, which extends to 5 p.m., was added and serves 15 St. Mary’s students whose parents work and need a little extra time before they can reach the school.

Those parents and others support St. Mary’s through participation in the Home and School Association and its many projects. A cookie dough fundraiser, one of the biggest of the year, has just kicked off. Trivia nights and a craft bazaar have been successful in years past. “This year, they are hoping to introduce several new ideas to increase excitement and participation,” said Kieffer.

Principal Kieffer is justifiably proud of the small school. “St. Mary School in Avilla ... values its identity as a Catholic school above all else,” he said. “This is the 150th year of educating students in the faith. ... The teachers, parents, students and parish working together as a family help to keep our Catholic identity and academics strong.” There is little doubt that the mission and strong Catholic identity of St. Mary’s will keep it vibrant and thriving for years to come.



Mary Yoder’s kindergarten class made paper-bag hand puppets to look like bishop

at St. Mary's School celebrated



The exterior of St. Mary School in Avilla is shown at left. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades visited the school community on Aug. 26, the bishop's first school visit of the new academic year.



Principal Jeffrey Kieffer, and Sara Lake explain to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades that every leaf on the tree in the hallway has a student's name and a virtue he/she will be working on this year.

PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is shown during the homily, as St. Mary pastor, Father Daniel Chukwuleta, smiles from the altar.



Jennifer Grimm and St. Mary School first graders walk from school to church for Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades who made a pastoral visit Monday, Aug. 26.



Fourth graders use exercise balls as chairs in their classroom.

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Motivational speaker shines through blindness

BY DEB WAGNER

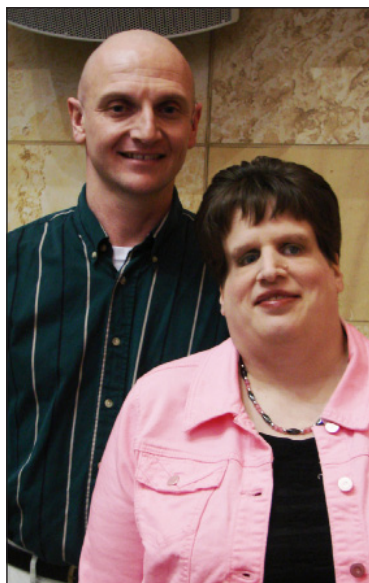
FORT WAYNE — As a two-year-old toddler, Tracy Rau was diagnosed with retino blastoma in one eye but was given hope that if it did not reoccur within seven years she would live a long, prosperous life. The cancer returned a year later, this time in her other eye. She underwent cobalt radiation treatment for the cancer but her eyes were eventually removed — resulting in blindness. But Rau's spirit is far from darkened by it.

Rau's mom did not want her daughter to attend a school for the blind so Rau attended public school where teachers who taught braille worked with her, while her classmates learned print. She was enrolled in the standard classes and classmates were generally accepting. At 17, while a senior in high school, Rau received her first guide dog.

Though Rau admits some issues with fellow students, she dismisses any ill intention, saying, "Kids will be kids." She further reflects, "The kids at an early age learned to deal with people with disabilities, which is a positive thing."

Rau met her husband Bill in 1998 and a year-and-a-half later he asked Tracy to marry him. Bill, who lived in Ohio, drove to Indiana each week to drive Rau to RCIA classes near Paulding and then back to Indiana, so they could marry in a Catholic Church in Ohio. They were married in 2000.

As newlyweds who were busy establishing their home and find-



PROVIDED BY TRACY RAU

Above, Tracy and her husband Bill Rau are shown in the photo.

ing jobs, Rau says she still was not very close to God until 2010 when she was again diagnosed with cancer, a sarcoma in her head that was linked to the cancer she had battled as a child. It was at this time that members of a neighborhood prayer group called every Wednesday night to pray with her as she was undergoing treatment at the Cleveland Clinic.

Rau's mom and current guide dog, Porter, were ever faithful in accompanying her to Cleveland for treatment; Bill often had to stay behind to work in order to pay for the mounting medical bills. Rau was able to be home on the weekends and it was then that she would ask Bill for "her strong hug" — the hug that gave her strength and the sense that he was there with her during treatment

when he could not be.

One Wednesday evening the facilitator for the neighborhood prayer group prayed that Rau would feel God's presence. The following weekend, Rau and her husband attended Mass celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne.

Following Mass as the bishop greeted the congregation, he wrapped his arms around Rau and said, "God bless you, child."

She said she felt it was God speaking though Bishop D'Arcy, giving her the encouragement that He was walking with her on this journey. Rau believes "God gives His hardest wars to His strongest soldiers" and this was confirmation for her.

Another defining faith moment occurred in fall of 2012, when Rau was asked to be proclaimer of the Word at the disability retreat Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. It was her first time to lector and she felt that God was by her side as she spoke His Word. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades suggested she lector at our Lady of Good Hope Parish and that experience inspired her to become a motivational speaker.

She asked Bishop Rhoades to pray with her after that Mass that the cancer would stay away. Unfortunately she discovered a short time later that the cancer had spread to her lung, which required additional treatment.

It was at this point that Rau felt God's leading to reach out to others by telling her life story.

Rau shares this as a reminder to others that God is with them and to strengthen their faith: "It's not an easy road. God loves you too much to let you go through life the easy way. There are no shortcuts, highways or elevators that lead to heaven. The road to the Promise Land is a narrow, winding way that takes us through red seas, dry places, high mountains, deep valleys and long detours. This journey is slow. You cannot fast forward it. It takes one day at a time and one step at a time. Sometimes we misstep, back track or side step, but don't give up. You are making progress. Yes, it is not easy. ... You may be going through the valley of the shadow of death but fear no evil, the Lord is with you every step of the way."

Tracy Rau may be contacted at tracy1104@frontier.com or (260) 413-8343.

Catholic colleges and universities work toward affordable education

BY CATHERINE SLOAN

As critics decry the seemingly escalating costs of a college degree, studies continue to show the overwhelming value of higher education. Within this apparent tension, Catholic colleges and universities represent a hidden gem, offering both economic and personal value.

One recent report showed that tuition and fees for the nation's private, nonprofit colleges and universities rose an average of 3.9 percent for the 2012-13 academic year and have been steadily increasing for the past few decades. For their part, Catholic institutions are aspiring not only to keep high-quality education affordable, but also to infuse that education with value beyond mere dollars.

Value comes in many forms

The Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities has found that at Catholic campuses, 96 percent of all full-time, first-year students receive some form of financial aid, with the amount of aid awarded across all Catholic colleges averaging \$15,500. In addition, students at Catholic four-year institutions tend to attain their degrees faster than students at any other type of institution.

In the 2010-11 school year, 45 percent of students at Catholic four-year institutions graduated in four years, compared with students at other types of four-year colleges.

At private non-Catholic institutions, 38 percent of students graduated in four years; at for-profit institutions, 25 percent; and at public institutions, only 21 percent of students graduated in four years.

The impressive figures among Catholic colleges are due in part to efforts like the one at Saint Mary's College. The South Bend campus has established the Four-Year Graduation Promise program to ensure that its students receive a distinguished Catholic education at the lowest possible cost. With this promise, students are guaranteed to graduate in four years or the college will pay for any additional courses needed to earn their degree.

"At Saint Mary's we believe that a college degree should be completed in four years. Lost time is lost money. Finishing college in eight semesters is a key way to make higher education more affordable," said Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney.

Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer is also working to

keep the campus experience affordable, freezing its 2013-14 tuition rates and offering a guaranteed tuition rate plan that will be implemented this coming fall. Essentially, students will pay the same price each year that they attend Saint Joseph's.

The Director of Student Financial Services at Saint Joseph's College Deb Sizemore, said, "The guaranteed tuition rate plan will prove very beneficial financially for families. Having the knowledge of the exact cost of tuition for all four years will be one less burden on families as they prepare for the college experience."

Not to be outdone, Ancilla College, a two-year college in Donaldson, was approved for a 4 percent tuition reduction for the 2013-14 school year. Sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Christ, it is already the least expensive college in the state of Indiana. But Ancilla isn't focused just on cost. Its trustees also approved an expansion of degree programs as well, and are including a computer information systems degree.

Ancilla College awards only associate degrees, but major and occupation can matter just as much as degree level. A 2011 report from the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce and Lumina Foundation found that 28 percent of people with an associate degree make at least as much as the average bachelor's degree holder, mostly due to occupational choice.

Eric Wignall, Ancilla's interim executive director of admissions, explained that computer information systems is one of the fastest-growing fields in the economy. In response to this, Ancilla instituted its CIS degree.

"The new CIS degree is really a game-changing degree for students ... Computer information systems ties together every aspect of modern life, from banking to business to healthcare. Ancilla's CIS degree offers students fundamental training in computer technology, programming, app development and computer security. In two years, a student can earn a degree that will provide them a launching pad for a career that has no limit," Wignall said.

Initiatives such as these help extend the opportunity for a quality Catholic, liberal arts education to an even greater number of students than would otherwise be possible.

For more information on the benefits of Catholic higher education, visit www.accunet.org.



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•SUPER BINGO:

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•LIVE MUSIC: "END GAME" 7:00 PM (MUST BE 21)

•FOOD CONCESSIONS •CARRIAGE RIDES

Table of Plenty 2013

Sunday Events

•KID'S GAMES & ACTIVITIES 12:00 - 5:00 PM

•CHINESE AUCTION

•CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT: 1:00 PM

•FOOD CONCESSIONS •CARRIAGE RIDES

•CASH RAFFLE: 4:30 PM

A gift of faith

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — Tom Pentenburg, his wife, Elizabeth, and teenage children Anna, Molly, Marty and Jack all believe faith the size of a mustard seed can grow big enough to move mountains. His faith journey began in Lima, Ohio, where he was born.

After attending Central Catholic High School in Lima, he graduated from The Ohio State University majoring in hospitality management.

He worked in several restaurants for five years after graduating, opening eateries throughout the country for Olive Garden. The job eventually brought him to Fort Wayne where he met his future wife, Elizabeth Maher. Before they married, however, he was transferred to Toledo and commuted for two years.

Wanting to stay in Fort Wayne, Tom exited the restaurant business and worked in a manufacturing firm as a production supervisor.

"I always had a desire to serve, having learned it at a young age in the restaurant business," said Pentenburg. "I wasn't getting that in manufacturing, plus I didn't think my career path would support raising four children and keeping them in Catholic schools." While job-searching, he landed a general manager's position with an industrial staffing firm in Fort Wayne, remaining there 11 years, "learning the staffing business."

As the economy plummeted in 2007-08, layoffs were eminent and Pentenburg's position was eliminated in November of 2008.

"It was a shock," admitted Tom, adding, "When I lost my job I began looking at people in a different light, even seeing the face of God in others' generosity."

"Two of the children were tak-



VINCE LABARBERA

ing piano lessons, for example, which had to be among the first cuts," Elizabeth added. "But for nearly a year their teacher continued giving them lessons without charge."

"It was very humbling sending out resumes, asking for tuition help from both St. Charles and Bishop Dwenger High School. I never, ever thought I'd be in that boat," Tom said, relating how God worked in his job search.

A month later, a headhunter for Spherion called out of the blue — "talk about Divine intervention," said Pentenburg — wanting to open a franchise in Fort Wayne. "We had to make a decision to buy this franchise in a tough economic time. ... Everybody thought we were crazy," said Tom. But after much discernment the Pentenburs said, "We're in!"

The new Spherion office officially opened on May 4, 2009, at 4112 E. State Blvd. with a folding table, chair, computer and telephone, with no clientele. Pentenburg spent many sleepless nights worrying about how to make payroll, adding, "You could

The Pentenburs were named "owners of the year" in 2012 out of about 100 Spherion franchises across the country.

shoot a canon through the place!"

The Spherion Lima office mentored them initially, sending some revenue their way. Again, the Pentenburg's felt God's hand was behind what was happening. "It was kind of like a big, Catholic-Christian coat around us helping us along the way," he added.

While beginning the franchise, Tom and a close friend, Chris Miller, also in the recruiting business, started a faith-based group in Bishop Dwenger's library for people out of work. They began and ended each session with prayer, brought in speakers and taught attendees how to present themselves and interview for jobs. It grew from a couple of people to more than 50 in a year-and-a-half. They still meet, but on a one-to-one basis at other

locations.

"I'm not a volunteer-type guy," Tom admitted, "but it was really powerful! I figured we could pay it forward by serving on the school board and athletic association at St. Charles, and on the school board at Bishop Dwenger as well as getting involved in the annual Saints Alive fundraiser." His children have participated as well.

The business has grown steadily and now serves 50 companies in the Greater Fort Wayne area, placing 500-600 jobs a day. They're among the top three in volume of about 12 similar local firms.

"We look at things totally differently because our faith plays a part in everything we do," Pentenburg said, adding, "The way we live our work lives and treat people is as if they're our sons or daughters, brothers or sis-

ters; our faith is brought into the business."

"We've invested nearly every dime back into the business, still supporting our family, of course, and five or six other families as well. But the most beautiful thing is we've kept our kids in Catholic schools," Tom stressed. Elizabeth is co-owner of the franchise and their daughters, Molly — entering Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne this fall as an intended business major — and Anna, who is studying at Indiana University, have worked there for the past three summers.

For families who might face similar circumstances, the Pentenburs' message is, "There are resources and answers. And that's why we have faith — because someday you really may need it. We'll never forget the help we've gotten from others in so many different ways."



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Calling all health care professionals:

The White Mass is coming!

What is a White Mass and why are we beginning this annual tradition in Fort Wayne?

The idea for “colored Masses” began in the 13th century when the first Red Mass for legal professionals was held at the Paris Cathedral in 1245. Red was chosen as the color because of its association with the Holy Spirit who is petitioned to grant lawyers and judges wisdom to mete out justice in their daily duties. Our diocese hosts a Red Mass in early October each year for lawyers; at this Mass the bishop and priests wear red vestments.

With the rise of the Catholic Medical Association in the 1930s, dioceses began hosting White Masses for those who work in the

healing professions. White is the color of the Mass based on the color commonly worn by health care professionals. But why is white associated with the healing professions?

Until the end of the 19th century, physicians and nurses typically wore black, because medicine in those times offered very sick individuals little hope, and those going to a hospital or a physician were often on death’s door. Also, the idea of a Black Mass in honor of medical professionals just would have stirred up too many negative connotations: black vestments may only be worn for Masses for the dead or on All Souls Day.

When the science of healing started to catch up with the

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. THOMAS W. MCGOVERN

laboratory sciences in the late 1800s, physicians and nurses stopped wearing black since black was associated with quacks and frauds. Medical professionals began practicing good hygiene and providing treatments based on sound scientific knowledge, and in order to distance them-

DOCTOR, PAGE 13

Stand firm against all pressures



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 14:25-33

The Book of Wisdom provides this weekend’s liturgy with its first Scriptural reading.

According to scholars, this book was written in Alexandria, Egypt, by a Jew who had emigrated from the Holy Land, or whose ancestors had come from the Holy Land. Originally, it was composed in Greek. Since it was written outside the Holy Land and not in Hebrew, Orthodox Jews have never accepted it as genuine Scripture. The Church, however, long has revered it as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

As is so much of the Wisdom Literature, and indeed so much of the Book of Wisdom, this weekend’s reading is a series of admonitions and comments. It insists that the deepest and best human logic, or wisdom, reflects what God spoke through Moses and the prophets.

The reading simply states the obvious. Much of life cannot be predicted beforehand nor fully understood. Humans are limited. God is all-wise. The wonder is that God has guided us by speaking to us through representatives, such as Moses and the prophets.

For its second reading, the Church gives us a passage from the Epistle to Philemon. Only rarely is this epistle the source of a reading in the liturgy. Possibly

a reason for this is that Philemon is so short, in fact the shortest volume in the New Testament, with only one chapter, and in this chapter are only 25 verses.

The story is dramatic. Paul writes to Philemon, whose slave, Onesimus, escaped from Philemon’s custody and went to be with Paul. Now, in this letter, Paul announces that he is sending Onesimus back to Philemon, but Paul counsels Philemon to receive this runaway slave as a brother in Christ.

Paul tells Philemon that surely no punishment should await Onesimus. (Running away from slavery was a very serious crime in Roman law at the time.)

Beyond the particulars, several lessons strongly appear. Urging Philemon to treat Onesimus as a brother, Paul insists, that regardless of human conventions and laws, all humans are equal in dignity, having been created by God, and having been redeemed by Christ.

As a consequence, every disciple must live according to this principle of loving all others.

St. Luke’s Gospel supplies the last reading. The Gospel already has made clear that true discipleship builds upon a deeply personal wish to follow the Lord, but enabling a disciple to express this wish and to abide by it requires not just determination but God’s strength and insight.

Furthermore, the Gospel bluntly says that many obstacles can stand between a disciple’s initial intention to follow Christ and actually living as a disciple.

(It is important to remember that Luke was written when Christianity, albeit an infant religion in the Roman Empire, very much was sailing into the hot, strong winds of cultural opposition to Gospel values and even harsh persecution under the law.)

A tradition, and hardly

farfetched when considering the situation, is that Christians had to face much pressure to forsake the Gospel from their loved ones. Thus, the Evangelist here recalls that Jesus said a true disciple should turn away even from father and mother, brother or sister, if these close relatives urged abandoning Christ.

Hard advice, but good Christians should anticipate a struggle and prepare themselves for it.

Reflection

The Gospel sets the stage. Living the Christian life is difficult. Christians must withstand much if they are committed.

While pressures may come from the outside, a strong pressure often overlooked is to supplant what God’s teaching with human judgments.

By standing firmly against all pressures, a disciple stays the course. It requires determination. A disciple first must admit personal inadequacy and humbly ask for strength and wisdom from God. Blessedly, if earnestly sought, this gift of strength and wisdom will come.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b Ps 90:3-6, 12-17 Phlm 9-10, 12-17 Lk 14:25-33
Monday: Col 1:24-2:3 Ps 62:6-7, 9 Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15 Ps 145:1-2, 8-11 Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11 Ps 145:2-3, 10-13 Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Col 3:12-17 Ps 150:1-6 Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11 Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1-2, 34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

A different generation brings a different way of parenting

This month we took a vacation with all of our children and grandchildren. We stayed at a cottage my parents bought 50 years ago. There were quite a few aunts, uncles and cousins nearby.

My wife and I talked with my brothers and sisters about how unconcerned our parents had seemed during the summers we spent there. Mother would turn us out of the house when the fog was still rising off the bay, and we’d be gone for hours. She had a bell she would ring when it was time for lunch or dinner. We were usually within its range but sometimes not. The only strict rule was no swimming without an adult.

You may not be surprised to learn that our children don’t do this with their little ones. Like many in their generation, they worry about their children being out of sight. Supervision of children’s play has become an additional weighty item on the list of parental duties.

Why? Is the world more dangerous than it was two generations ago? Do our children love their children more than our parents loved us? Are there more bad people out there or greater environmental hazards? I’m inclined to think none of these things is true. But how else do you explain the shift in parental attitudes and the rise of “helicopter parents” hovering over their broods?

Parents today leave little to chance. Four-year-olds have play dates arranged, and they are strictly supervised. Children must wear bicycle helmets and (by law) ride in car seats until grade school. Gone are the informal pickup games of baseball and soccer where children gathered and chose sides.

Children play in organized leagues, with coaches and uniforms on well-kept fields with referees. Perhaps the change is related to the decline in family size. I was one of eight children, and many of my childhood friends came from big families. In the summer, when our parents sent us outdoors, we played in groups large enough for a baseball game. When my brothers went crayfish hunting in the creek, they would go together. If someone got into trouble, others



JOHN GARVEY

INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

were nearby to help or sound the alarm.

Maybe there aren’t enough children around for us to turn them loose in groups. The National Center for Health Statistics reported this summer that the fertility rate in the United States is 1.89 children per woman.

With their choices to marry later and hover over their children, I sometimes wonder whether young adults today aren’t reacting (perhaps overreacting) to the older generation’s bad habits. Even those Gen-Xers who had happy childhoods are reminded often by movies and television and popular literature

of the career-driven or selfish family neglect in which some baby boomers indulged.

It’s good that parents are more involved in their children’s lives. Children are probably safer, but surely there are drawbacks. Overwatched children may develop an even longer-lasting sense of self-importance from being doted on

so long. Will they grow up to be big two-year-olds? Are we setting them up for an adulthood filled with the characteristic vices of the overpampered — the self-pitying tantrums and drug addictions of today’s celebrities? Overparenting may just leave children less prepared to meet the responsibilities of adulthood on their own.

It’s a tough balance to find: providing the necessary parental care and giving children room to breathe and grow. I’m not sure our parents had it right. I’m not sure our children do either. I’d like to say that we ourselves did, but I have become more open-minded with age.

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

The Civil War sesquicentennial: summer reading

As I remember it, the Civil War centenary, which coincided with my middle school years, got far more public attention than the war's sesquicentennial has received. There was a flurry of Gettysburg sesquicentennial columns and book reviews in July; the "Civil War Daily Gazette" (www.civilwardailygazette.com) provides a reminder, in detail and every 24 hours, of the drama that was unfolding across the land, 150 years ago; Tommy Lee Jones did the impossible by rendering Thaddeus Stevens an attractive character in the Spielberg film, "Lincoln." But it would be a stretch to say that this colossal event, which made the United States an "is" rather than an "are," is prominent in the nation's consciousness in this anniversary period.

That strikes me as a shame, and not only because I'm a Civil War buff who imagines it something of a pilgrimage to visit the Round Tops and the High Water Mark at Gettysburg National Military Park several times a year. The issues that consumed more than 600,000 American lives over four years — the nature of the equality affirmed in the nation's birth certificate, the Declaration of Independence; the relationship of the national government to state and local governments; the morality of various forms of intrusion and coercion in providing for the common defense and securing the general welfare — are alive and deeply contested today. Indeed, the divisions among us are such that some would say that our national life today is a civil war being conducted by other means.

Learning from the past might — just might — give us some

insight into the ordered liberty, with justice for all, that we are pledged to seek as a nation.

If you're just getting started, the place to begin learning about the Civil War is James McPherson's "Battle Cry of Freedom" (Oxford University Press): the best one-stop-shopping overview of the Civil War era and a marvel of concision, even if the author's interpretations fall comfortably within the canonical (which is to say, the winner's) view of why what happened, happened. McPherson also shows how the Mexican War made the Civil War virtually inevitable, a crucial point that is, I suspect, as unstressed in whatever history is taught to America's next generation these days as it was when I was a boy.

Shelby Foote's trilogy, "The Civil War" (Modern Library), is the American "Iliad": a literary masterpiece by a son of Mississippi who had the largeness of perspective and spirit to tell filmmaker Ken Burns that the Civil War had produced two men of genius, Abraham Lincoln and Confederate cavalryman Nathan Bedford Forrest. The set-piece opening of Foote's first volume, Jefferson Davis's farewell speech to the U.S. Senate, is as evocative a piece of writing as you'll find in narrative history on this scale.

The new social history has made a mess of a lot of Clio's discipline. But in the hands of the University of Virginia's Gary Gallagher, the methods of social history have yielded two volumes, "The Confederate War" and "The Union War" (Harvard University Press), that shed important light on who was fighting for what, and why, through the use of hitherto



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

unexplored caches of letters and diaries, and a close study of contemporary journalism. Gallagher's works, which stress the experience and motivations of ordinary Americans on both sides of the war, are essential complements to Foote and McPherson.

I spent the Gettysburg sesquicentennial reading Noah Andre Trudeau's "Gettysburg: A Testing of Courage" (Harper Perennial), a fine piece of work published a decade ago. The virtually unanimous praise I've seen for Allen Guelzo's new study of the Civil War's most important campaign and battle, "Gettysburg: The Last Invasion" (Knopf), suggests that there will always be more to learn and to ponder about this hinge-point of, not simply American history, but world history.

And then there is Charles Bracelen Flood's "Lee: The Last Years" (Mariner Books), a moving account of a noble life's final act, the example of which presaged the national reconciliation that was not inevitable, but which eventually gave new moral strength to the American democratic experiment.

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

DOCTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

selves from unsavory practitioners, they started to wear beige coats. But alas, there were no beige vestments in the Catholic Church, and since it wasn't the 1970s yet, no Beige Masses were ever celebrated.

By 1915, the majority of physicians and nurses working in hospitals were wearing white coats just like well-respected laboratory scientists. Even though white coats have been associated with the healing arts for a century, new studies show that most physicians no longer like wearing white coats, and most young patients prefer that they don't. Many physicians think that the white coat places a hierarchical barrier between patients and themselves. However, older patients tend to think that the white coat lends an aura of professionalism and excellence to

the wearer.

Fortunately, the color white is liturgically appropriate. This year, our White Mass will take place on the feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, and the bishop and priests will wear white. Typically, the White Mass is celebrated on or near the Oct. 18 feast of St. Luke, patron of physicians.

Why should you attend the White Mass? If you are a Catholic health care professional — doctor, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, nurse, medical assistant, pharmacist, etc. — this White Mass will serve as a kickoff for expanding our Doctor Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana to all interested professionals.

The culture of death does not tolerate Catholic beliefs in action. In order to remain true to our faith and to avoid being swallowed up by the secular culture we need to form a vibrant Catholic medical subculture so that we may be affirmed in our vocations to carry Christ with

us wherever we go — especially into our hospitals and offices.

This year's banquet speaker, Sister Dede Byrne, MD, is a retired Army colonel and an active general surgeon, family practitioner and religious superior who lives and works in Washington, D.C. — except when she is traveling to the Sudan and Haiti to operate.

Come be inspired and encouraged — Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m. — Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades followed by \$10 buffet dinner and program featuring Sister Dede at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. Register and pay at www.fortwaynecma.com. White coat optional!

Dr. Thomas W. McGovern is a dermatologist specializing in skin cancer and reconstructive surgery in Fort Wayne and is the president of the Doctor Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for September 8, 2013

Luke 14:25-33

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a disciple must plan to be committed for life. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

TURNED	COMES TO ME	WIFE
BROTHERS	SISTERS	LIFE
WHOEVER	CARRY	CROSS
WHICH OF YOU	TOWER	FIRST
SIT DOWN	FOUNDATION	BUILD
FINISH	WHAT KING	THOUSAND
TWENTY	PEACE	RENOUNCE

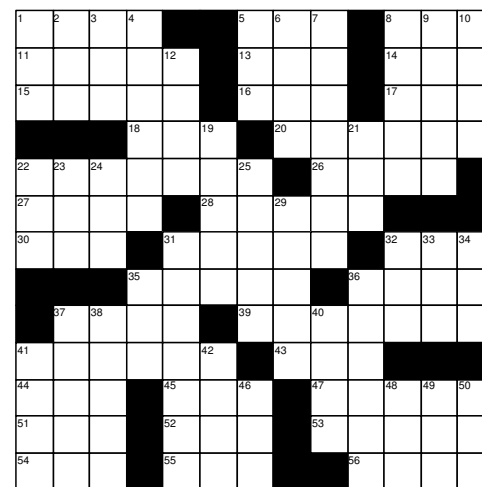
LIFE CROSS

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

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The CrossWord

Sept. 1 and 8, 2013



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Based on these Scripture Readings: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14 and Wis 9:13-18b; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

ACROSS

- 1 Fruit
- 5 Not New Testament
- 8 Fortify
- 11 Type of communication
- 13 ___ v. Wade
- 14 Downwind
- 15 Where you were at crime time
- 16 Not good
- 17 Government agency
- 18 Used for anointing
- 20 Reciprocal
- 22 Receive military information from completed flight or mission

- 26 Jerusalem, the Heavenly ___
- 27 Baseball's Nolan
- 28 Thrill
- 30 Still
- 31 Jesus died on
- 32 Hotel
- 35 Dined at a Pharisee's
- 36 Clench your teeth
- 37 Implement
- 39 Dine at table
- 41 Seat at end of table
- 43 Also
- 44 Hold
- 45 Promissory note
- 47 Red Sea prophet

- 51 Bishop's area
- 52 Not downs
- 53 Entertain
- 54 Sin
- 55 South southeast
- 56 Family gym

DOWN

- 1 School group
- 2 Conger
- 3 Arabic male name
- 4 Baptized
- 5 Globe
- 6 Soil
- 7 Subtracts
- 8 Aleutian
- 9 Give back all of the money
- 10 Wedding banquet
- 12 Victorian era Pope Leo
- 19 Jeers
- 21 Fasten
- 22 Dull
- 23 "___ for an ___"
- 24 Flying mammal
- 25 Measured by ephah in the Bible
- 29 Resources
- 31 0 degrees freezes here
- 32 ___ Lanka
- 33 Fasten
- 34 Snacked
- 35 Joseph abbr.
- 36 "A ___ darkness"
- 37 Cost to build a ___
- 38 Vinekeeper
- 40 Unconsciousness
- 41 Mislaid
- 42 Not bottom
- 46 Avail
- 48 The cost
- 49 Escudo
- 50 Galilee water

Answer Key can be found on page 15

Sports

ALEXANDER PICKED TO LEAD USF GOLF PROGRAMS University of Saint Francis Athletic Director Mike McCaffrey has announced the selection of Tim Alexander to take over the coaching reins of the Cougars' golf program. Alexander, who is taking over for Michelle Smith, has served as golf assistant at Autumn Ridge Golf Club and at Tri-State University and worked for Smith at Honeywell Golf Course.

CYO — Week 1 football review

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The 2013 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) league football season kicked off at Zollner Stadium on Sunday, Aug. 25. New this fall will be a combined team from St. John the Baptist, New Haven, Queen of Angels and Most Precious Blood.

The league will consist of seven teams so one team will receive a bye each week with the post-season tournament to kick off on Oct. 13. The season will culminate with the diocesan playoff game to be played on Sunday, Nov. 3 with Fort Wayne hosting this year. Tune in to Redeemer Radio, 1450 AM, for the game of the week aired live at 1 p.m. each Sunday.

In the first of the three matchups, the St. John, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Eagles opened with a win over their cross-town rival, St. Vincent, 12-0. Long time coach Jim Carroll detailed, "We always want to win our opener. It was far from perfect and we have tons to work on to be great, but we are excited and not afraid. We will work. The kids will give effort."

In the win, touchdowns were scored by Tyreon Hambricht and Dashon Bussell. Dominic Easley, Joe Pamin and Camry Greer were voted team captains for the 2013 season. Carroll has a combined roster from the two schools of 24 young men this season.

"We will come together as in

years past to forge friendships and play football for the Eagles. Like many others, these kids want to make their football mark," Carroll summarized.

Sam Talarico is back to coach St. Charles this season. In their first outing for 2013, the Cardinals got beat by Holy Cross, 26-0. Talarico admitted, "We got demolished. The Holy Cross team is enormous and has an unbelievable number of kids. They will be a handful for any of the CYO teams." However, Talarico was very proud of his team's effort and said there were many bright spots. "We had a lot of good tackling and a trio of PAT blocks by Michael Garrett, Mike Fabini and Lucas Lehrman," he said.

St. Charles returns just one full-time starter this year from their 2012 diocesan championship team and will be relying on a lot of seventh graders to step into key roles. Leading the attack for St. Charles will be six-foot quarterback Eddie Morris.

"Morris is an outstanding athlete with a strong arm," claimed Talarico. Jake Vanek and Adam Lightner have worked very hard to improve and will be called on to anchor the offensive line this year, while Isaac Blume, Jacob Fabini, Bradley Black, Alex Straessle and Jacob Lehrman will be the defensive leaders.

"I believe this is a team that will get better and better each week as the young players mature and gain experience. We hope to peak come tour-

namment time," Talarico concluded.

Last up, the JAT Knights from St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese defeated a young, strong St. Jude Eagles' squad, 22-0. Knights' quarterback Evan Creager scored on two short runs, and the other touchdown was scored by Tomas Vasquez. Vasquez rushed for a total of 90 yards on the day leading all rushers. Ben Miles also rushed for 65 yards behind an offensive line led by Zach Franz, Sam Verslype, Mitch Gigli, Alec Bauer and Jason Barrett.

Defensively JAT forced four turnovers with Barrett and Verslype getting the fumbles and Niko Foster and Mark Sturm each getting an interception with the last one coming after a nice drive by the Eagles. Defensively the Knights were helped by the efforts of Sam Garretson, Michael Zarembo, Will Schroeder, Pat Podlaski, Josh Dippold, Jacob Click, Ashton Everett and Jed Enneking, while Peyton Howe converted 2-3 PATs.

Coach Mike Gigli spoke highly of his opponent declaring, "St. Jude is a well-coached team. We understand they had several seventh graders on the field. I think their coaches are equally proud of how well both teams performed under very hot conditions." Gigli summarized, "There are always things to work on after week one, but it feels great to be back playing football."

Coaches, email mmcastleman@aol.com with scores and highlights.

Catholic, Orthodox churches partner to keep children safe online

WASHINGTON — The Communications Department of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (GOA) have launched www.faithandsafety.org, a resource for adults to help children safely navigate online. The website and complementary social media channels (<http://twitter.com/faithandsafety> and <http://facebook.com/faithandsafety>) address safe use of the Internet, mobile devices and other technology, emphasizing the positive use of technology to support children's faith.

The initiative, announced in June, is funded by a grant from the Catholic Communication Campaign, which receives donations from U.S. Catholics.

"Our children look to their parents for wisdom and guidance. However, many parents feel somewhat ill-equipped to help their children traverse the unfamiliar terrain of the digital social world," said Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Church in America. "This joint initiative between our two Churches is a positive step in helping parents equip their children in the digital world. We have a responsibility to the Lord Himself Who said, 'Let the children come unto Me' (Mt 19:14)."

"Faithandsafety.org is intended to be not only a set of practi-

cal tools and guides for adults, but also a place where they can find a faith framework for conversations with their children about the need to be ethically and morally equipped when they go online," said Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Communication. "We believe that this site, presented from the perspective of the Greek Orthodox and Catholic Church, provides a unique perspective on being missionaries of faith on the Digital Continent."

Content on the site includes mobile app reviews, how to address issues faced by children online, such as bullying, and resources to educate parents on protecting their home networks. Content will be expanded over the next several months and feature regular columns by leading Catholic and Orthodox figures on connecting faith and technology, as well as news updates, how-to guides and video content.

Faithandsafety.org will feature content by Common Sense Media (www.common SenseMedia.org), an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping kids and families thrive in a world of media and technology.

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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.

St. Charles Cardinal Fest

Fort Wayne — St. Charles Parish will have Cardinal Fest Saturday, Sept. 21, from 3-11 p.m. Indoor and outdoor games will be from 3-5 p.m., Bingo from 5-7 p.m., food from 4-7 p.m. and adult music tent from 7:30-11 p.m.

St. Bernard announces raffle

Wabash — Tickets are now available for the annual cash raffle at St. Bernard School. Only 850 tickets will be sold at \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Cash prizes are \$3,500, \$2,000 and \$500. An early bird prize of \$500 will be drawn Sept. 13. That ticket will be eligible for other cash prizes. The drawing will be held at the ball and auction on Oct. 5. To purchase a ticket, call (260) 563-5746. Delivery is available. All proceeds go to the school for scholarships and school improvements.

Creighton Model System

Fort Wayne — The Creighton Model System will be taught at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in the Mother Teresa Room, Sept. 14, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. RSVPs to Theresa at (260) 494-6444 or email at chartdaily365@frontier.com.

Knights of Columbus hold pancake breakfast

Granger — The Knights of Columbus will host a pancake breakfast at St. Pius X Parish on Sept. 8 in the auxiliary gym after the 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Adult tickets are \$6, children 6-10 \$3 and 5 and under eat free.

Catholic Business Network Group

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, Sept. 6, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel.

Mass will be followed in the Cathedral Center by guest speaker Father James Bromwich of Sons of St. Philip Neri who will speak on "Human Dignity, Natural Law, and Democracy." Refreshments will be provided by Humana.

Vendors needed

Fort Wayne — The Rosary Society of Most Precious Blood Parish will have a Christmas craft show Saturday, Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables are available for vendors. Contact Teresa at (260) 426-1728.

Holiday Art Fair seeks vendors

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1720 E. Wallen Rd., will have a holiday art fair Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables are available for vendors. Contact Kim Loxton at (260) 580-0350 for information.

Craft fair seeks vendors

South Bend — Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 63568 U.S. 31 South, will have a craft fair on Saturday, Oct. 19, and is seeking vendors with homemade crafts. For information call (574) 784-2738.

Spaghetti dinner planned

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Sept. 12, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$2.50 for children 5-12.

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Sept. 6, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children (5-12) \$3. Chicken strips for \$8 and shrimp for \$8.50 will be available.

Summer Fest planned

Monroeville — St. Rose Parish will have a Summer Fest Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Monroeville Community Park. Activities include a 5K run, children's games, variety show, duck races, kick ball tournament and adult beverage tent. Proceeds will benefit the school maintenance fund.

Reunions for Bishop Luers High School

Fort Wayne — The class of 1968 45th class reunion will be Saturday, Sept. 7, at Hall's Guesthouse from 6 p.m. to midnight. Cost is \$35 with buffet dinner and cash bar. Contact Skip Sandels at (260) 747-9251. The class of 2008 fifth class reunion will be Saturday, Sept. 14, at Curly's Village Inn from 8 p.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$5 with light appetizers and a cash bar. Contact Katie Miller at MillerKJ@cougars.sf.edu. The class of 1963 50th class reunion will be Saturday, Sept. 28, at Pine Valley Bar and Grill. Contact Jim Saul at jsaul1@hotmail.com.

The CrossWord
September 1 and 8, 2013

P	E	A	R		O	L	D		A	R	M
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REST IN PEACE

Bristol Mary Ann McGuire, 76, St. Mary/Annunciation	James Albert Poinsatte, 91, St. Jude	Thomas Nawrocki, 58, St. Hedwig
Fort Wayne Mary C. Sordelet, 45, St. Vincent de Paul	Margaret Susie Sasko, 80, St. Charles Borromeo	Nicloe M. DeBroka, 35, St. Jude
Rafael Torres-Dieaz, 44, St. Patrick	Goshen Virginia M. Nowak, 72, St. John the Evangelist	George Charles VanGoey, 85, Holy Cross
Scott A. Saalfrank, 44, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel	Granger Frank Andrew Balas, 91, St. Pius X	Jeanette P. Nate, 88, St. Adalbert
Kathleen M. Skinner, 90, Saint Anne Home Chapel	Huntington Sister Irene DeMeulenaere, OLVM, 90, Victory Noll	Ann M. VanOoteghem, 98, St. Patrick
Ervin L. Brown, 86, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Mishawaka Eleanor C. D'Haenens, 89, St. Bavo	Ferencz Frank Frigyesi, 81, Our Lady of Hungary
Charles Magers, 66, Most Precious Blood	Margaret Andries, 90, St. Bavo	Hildegard Beasics, 91, Sacred Heart of Jesus
Joseph H. Kohrman, 79, St. Vincent de Paul	Henrietta M. Van Huffel, 91, St. Bavo	Josephine Cyra, 81, St. Adalbert
Rosemary C. Davies, 91, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel	New Haven Virginia E. Reinhart, 89, St. John the Baptist	Marion F. Stachowiak, 89, St. Anthony de Padua
Byron Blake Bosler, 86, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	South Bend David A. Horvath, 71, St. Matthew Cathedral	Ida Howard, 88, St. Augustine
Carmen G. Concepcion, 86, St. Vincent de Paul	Helen B. Keszei, 88, St. Jude	Loretta J. Wojciechowski, 88, St. John the Baptist
Mary Agnes McDonald, 88, St. Jude		Robert Charles Sell, 80, St. Matthew



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Father Robert Traub celebrates 100th birthday at Mass Aug. 23

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — One hundred years of life and 74 years of priestly service of Father Robert Traub were celebrated in a Mass of thanksgiving at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on the honoree's 100th birthday, Aug. 23.

Thirty one priests and a large crowd of friends and well wishers took inspiration from a brief history lesson by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades as he reminded those present that when Father Traub was baptized at St. Lawrence Church in Muncie, St. Pius X was pope, Bishop Herman J. Alerding was bishop in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and Woodrow Wilson was in the White House.

Holy Cross Father Tom Jones, a priest from South Bend, recalled how inspired he was, as a young priest, by the energy of Father Traub and his dedication to the care of sick parishioners and their pastoral needs.

Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick continues to be impressed by Father Traub's consistent cheerfulness and supportive attitude towards other residents at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Center where Father Traub now lives.

Father Traub as a boy was confirmed, and years later, ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop John F. Noll, and on the following day, said his first Mass at St. Lawrence.

Present at that Mass as a server, and present for the Mass of thanksgiving was Bill Perkins who quoted from Father Traub's homily: "What needs to be said today, can be said in five minutes, and I won't speak longer than that." — another characteristic that has lasted for 74 years.



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne honoring Father Robert Traub, retired diocesan priest, on his 100th birthday on Friday, Aug. 23.



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