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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Priests set for sacred success with Good Leaders, Good Shepherds training



PROVIDED BY FATHER JASON FREIBURGER

Nineteen diocesan priests recently completed 18 months of training in the Good Leaders, Good Shepherds program coordinated by Father Bill Dickinson of the Catholic Leadership Institute based in Wayne, Pa. A graduation ceremony was held Thursday, May 1, with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, center, and instructor Father Bill Dickinson, far right, at the Lindenwood Retreat Center in Donaldson.



BY TIM JOHNSON

DONALDSON — Nineteen priests from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend recently completed classes with intense training offered through the Catholic Leadership Institute's Good Leaders, Good Shepherds program.

The training began in November of 2012 and spanned for six modules or sessions over the course of 18 months. Also included were one-day sessions in between each of the modules for a total of 29 training days.

The priest graduates include Father Andrew Budzinski, Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Father Stephen Colchin, Father Matthew Coonan, Father

Terrence Coonan, Father Andrew Curry, Father Dan Durkin, Father Lourdino Fernandes, Father Jason Freiburger, Father Pius Ilechukwu, Father Fernando Jimenez, Father Glenn Kohrman, Father Bill Kummer, Father Bob Lengerich, Father Jacob Meyer, Father Ben Muhlenkamp, Father David

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POPE FRANCIS BLESSES NEW PRIESTS



CNS PHOTO/STEFANO RELLANDINI, REUTERS

Pope Francis uses incense to bless 13 new priests before their ordination Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican May 11. See story on page 16.

Education for Ministry 'grads' say classes deepen their faith

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Education for Ministry students experienced a milestone on May 7 receiving certificates for two years of diligent study about the Church and their faith. The celebration took place in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades offered his congratulations and Evening Vespers.

Since 1991, a grant from Our Sunday Visitor Institute in Huntington provides the two-year training for those who work in parish ministry, teach or just want to learn more about their Catholic faith. Classes are offered in Fort Wayne, South Bend, and the Spanish-speaking Catholic community is served through the sister program, Educacion para el Ministerio.

The Education for Ministry certificate is obtained by completing courses on Old Testament, New Testament, creed, ecclesiology, sacraments, liturgy, morality, prayer, catechesis and theology of ministry said Christina Emilian, who is the diocesan director of the program.

"The program has been revised to be more accessible for those we serve," Emilian said. "The program is now modular based, allowing participants to take each unit when it fits in their schedule over several years."

A certificate will be granted upon completion of one introductory course on Scripture and Tradition, and seven core classes.

"In the future we hope to offer an advanced certificate for those who have completed the Education for Ministry basic certificate and

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Priesthood is not a business, monarchy, orphanage, pope tells seminarians

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis told seminarians not to become “orphan priests,” who are motherless without Mary; “businessman priests,” who are after money; or “prince priests,” who are aloof from the people.

He also warned them not to give “boring homilies,” saying their reflections should be brief, powerful and address the problems and concerns people are really going through.

In a private audience in the Vatican's Paul VI hall with thousands of seminarians and priests from around the world who are studying in Rome, the pope spent 70 minutes answering the questions of eight pre-selected participants.

The pope told them that he already had seen the prepared questions, and urged them to feel free to change the questions and go off-script if they wanted. However, the men, who were from the United States, China, Lebanon, Cameroon, Mexico, Philippines and Poland, appeared to stay with the prepared questions.

In his off-the-cuff replies, the pope addressed questions about formation; difficulties living in a religious community; advice about being far from home and living in Rome; how to balance the many duties of being a priest or bishop; what a real leader must be; and what the New Evangelization entails.

The pope peppered his serious and detailed advice with a number of humorous anecdotes and sarcasm, like when he warned the men to never forget they have a mother in Mary.

“But if you don't want Our Lady as a mother, you will have her as a mother-in-law and that's not good,” he said to laughter and applause.

The comment was part of a lengthy response to a Mexican student's question about remaining faithful to one's priestly vocation.

The key, the pope said, is vigilance — keeping watch over one's heart and feelings, and finding peace during times of personal “turbulence.”

Just like a stormy sea, it's impossible to see what's going on inside one's heart when life is in turmoil, he said.

The only way to calm the waters and be able to reflect intelligently on what's going on is to turn to Mary for help, he said, and to “seek refuge under the mantle of the Holy Mother of God.”

“Some of you will say, ‘But Father, in this era of so many modern benefits, in psychiatry, in psychology, I think it would be better during these times of turbulence to go to a psychiatrist to help me.’ I'm not eliminating that (possibility), but go to the Mother first before anything else.”

When there's trouble, children “always go to their mother. And we are children in our spiritual life,” the pope said.

“To forget a mother is a terrible thing,” he said, and when a priest forgets Mary or does not have a good relationship with her, “something is missing. He is an orphan priest.”

The pope later warned against becoming a “businessman priest” or a “prince priest” in response to a question from a Filipino student about the qualities needed to best lead the people of God.

Parishioners are usually very forgiving of a priest's missteps, except when they are sins of greed and vanity — the “two hazards” that St. Augustine warned about that come with the priestly office.

The people of God “don't forgive you if



CNS PHOTO/CLAUDIO PERI, EPA

you are a pastor who is attached to money, if you're vain and don't treat people nicely because the conceited don't treat people nicely.”

He said the early monastic Desert Fathers used to say that “vanity is like an onion:” the vain keep peeling back and showing off all their layers until “you end up with nothing,” but the repelling “smell of onion.”

Instead, “humility must be the weapon of the priest,” who is close to his people and lives a life of sacrifice, poverty and service.

“There is only one path to leadership: service. There is no other way,” the pope said.

A priest can be a great communicator and have other wonderful talents, “but if you aren't a servant, your leadership will collapse, it won't matter, it won't be able to summon” others or guide them.

Service is always being available to others, responding to their needs, and helping them “grow and walk” with Jesus.

When asked about the “New Evangelization,” Pope Francis said it requires “going out of one's self” and “getting closer to the people, to everyone.”

“You can't evangelize without being close” to others, which means being “cordial” as well as being physically present and aware of what others are going through.

One of the reasons why there are so many “boring homilies” is because priests aren't “close” to their people, he said. The measure for seeing how close a priest is to his parishioners is his homily, he added.

Pope Francis lamented long homilies, telling the students he knows the 40-minute homily “isn't something made up. It happens!”

Homilies also should not be “about abstract things,” he said.

While it expresses “the truth of faith,” a homily shouldn't be a classroom lesson, a conference or an academic reflection, but be “something else,” that borders on the sacramental, and is “brief and powerful.”

Pope Francis lays his hands on a newly ordained priest during Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican May 11. The pope ordained 13 men to the Priesthood during the Mass. In meeting with thousands of seminarians studying in Rome, the Pope Francis told them not to become “orphan priests,” who are motherless without Mary; “businessman priests,” who are after money; or “prince priests,” who are aloof from the people.

He said “we are late” in picking up on this problem and that the Church has a lot to do to ensure homilies are under 10 minutes and done well “so that people understand” the Word of God.

The pope urged seminarians to not let their academic studies take over their spiritual growth, apostolic work and community life.

“Academic purism is not healthy,” he said, and it carries the risk of “slipping into ideologies,” which harms the priest and people's conception of the Church.

In response to the challenges of living in a religious community, diocese or seminary, the pope said “gossip is the plague” and will destroy a community.

He said, it's not true that gossip is “a female thing; men, too,” can get wrapped up in backstabbing, jealousy, envy and power struggles.

“Community life isn't paradise; at any rate, it's purgatory, but it's not paradise,” he said to applause.

The best advice, he said, is to speak face-to-face with the person with whom one disagrees or has a problem or go to one's superior for help. Also, always pray for that person “and the Lord will do the rest.”

When asked about balancing all of the demands of being a priest or bishop, the pope said the secret is prayer and always making room for the sacraments and Eucharistic Adoration.

The ideal day is to go to bed tired “so you won't have to take any (sleeping) pills,” he joked.

But he underlined the difference between the “good tired” of a productive day versus the exhaustion of being run ragged.

He told his audience that he could see his papal assistant “giving me a look right now,” suggesting that the pope does not exactly follow his own advice in that regard.

“It's true. I'm a sinner,” guilty of overwork and being disorganized, he laughed.

NEW RECRUIT OF VATICAN'S SWISS GUARD GESTURES DURING SWEARING-IN CEREMONY AT VATICAN



CNS PHOTO/TONY GENTILE, REUTERS

A new recruit of the Vatican's Swiss Guard gestures while holding a flag during the swearing-in ceremony at the Vatican May 6. New recruits are sworn in every year May 6, commemorating the date in 1527 when 147 Swiss soldiers died defending the pope during an attack on Rome.



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, May 18, 9 a.m. — Commencement Exercises, University of Notre Dame
- Sunday, May 18, 5 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Jude Church, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, May 20, 6 p.m. — Vespers with Entrance of Franciscan Brothers Minor Postulants into Novitiate, Saint Andrew Church, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, May 21, 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Presbyteral Council, Sacred Heart Rectory, Warsaw
- Wednesday, May 21, 5:30 p.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for Bishop Dwenger High School, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Friday, May 23, 10 a.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for Bishop Luers High School, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Friday, May 23, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Warsaw
- Saturday, May 24, 11 a.m. — Mass with Ordination of Deacons, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 24, 6 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw

Father Matthew Sienkiewicz dies

SOUTH BEND — Father Matthew Sienkiewicz, a retired priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend died on May 6 in Three Oaks, Mich., where he was residing. He was 90 years old.

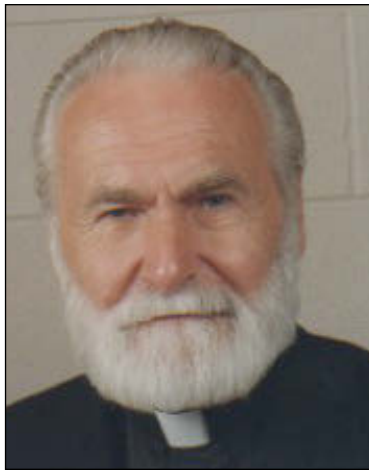
Born Sept. 21, 1923, in Chicago, Ill., Father Sienkiewicz was the last of Julius and Julia Sienkiewicz' four children. He attended Sacred Heart Grade School in Chicago and Tilden Technical High School and Allied School of Mechanical Trades in Chicago. After completing high school he joined the U.S. Army during WWII, where he served as an AA Machine Gun/Marksman. Father Sienkiewicz served in Europe from 1943 through 1946 and participated in the Ardennes Rhineland Central Europe Campaigns earning three bronze stars. After his discharge from the Army, Father Sienkiewicz entered Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Mich., in 1955.

His interest in a religious vocation grew gradually, he told *Today's Catholic* in a 2009 interview, "as I lived through the many personal and public situations, conditions and experiences during time spent as a layman. Reading the good news and trying to live it out in daily living prompted me to think of becoming a priest."

Father Sienkiewicz was ordained on May 30, 1959, by Bishop Leo A. Pursley at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

His assignments have been at St. Jude, South Bend; St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne; St. Adalbert, South Bend; and St. Michael, Plymouth, all as an assistant pastor. He was appointed pastor at St. Hedwig, South Bend, in 1972 where he shepherded his flock there until 1986, when he was appointed to Catholic Charities in Fort Wayne. He also served as associate pastor of St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; St. Mary, Decatur; and St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend.

Father Sienkiewicz told *Today's Catholic*, "I always thank God



FATHER MATTHEW SIENKIEWICZ

that He made me a priest, before Vatican II, during Vatican II and after Vatican II — that I was able to see the vast changes in the Church." He said, with Vatican II, "the Church was given back to the people."

Father Sienkiewicz embraced people of all ethnicities, class and economic status. His favorite assignment was working with social and interracial work in South Bend in the late 1960s and early 1970s. He enjoyed his work with ecumenical issues, the charismatic movement, the abortion issue and working with African-Americans in the community.

Father Barry England, pastor of St. Bavo Parish in Mishawaka, came to know Father Sienkiewicz as assistant when they ministered together at St. Anthony de Padua Parish in South Bend beginning in 1991. Father England says of his friend, "He was very dedicated to his vocation. He was a man with a heart of gold, who took his ministry seriously. He befriended all kinds of people and cared for those in need."

On his deathbed, after receiving the Anointing of the Sick from Father England, Father Sienkiewicz asked for Father England's blessing. "After I gave him my blessing," Father England says, "I asked him to give me his. It was very touching."

Father Sienkiewicz's niece Diane Rajzer says she will miss her dear uncle, who "marched to the beat of his own drum." "He was ornery, but he was a gentle soul," she says.

Rajzer, who came to know her uncle well when he lived with her for a year, says, "We would eat fish crackers and drink wine together. He would tell stories about his experiences in the war and his parish life at St. Hedwig." She notes that Father Sienkiewicz helped so many different people over the years. "He cared deeply about the needy, homeless and poor people. They all hold him in high esteem," she says.

Father Sienkiewicz enjoyed nature and animals and chose to retire in 1995 to his log cabin home beside a stream in Three Oaks, Mich., where he lived till just a few days before his death. His niece Maryanne Lamoreaux, who, along with other family members, nursed Father Sienkiewicz in her home in his final days, remembers her beloved uncle "especially had an affection for nature." Even on his deathbed, she recalls, he made sure there was bread on his patio to feed the birds.

"He loved his family," she adds, "and was generous, loving and had a great sense of humor. ... He was very humble and charitable. He was really a spiritual man." She will always hold dear the memory of the beautiful smile he wore amidst his tears when she asked him in his final moments if he had seen Jesus.

In his retirement Father Sienkiewicz assisted in local parishes in the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

Preceded in death by his parents, Father Sienkiewicz is survived by one brother and four nieces.

Mass of Christian Burial for Father Sienkiewicz was held May 10 at St. Hedwig Church in South Bend. A private burial will take place at Resurrection Cemetery in Joliet, Ill., at a later date.

Pope to beatify Pope Paul VI at end of synod on the family

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis will beatify Pope Paul VI Oct. 19 during the closing Mass of the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family.

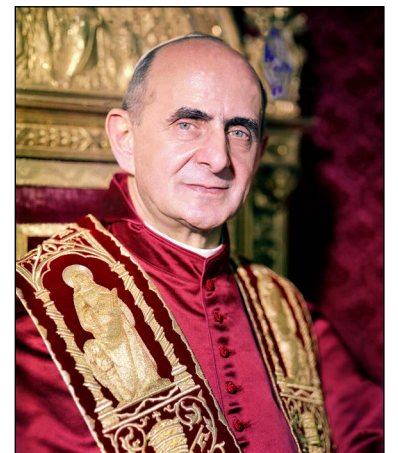
Pope Francis signed a decree May 9 recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of Pope Paul, who led the Church from 1963 to 1978, and authorized publication of the Oct. 19 beatification date, according to a Vatican statement May 10.

The miracle involved the birth of a baby in California in the 1990s. The family's name and city have not been released, but according to news reports, a pregnant woman whose life was at risk along with the life of her baby was advised by doctors to terminate the pregnancy. Instead she sought prayers from an Italian nun who was a family friend. The nun placed a holy card with Pope Paul's photograph and a piece of his vestment on the woman's belly.

The baby was born healthy. For Pope Paul's sainthood cause, physicians continued monitoring the child's health up to the age of 12 and everything was normal.

Pope Paul's connection with the themes expected to be raised at the synod on the family Oct. 5-19 include the encyclical for which he is most known, "Humanae Vitae." The 1968 encyclical, usually described as a document affirming the Church's prohibition against artificial contraception, places that conclusion in the context of Catholic teaching on the beauty and purpose of marriage, married love and procreation.

When St. John XXIII died in 1963, Pope Paul reconvened the



POPE PAUL VI

Second Vatican Council, presided over the final three of its four sessions and oversaw the promulgation of all of the council's documents. He also led the process of implementing the council's reforms.

Pope Paul VI was the first pope in the modern era to travel abroad, visiting: Jordan and Israel in January 1964; Lebanon and India in December 1964; the United Nations and New York in October 1965; the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal in May 1967; Turkey in July 1967; Colombia and Bermuda in August 1968; Switzerland in June 1969; Uganda in July-August 1969; and Iran, Pakistan, the Philippines, Samoan Islands, Australia, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka in November-December 1970.

Born Giovanni Battista Montini in 1897 in the northern Italian province of Brescia, he was ordained to the Priesthood in 1920 and was named archbishop of Milan in 1954. Elected pope in 1963, he died at the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo Aug. 6, 1978.

LCWR leaders, U.S. archbishop respond to Vatican official's remarks

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The recent rebuke of the officers of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious by the head of the Vatican's doctrinal office should be viewed as one part of his entire remarks and one aspect of the group's visits and ongoing dialogue with Vatican officials, according to a statement by LCWR officers.

In his April 30 meeting with LCWR officials, Cardinal Gerhard Muller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, voiced "increasing concern" about the LCWR's promotion of the "concept of conscious evolution" in various publications and "directional statements" of some member congregations. He also criticized the group's plan to honor a Catholic theologian, St. Joseph Sister Elizabeth Johnson, whose work he said has been judged "seriously inadequate."

The cardinal made the remarks in an address to the presidency of the LCWR, a Maryland-based umbrella group that claims about 1,500 leaders of U.S. women's

communities as members, representing about 80 percent of the country's 57,000 women religious. The group is currently undergoing a major reform ordered by the Vatican in 2012.

"Over the past several days, there has been much public commentary on the opening remarks" of Cardinal Muller, LCWR officers said in a May 8 statement.

The group's leaders described the cardinal's address as "constructive in its frankness and lack of ambiguity. It was not an easy discussion, but its openness and spirit of inquiry created a space for authentic dialogue and discernment."

They also said their meeting with the cardinal should be viewed within the context of all of their visits to Vatican offices where they "experienced a culture of encounter, marked by dialogue and discernment."

In 2012, the Vatican announced a major reform of the LCWR to ensure its fidelity to Catholic teaching in areas including abortion, euthanasia,

women's ordination and homosexuality. The Vatican appointed Seattle Archbishop J. Peter Sartain to implement the congregation's "doctrinal assessment," by providing "review, guidance and approval, where necessary, of the work" of the LCWR.

The archbishop, who also attended the April 30 meeting with LCWR officials and superiors of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, said in a May 5 statement that Cardinal Muller's opening remarks "invited a frank and open discussion by those present" and that a "respectful conversation" followed.

He said the cardinal "thanked the sisters for the progress being made in the revision of the LCWR statutes and civil by-laws" and also spoke of "an incalculable debt" he owed to the women religious he has known throughout his life who influenced his faith and his vocation.

The archbishop said Cardinal Muller expressed concern about aspects of the mandated reform of LCWR that had not yet been

addressed and asked the group's leadership for "clearer signs of collaboration with the Holy See" and with their archbishop delegate.

Archbishop Sartain said he is "in full agreement with the issues raised by the cardinal" and said that during the past two years he has frequently discussed these topics with the LCWR leadership and will continue to collaborate with them.

"It is in the context of that relationship that we will continue to address the important matters," he said.

LCWR leaders expressed a similar desire to continue to dialogue, emphasizing in their statement: "We have come to believe that the continuation of such conversation may be one of the most critical endeavors we, as leaders, can pursue for the sake of the world, the Church and religious life."

They also expressed disappointment about how they continue to be perceived by the Congregation for the Doctrine of

the Faith.

"During the meeting, it became evident that despite maximum efforts through the years, communication has broken down and as a result, mistrust has developed," the LCWR leaders said, adding that they do not "recognize ourselves" in the CDF's doctrinal assessment and that their attempts to "clarify misperceptions have led to deeper misunderstandings."

The group's leaders noted that "in some ways, for LCWR, nothing has changed. We are still under the mandate and still tasked with the difficult work of exploring the meaning and application of key theological, spiritual, social, moral and ethical concepts together as a conference and in dialogue with the Vatican officials."

"This work is fraught with tension and misunderstanding. Yet, this is the work of leaders in all walks of life in these times of massive change in the world," they added.

Nigerian Church groups organize prayers for missing schoolgirls

BY PETER AJAYI DADA

LAGOS, Nigeria (CNS) — Religious groups in Nigeria's northeastern Borno state have organized prayer sessions and other activities to support the rescue of kidnapped schoolgirls.

But Hassanah Mohammed, a resident of the state capital, Maiduguri, told Catholic News Service that groups have been avoiding nighttime vigils for fear of additional attacks.

"Chibok town and Borno state are now on the world map, and we pray that God will touch the hearts of the Boko Haram insurgents and release those innocent girls safely to their parents," she said May 8. She added that after about 200

villagers were killed in the state earlier in the week, groups had increased their prayers.

In an overnight attack in mid-April, armed gunmen abducted girls at Chibok Government Girls Secondary School and took them into the forest. Girls who escaped said the men identified themselves as government soldiers who had come to rescue them after gunshots were fired nearby.

By May 8, more than 250 girls remained missing; two had died of snakebites and about two dozen were sick, reported The Associated Press, which was dealing with an intermediary. AP also reported that May 5, 11 more girls, ages 12-15, were taken from other villages in Borno.

Boko Haram, an Islamist mili-



CNS PHOTO/SUMAYA HISHAM, REUTERS

A protester holds a sign during a May 8 march in Cape Town, South Africa, in support of the girls kidnapped in Nigeria. The Islamist militant group Boko Haram claimed responsibility for the abduction of 276 schoolgirls during a raid in the remote village of Chibok in April.

tant group with a somewhat undefined leadership and structure, took credit for the mid-April kidnapping. For years the group has attacked Christians and Muslims in Nigeria, leaving an estimated 1,500 people dead in the first three months of this year alone.

The lack of progress in rescuing the girls led to an international campaign, "Bring Back Our Girls," as well as statements from government and church leaders.

In Maiduguri, Josephine Mohammed said most of the mothers in her religious group had been fasting from 6 a.m. to noon for the safe release of the girls.

The Ladies of St. Mulumba, a Catholic charitable group, condemned the kidnappings as "a shameful act by a shameless and a faceless group."

The statement urged the kidnapers to pity the abducted girls, their parents and relatives.

"We are sure the insurgents will not like their own little girls, sisters, nieces and wives to be treated this way," it said.

Some parents said they were considering transferring their children to schools in southern Nigeria, which is considered safer.

At the Vatican May 8, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said Boko Haram is known for "horrible forms of violence."

"The denial of any kind of respect for life and for the dignity of the human person — even the most innocent, vulnerable and defenseless — calls for the strongest condemnation, arouses the most heartfelt feelings of compas-

sion for the victims and horror for the physical and spiritual suffering and incredible humiliations inflicted on them."

"We join the multitude of appeals for their liberation and return to normal life," Father Lombardi said. "We pray that Nigeria, with the commitment of all who can contribute, finds a way to put an end this situation of conflict and hateful terrorism, which is a source of incalculable suffering."

The White House announced May 7 that it had offered the Nigerian government military, law enforcement and information-sharing assistance in finding the girls and securing their release. Deputy press secretary Josh Earnest told reporters that the U.S. ambassador would meet with Nigeria's national security adviser to coordinate assistance, which would involve the Department of Justice and the FBI providing a range of technical aid and potentially hostage negotiation.

Later the same day, in remarks to the USC Shoah Foundation dinner in Los Angeles, President Barack Obama drew comparisons between the Holocaust and "today's headlines," including Syria's conflict and the kidnappings in Nigeria.

"There are some bad stories out there that are being told to children, and they're learning to hate early. They're learning to fear those who are not like them early," he said.

Though "none of the tragedies that we see today may rise to the full horror of the Holocaust, the individuals who are the victims of such unspeakable cruelty, they make a claim on our conscience. They demand our attention, that we not turn away, that we choose empathy over indifference and that our empathy leads to action."

All Saints Religious Goods

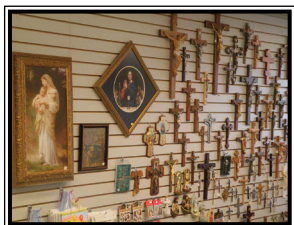
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Schmid appointed to National Review Board

BY ANN CAREY

GRANGER — A diocesan resident has been appointed to the National Review Board of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. That board collaborates with the bishops' conference in preventing the sexual abuse of minors by persons in the service of the Church.

Donald J. Schmid of Granger, an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Indiana, was nominated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. His appointment was announced May 1 by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, president of the bishops' conference.

Schmid is the father of three children and a graduate of the University of Notre Dame. He has been a prosecutor with the Department of Justice since 1994 and has served on the diocesan review board since 2009. He also has served on the review board for the Midwest and United States Provinces of the Congregation of Holy Cross for several years.

Schmid told *Today's Catholic* that he nominated Schmid for the National Review Board because of his "excellent" service on the Diocesan Review Board.

"Donald's expertise and counsel have been a great help to me and our diocese in our youth protection efforts," Bishop Rhoades said. "His professional background and experience are extremely helpful, together with his good judgment and insight in these difficult matters. He has been a great help in the development of our diocesan policies for youth protection as well."

Schmid will join two other new appointees for a four-year term on the 12-member national board: Judge Mary K. Huffman of Centerville, Ohio, and Nelle Moriarty, a marriage and family therapist in Rochester, Minn., who chairs the review board of the Diocese of Winona, Minn.

The board meets several times a year in locales around the country. Some of its duties include: Advising the bishops' Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People on matters of child and youth protection, specifically on policies and best practices; reviewing the work of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and making recommendations to its director; advising the bishops' Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People on the annual diocesan audit process prescribed in the bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, including methods, scope and personnel; and making appropriate recommendations to prevent sexual abuse of minors.

Schmid told *Today's Catholic* that he was "genuinely looking forward" to working on the national board.



DONALD J. SCHMID

"I hope to bring my experience and judgment as an attorney and prosecutor, as well as my experience and expertise with restorative justice practices, to assist the board in its role to advise and consult with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and specifically the conference's Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People," Schmid said.

He told *Today's Catholic* that he has considerable experience dealing with priest sexual abuse against children in his role as a member of the two local review boards. Schmid said that he was well aware of the work of the national board through his colleague on the diocesan board, Susan Steibe-Pasalich, who has served a term on the national board.

Steibe-Pasalich, who is director of the Counseling Center at Notre Dame, told *Today's Catholic*, "As a former member of the National Review Board, I have experienced how strongly the bishops of the United States rely on the advice of this body of laity in terms of protecting children."

Donald Schmid, she said, will be an excellent addition to that board.

"As we have worked together on our Diocesan Review Board, I have personally witnessed his keen legal expertise, his strong leadership skills in helping to revise our diocesan guidelines and policies for addressing reports of sexual abuse, and his caring manner which draws others to carefully listen," she said. "Donald is an insightful and critical thinker who is committed to his faith, and who will generously share his gifts on the national level."

Bishop Rhoades said that both Schmid and Steibe-Pasalich have given "outstanding" service to the diocesan board. Not only will Schmid's expertise be helpful on the national level, the bishop said, but "Our diocese will also benefit since Donald will be able to share with us the experience of best practices and insights from the National Review Board."

Schmid will begin his service on the National Review Board June 1.

GOOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ruppert, Father Tom Shoemaker, Father Tony Steinacker and Father Dave Voors.

Father Bill Dickinson is the vice-president for Episcopal and Client Services for the Catholic Leadership Institute, and he was responsible for managing the implementation and delivery of Good Leaders, Good Shepherds in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The Catholic Leadership Institute is a not-for-profit apostolate that provides world-class leadership formation, training and consulting to the Roman Catholic community nationally and internationally, Father Dickinson told *Today's Catholic*.

"Good Leaders, Good Shepherds supports the Governing Office of the ordained Priesthood," Father Dickinson said. "The Governing Office is the leadership office associated with Holy Orders, and parish life and ministry. Thus, we have been providing pastoral and priestly leadership training to the participating priests of Fort Wayne-South Bend."

"Our mission, in part, is to set them up for sacred success as they become ever more confident and competent in their own leadership skills and practices in service to both the people of the parish and the parish overall," Father Dickinson said.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who is a member of the Episcopal board of the Catholic Leadership Institute told *Today's Catholic*, "I think it is the best program in the country in helping priests in leadership skills and abilities as shepherds according to the mind of Christ."

"I was happy that we could offer this excellent program to our priests," he said. "The priests have shared with me how beneficial the program has been for them. I was really happy to see how much they appreciated the sessions as well as the priestly fraternity during their days together. I know this will bear much good fruit in the lives of our priests and in their leadership of our parishes."

Father Dickinson said, "Bishop Rhoades wanted to provide a sustainable as well as fraternal professional development opportunity for these men — his priests. The bishop's clear support reflects his care and love for his priests and the parishes entrusted to their care. We, too, are very proud of and happy for these men. And, we are grateful to the bishop for his own leadership with the men and as he serves on our Episcopal Advisory Board."

Father Bill Kummer, administrator of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish in Fort Wayne, said, "By the gift of ordination to the Priesthood, we ordained share in the ministry of the bishop, indeed, with Christ Himself. We are to teach, sanctify and to govern in the Church. Good Leaders, Good

Shepherds provides a priest with a set of tools that make the ministry of governance more manageable."

"This training," he said, "... has helped me to be more aware of types of persons in the Church, and to better use practices for calling together people into various teams and committees and councils in the parish. It enriches the teaching and sanctifying, but most of all, this experience helps us, me, to better manage myself and the organizations of the parish."

Father Dickinson said of the priests in the program, "We saw growth and excitement; we experienced gratefulness and pastoral application."

"The men in Fort Wayne-South Bend have been just excellent in their participation and in their expression of how they are able to apply their learned leadership skills to parish life," Father Dickinson said.

"They are a fraternal, supportive group of men who clearly respect each other and love the people of God they serve."

Father Andrew Curry, pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine in North Manchester and St. Francis Xavier in Pierceton, said the top concept he learned was "leading people is all about forming a team or a group that journeys to excellence, and that for an effective team, we need people of many different temperments."

Father Jason Freiburger, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, said, "I learned how to work effectively with teams. ... There are tools available to help navigate different situations that arise that can help anyone be a more effective leader."

"The top thing that I learned

was to understand my parish's vast needs and identifying key individuals who can help me lead and direct the whole congregation in the direction Christ is calling us," said Father Tony Steinacker, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen.

Another strength of the program was the sense of fraternity. "For me the best part of the training was to learn together. There are 19 brothers with which I have a connection that in certain cir-

cumstances I can trust and learn from them," said Father Kummer.

"The fraternity that developed among the priests' part of this cohort of Good Leaders, Good Shepherds was priceless," said Father Freiburger. "We bonded by working through together some of the questions and challenges that we have faced in ministry in the parish and beyond. Celebrating our completion of the program with our bishop and recalling all the knowledge gained and realizing our capability to implement it was a good feeling of confident assurance."

Father Kummer said, "I plan to use this experience for the rest of my ministry by following the leadership skills I have learned, and to further my learning by sharing and refining my goals with other priests, and to ask my parish to use better organizational tools so that we move ahead and grow in faith and love. We shall not be stuck, but will find a path of growth and faith."

Father Steinacker said the highlights continue. "Our learning has not ended. Nor has the fruits of our learning."

"The fraternity that developed among the priests' part of this cohort of Good Leaders, Good Shepherds was priceless."

FATHER JASON FREIBURGER

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Bishops to hear reports on marriage, family, sex abuse at June meeting

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops, meeting in New Orleans June 11-13, will discuss today's economy and its impact on marriages and evangelization. They will also review their efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children, strengthening marriage, helping typhoon victims and preparing for upcoming Church-sponsored events on family life. The bishops will hear presentations on "Marriage and the Economy" and "the New Evangelization and Poverty" on the second day of their gathering before they close for executive sessions. The first day will be filled with reports on upcoming events, including presentations on the Oct. 5-19 extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family and the World Meeting of Families, set for Sept. 22-27, 2015, in Philadelphia. The synod at the Vatican this October will bring together presidents of bishops' conferences, the heads of Eastern Catholic churches and the heads of Vatican offices to discuss "pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelization." Pope Francis has said the synod will take up the subject of Church teaching and practice on marriage, including the eligibility of divorced and civilly married Catholics to receive Communion. In preparation for the synod, the Vatican issued a survey for Catholic families and a handful of U.S. bishops have released some of the results of their responses submitted to the Vatican at the end of January.

Vatican official says Church making progress in stopping sexual abuse

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Appearing before a U.N. committee monitoring adherence to an international treaty designed to fight torture, a Vatican official insisted that, over the past 10 years, the Catholic Church has "in a systematic, constructive and effective way," worked to prevent clerical sexual abuse of minors and assist victims. Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, the Holy See representative to U.N. agencies in Geneva, told the Committee Against Torture May 6 that the sexual abuse of children "is a worldwide plague and scourge" that the Vatican, national bishops' conferences, religious orders and individual dioceses have worked seriously to eliminate within the Catholic Church. While the archbishop mentioned "some divergence of opinion" about whether child sexual abuse legitimately falls under the concern of the U.N. Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, he answered the committee members' questions about Vatican efforts to investigate allegations against clergy, punish offenders and cooperate with civil authorities. The Holy See signed the international treaty in 2002 and submitted its first report on adherence to the treaty in 2012. The committee met in Geneva in late April and in May to review the reports of the Holy See and seven other countries. The committee hearings were live-streamed on the Internet.

NEWS BRIEFS

POPE FRANCIS MEETS WITH ITALIAN STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS IN ST. PETER'S SQUARE AT VATICAN



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis passes school children as he arrives to lead an encounter with Italian students, teachers and parents in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican May 10. About 300,000 attended the event.

Hew to canon law when closing churches, Cardinal Burke says

BALTIMORE (CNS) — When considering the suppression of parishes or the closing of church buildings, bishops should hew closely to canon law not simply because it's a legal requirement of the Church, Cardinal Raymond L. Burke said, but because it helps foster unity. In a May 7 interview with the *Catholic Review*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the prefect of the Supreme Court of the Apostolic Signature, the Vatican's highest court, said following proper procedures helps ensure legitimate decisions. "When we don't follow the requirements of the law, then people rightly claim that they've been aggrieved by this," said Cardinal Burke, who was a featured speaker at the Eastern Regional Conference of the Canon Law Society of America, held May 6-8 in Baltimore. The cardinal's presentation was closed to the media, but he granted a brief interview to the *Catholic Review*. "(When) we do follow the requirements of the law," he said, "even if we take a decision that's unfavorable to people, at least they know that it was taken legitimately with respect to what the Church requires for that

decision." Around the country, hundreds of parishes have been closed in recent decades, typically because of declines in the number of priests, fewer parishioners or the impracticality of maintaining aging properties.

Life in the fast lane: FCC plan on net neutrality draws criticism

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Everyone, at some point, has shifted over from one Communion line to another during Mass because it seemed shorter and, thus, faster. Now imagine what it would be like if you could always have a "fast lane" to receive Communion — but you had to pay for it. It's a good image to keep in mind as the Federal Communications Commission considers regulations that would allow Internet service providers to open a fast lane for those with the cash. But few people would likely have enough money to pay for this kind of fast lane. Already, Netflix has made a deal with Comcast to pay a considerable premium to keep its programming streaming faster into people's computers. Netflix's deal came shortly after Comcast, the nation's largest cable TV provider, announced it would acquire Time Warner Cable, the second-largest cable company. Comcast is also one of the United States' biggest

Internet service providers, owns NBC and a fistful of cable channels, and offers telephone service through its Xfinity bundling package. In short, net neutrality is the concept that all traffic that goes through the Internet is treated equally. It shouldn't take you any longer to access your local Catholic newspaper or diocesan website than to get to Web behemoths like Google or Netflix. But the Netflix-Comcast deal has already demonstrated that a speed lane can be created. And that would make any other lane a slow lane. What's more, some Internet service providers have already been accused of purposely slowing down traffic from certain websites. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has long been an advocate for net neutrality.

Patriarch wants Israelis to crack down on vandalism at religious sites

JERUSALEM (CNS) — The Latin patriarch of Jerusalem called a continuing wave of vandalism against Christian, Muslim and Druze properties a "blight on Israeli democracy" and urged authorities to step up prosecution against the perpetrators. Patriarch Fouad Twal said during a May 11 news conference in the northern city of Haifa that the attacks, which involve scrawling and spray

painting racist and anti-Christian and anti-Muslim messages on buildings and holy sites, was particularly troublesome in light of Pope Francis' planned visit to the Holy Land May 24-26. The comments came after anti-Christian graffiti was found scrawled on a column outside of the Office of the Assembly of Bishops at the Notre Dame Center in East Jerusalem, where Pope Francis is scheduled to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu later this month.

Harvard student group's 'black mass' plan spurs outcry on, off campus

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (CNS) — A Harvard University student group's plan to conduct a "black mass" May 12 at a pub on campus brought an outcry both on the campus and off, including a demand that the university prohibit the event. Father Michael E. Drea, the senior Catholic chaplain at Harvard, condemned the event and invited the Catholic community of the university to a Eucharistic Holy Hour and Benediction at St. Paul's Church near the campus at the same time as the re-enactment. *The Pilot*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Boston, quoted Father Drea as saying the event mocks the "Holy Sacrifice of the Mass — the center of our faith and worship. As the university attempts to veil this 'presentation' under the guise of 'academic freedom and expression,' people of good will recognize it for what it truly is: an act of hatred and ridicule toward the Catholic Church and her faithful," Father Drea said. Drew Faust, Harvard president, said in a May 12 statement that she would attend the Holy Hour "to join others in reaffirming our respect for the Catholic faith at Harvard and to demonstrate that the most powerful response to offensive speech is not censorship, but reasoned discourse and robust dissent."

Typhoon Haiyan survivors organize to push demands for emergency relief

MANILA, Philippines (CNS) — Six months after Typhoon Haiyan laid waste to vast stretches of the central Philippines, some survivors like subsistence farmer Marissa Cavaljao still need emergency relief. Cavaljao, 27, joined with other farmers from a small town in Samar province April 28 to demand that their local mayor distribute government aid packages containing a 14-day supply of staple goods. Frustrated by the lack of government response, Cavaljao joined People Surge, an advocacy group led by Benedictine Sister Edita Espolor, that was organized to pursue help for storm survivors in far-flung areas of the Philippines. Sister Edita, a survivor herself from the hard-hit city of Tacloban in the central Philippines, said that while city residents have received regular deliveries of relief goods, outlying communities have not.

Four from diocese receive cultural diversity training

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Four people from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend recently received training in Kalamazoo, Mich., with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Office of Cultural Diversity. They were Jennifer Betz from Catholic Relief Services, Father Peter Dee De from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Cross Father John Keefe, from Fatima Residence at Notre Dame, and Holy Cross Father John Korcsmar, pastor of St. Michael in Plymouth.

The workshop was led by Maria del Mar Muñoz-Visoso, executive director of the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The purpose of the workshop was to learn to help parishes, schools and other Catholic institutions and communities deal with the changing demographics of the Church in the United States.

The Catholic Church is the most culturally diverse institution in the United States. At present 36 percent of parishes offer Mass in more than one language. At present, of those Catholics under the age of 36, 54 percent are Latino. Other communities, such as the Asian communities, are also growing rapidly throughout the United States.

The challenges are not merely those of dealing with other languages, but rather dealing with very different cultures and perspectives. The workshop dealt with creating a vision of Church as a framework for viewing multicultural parishes, understanding how culture works and the obstacles, and using an approach of ecclesial integration rather than assimilation.

Father Ed Silva to speak at Serra Club of South Bend

SOUTH BEND — EWTN and Catholic radio's Holy Cross Father Ed Silva will speak at the Serra Club of South Bend's May 21 meeting at 6 p.m. in the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in South Bend. Supper will be at 5:30 p.m. Guests are invited. For additional information contact Esther Cyr at 574-272-6457.

Redemptorist priest to head the Institute for Black Catholic Studies (IBCS) at Xavier

NEW ORLEANS, La., — Redemptorist Father Maurice Nutt has been named the new director of the Institute for Black Catholic Studies (IBCS) at Xavier University of Louisiana, according to Dr. Loren Blanchard, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs. He comes to Xavier from the Redemptorist Parish Mission in Chicago, where he was a member of the preaching team. Father Maurice Nutt, who specializes in preaching, evangelization, African American culture, spirituality and community and Church development, is no stranger to Xavier, having earned a master of theology from Xavier's

AROUND THE DIOCESE

NEW HAVEN PARISH DEDICATES ROSARY GARDEN



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

St. John the Baptist, New Haven, rosary garden was dedicated on May 5. Following the recitation of the rosary and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the annual May crowning by the second and eighth graders was held. Spearheaded by the Raiders Wellness Committee with the blessing of the parish pastor, the final stage of the project was completed and blessed by current pastor, Father Bill Sullivan. The Rosary Sodality has agreed to maintain the gardens that started with raised boxes and advanced through phases including the brick campaign, development year and flower planting. One of its coordinators, Kerri Zurbuch, summarized, "It is our hope the community will enjoy and visit the garden for many years to come." Eighth-graders Veronica Hathaway and Grace Renbarger crowned Mary.

IBCS in 1989 and having served as an assistant professor of preaching at the institute since 2007.

"We are blessed to have acquired the full-time services of Father Maurice, who will bring his boundless energy, dynamic leadership and profound scholarship to the institute, with which he has already developed such an intimate connection," said Blanchard. "We look forward to the vision he will bring to the institute."

The IBCS, established in 1979 to help sustain and support the pastoral and intellectual needs of Black Catholics throughout the United States, offers a master's degree in pastoral theology and continuing education units in catechesis, leadership and youth/young adult ministry.

A native of St. Louis, Father Nutt professed vows in the Redemptorist congregation in 1983 and was ordained to the Priesthood in 1989. He has served as pastor of Holy Names of Jesus and Mary Catholic Church in Memphis, Tenn., as director of the African American Ministry Initiative in Chicago and as pastor of St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church in St. Louis, Mo.

A member of the Board of Directors for the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, he has also served as an adjunct professor for Hampton University's Online

Religious Studies Program and as a Pentecostalism adjunct professor for St. Louis University's Department of Theology. In addition to his Xavier degree, he also holds a Doctorate of Ministry from Aquinas Institute of Theology with a concentration in preaching, and a Master of Divinity degree from Catholic Theological Union.

He is the author of three books, "Thea Bowman: In My Own Words," "Advent and Christmas Wisdom from St. Alphonsus Liguori," and "Lent and Easter Wisdom from St. Alphonsus Liguori." He is also a contributor to the African American Catholic Youth Bible, a collaborative project between the National Black Catholic Congress and St. Mary's Press to be published this year.

Father Nutt succeeds Dr. Pamela Franco, executive associate in the Office of Academic Affairs, who served as interim IBCS director for three years.

The Institute for Black Catholic Studies offers a master's in theology (pastoral studies) as well as certification and enrichment programs. The 2014 summer sessions are between June 30 and July 19. Students include clergy, religious and laity of all races. Application deadline is June 27. Scholarships are available. For information visit www.xula.edu/ibcs/.

St. Anthony students winners of National History Day state contest

INDIANAPOLIS — More than 350 Hoosier students competed in the National History Day in Indiana state contest on Saturday, May 3, for the chance to go to the national competition at University of Maryland June 15-19. The first- and second-place finishers in each category of the junior and senior divisions are eligible to compete in the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest.

National History Day in Indiana is a yearlong program dedicated to enhancing history education in elementary and secondary schools.

Finalists from St. Joseph County included:

Youth Division

First Place, Youth Individual Website — Janusha Cooray; St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend; "Harriet Tubman: The Freedom Fighter"

Second Place, Youth Individual Exhibit — Sierra Weaver; St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend; "Tinker vs. Des Moines: Free Speech Rights and Responsibilities"

Runner-Up, Youth Individual Exhibit — Max Niebur; St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend; "The Berlin Wall: A Divided City"

Junior Division

Second Place, Junior Individual Exhibit — Taylor Bean; St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend; "You Play Like a Girl - Title IX Opening New Doors"

Second Place, Junior Individual Website — Thomas Mikula; St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend; "We Liberated Birmingham - Children's March of 1963."

STUDENT-LED FOOD DRIVE NETS 1,148 POUNDS OF FOOD



PROVIDED BY SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH BEND

The Student Ambassadors of Saint Joseph High School in South Bend planned and organized a food drive that netted 1,148 pounds of non-perishable food for the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. Students and staff brought in food items to support the food bank, which is low on donations at this time of the year. Students from Kristie Alter's (Student Ambassador moderator) sociology class helped in the collection of food. In the photo are Paul Faulkner, Austin Clark, Greg Marks, Abby Toftthagen, Paige Schreiber and Kate Semmler.

Diaconate ORDINATION

Four young men from the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are preparing for their ordination into the diaconate this year. William Meininger, Jonathan Norton and Matthew Soberalski will be ordained by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on May 24. Royce Gregorson will be ordained in Rome in October.

Matthew Soberalski brings a heart ready and willing to serve in the diaconate

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Matthew Robert Soberalski is working on turning everything over to God through prayer and spiritual direction as he prepares for his diaconate ordination on May 24 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. He is “allowing Him to form and transform me into a servant after His own heart,” he says.

A native of Michigan, and only son of three children born to Edward and Se Ann Soberalski, the young seminarian, who attended Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, currently attends Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., and is a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne.

The support and encouragement he has received from his family has been instrumental in his faith formation, he says, as he journeys toward ordination. “I think the greatest influences for my formation in the faith rests in my family. While my parents certainly played an important role, my grandparents were key figures,” he notes gratefully.

It was in high school that Soberalski first considered a vocation in the Priesthood. But he says, “...it was not until probably my second year in seminary that I really felt the call and began to personally respond to the call. Before seminary the call was a response to a longing in me for more and while in seminary it became a response to God



MATTHEW SOBERALSKI

the source of the call.”

The experience of seminary life has been richly fulfilling to the soon-to-be deacon. “It is a chance to grow and to be nourished spiritually, intellectually, humanly and pastorally. Seminary life provides a man an atmosphere to really meditate and listen for the voice of God speaking to him, a voice that is often very difficult to hear amidst the business and noise of society,” he says, adding, “...seminary life is also a place filled with much joy and a place where men learn how to be great fathers, regardless of whether they discover that call in the Priesthood or are led by God to the vocation to marriage.”

In seminary formation Soberalski has been assigned to several diocesan parishes, including St. Pius X, Granger, St. Matthew Cathedral in

South Bend, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne, to learn under the competent tutelage of seasoned priests and minister to the faithful. Living out the service learned in the classroom was most beneficial, says Soberalski.

“It provides us a chance to encounter what we learn about from our professors and in books in an actual real life parish. The assignments give us the opportunity to learn at the feet of real men who have heard the call, responded to the call and who now assist us in doing likewise. In a very real way the assignments teach us more than we probably even realize and form in ways we can't even comprehend,” he says.

As deacon of the Church, Soberalski looks forward to “getting to know and serving the people of God as a servant of Christ.” He hopes to bring to his ministry a “heart ready and willing to serve as Christ served and to follow wherever God leads.” And in his experience he has learned that God will provide “beyond anything I can think up.”

As Soberalski anticipates the rich and meaningful Mass of Ordination he is grateful for the love and encouragement of his family. “My mom, dad, sisters, brother-in-law and nieces have all been very supportive and have been getting very excited as I have been also. They have been a great blessing all the way through the process, from the time I entered seminary eight years ago to today.”

William Meininger to conform his life to Christ the Servant in diaconate

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Since entering the seminary in 2008, William Anthony Meininger has been preparing for May 24, his day of ordination into the diaconate at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, with prayer and study. His humility underscores his excitement of the event as he says, “Approaching this sacrament I feel so unworthy, though I trust in the Lord Jesus who chooses the weak to make them strong.”

Born to Bruce and Margaret Meininger in Canton, Ohio, this soon-to-be deacon first heard the call to a priestly vocation at the tender age of 13, much like his great uncle who entered seminary at that age. His father, who joined the Catholic Church in 1979, he says, has been “a major influence” in his discernment process. “While my sister and I were schooled in the teachings of the Church primarily from our mother, my father's example of what it means to be a faith-filled and devout Catholic man had a great influence on me,” he says, adding that his family has always been supportive of his vocation.

While speaking with his parents about the Priesthood, they assured him that he had time to grow and pray about his vocation. “I did just that, and after finishing college, I entered into formation,” he says. Meininger earned a bachelor's degree in music education at the College of Wooster in 2007.

His formation at Pontifical Josephinum, Athenaeum and Mount Saint Mary's seminaries has been six years of joy, he says. “Having the opportunity to come together with men who are all seeking to grow in their relationship with Christ and discern their truest purpose in life has been such a blessing for me. Our daily routine of prayer, classes and fraternity have served me well in helping me begin the process of lifelong growth in the best version of the man God created me to be.”

Meininger feels his summer parish assignments at St. Pius X in Granger and Most Precious Blood in Fort Wayne, during his formation have prepared him in many ways for his diaconate. “I always anxiously await the opportunity to spend several months immersed in parish life with the people of God. Being able to work with parishioners, parish staff and pastors has really affirmed my sense of calling and the joy that comes from being



WILLIAM MEININGER

exhausted after a long day in the vineyard is unlike anything I have ever experienced.”

Becoming a deacon of the Church has Meininger eager to serve the people of God. “I am always so humbled to be present in some of the most joyful and sorrowful moments in the lives of parishioners and be considered as a part of their families and lives. I hope to bring joy through service and excitement about the Gospel of Christ, which is so needed in our world,” he says, adding that he looks forward most to baptizing. “I have been blessed to be present for a great many number of Baptisms during my years in the seminary, but being able to regularly bestow this sacrament, opening the doors of grace to these newly born children, is most humbling and exciting.”

Meininger hopes to learn to live every day for Jesus and His people. “The process of formation is a continual dying to self, and a putting-on of the new self as St. Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:22-24. In ordination to the diaconate, a man is conformed to Christ the Servant. I pray that this special grace will teach me to be continually selfless and live at the service of the Church and Her members.”

Meininger, who is the third male in his family to be ordained into the Priesthood, encourages anyone seeking the truth of their vocation to investigate the call. “I encourage any man who is discerning a call to the Priesthood to take the chance, trust in God and pursue formation. Even for those who discern that they are not called while in the seminary, the experience is nonetheless worthwhile, as we are not only trained to be priests, but also simply strong Catholic men,” he offers.

Meininger's home parish is St. Pius X in Granger.



Royce Gregorson
Class of 2005

God's Blessings upon Royce Gregorson and Jonathan Norton, Bishop Luers Alumni, as you enter the Order of the Diaconate through the Sacrament of Holy Orders!



Jonathan Norton
Class of 2000



Once a Knight, Always a Knight!

Thank you, for your Yes!
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Jonathan Norton hopes to give all of himself in diaconate

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Jonathan Blake Norton has been praying fervently in anticipation of his upcoming ordination into the diaconate on May 24 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. He not only prays for graces for himself and fellow seminarians but for the families of his next parish assignment. "I am praying that I will just rely on the strength of Jesus Christ and cooperate with the grace that will come from my ordination. ... I know that there will be people and families who invite me into their lives, sharing their hopes, joys, fears and struggles. I have faith in the Lord that He will use me to provide them with grace," he says.

Norton is the son of Grant and Nola Norton and has two siblings, one brother and one sister. The family attends Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne. A graduate of Bishop Luers High School with the class of 2000 Norton began his higher education at Indiana Tech studying engineering, but says he "quickly realized that it was not for me." After eight years of work experience, Norton went on to complete a bachelor's degree in philosophy from St. Mary's University of Minnesota in 2011 while in formation at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary.

Norton credits his supportive

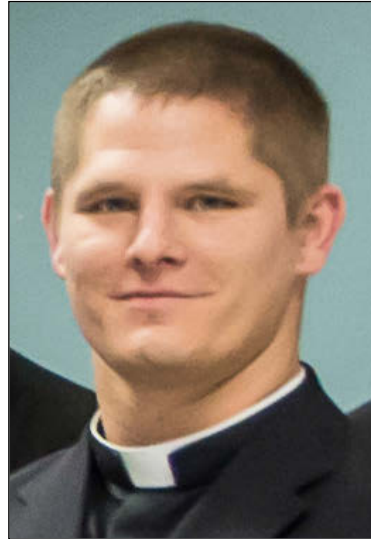
family, particularly his mother, who was instrumental in getting the Norton children to Mass each Sunday and educated in a Catholic high school and his deeply devoted grandparents for his faith formation.

After a rough start in his teen years, he found himself at Bishop Luers and is grateful to his parents who worked extra jobs to assure his place at the school.

"Those four years were very beneficial to me. I was given a real chance to excel and see my peers taking their faith seriously," he says, adding, "I am grateful to my parents for making the sacrifice to send me to a Catholic high school."

The young seminarian also gives credit to Redeemer Radio's broadcasts of Church teachings. "The programing on Redeemer Radio in a way mentored me and helped me to appreciate the beauty of our Catholic faith, seeing that it was the answer to the true desires in my heart," he notes.

The true desires of his heart came to fruition years after he first heard the call to a vocation when he was a boy. Serving at Mass on his father's military base he became acquainted with the Marine chaplain there who invited him to consider the Priesthood. "Because he was a chaplain we often saw him in Marine uniform and so there was nothing more impressive to me as a kid than seeing a 'Marine-priest.' Thanks to the influence of Father



JONATHAN NORTON

(James) O'Kielty I have considered the Priesthood throughout my life, and now military chaplaincy," says Norton.

During his teen years, Norton put his dream of the Priesthood "on the shelf" until 2005 when he realized "God was not going to stop calling me. So I finally took some time to really discern and then finally applied for seminary."

Seminary has been a meaningful experience for this soon-to-be deacon. "It has been a great blessing to have this time to develop a close relationship with Jesus Christ. ... I have developed friendships with my brother seminarians that will

last for a lifetime. I have seen and experienced the love that the people have for their priests. I have learned that the Lord can never be out done in generosity. Every time I give of myself He rewards me with even more blessings," he says.

On his path to the Priesthood Norton has experienced summer parish assignments at St. Pius X in Granger and St. Mary of the Annunciation in Bristol where he "learned a great deal about being a good shepherd."

He says of the experiences, "Summer parish assignments have allowed me to see the highs and lows of parish life. I believe that it is a beautiful life. ..."

In anticipation of his diaconate duties, Norton humbly expresses, "I hope that I can give all of myself as a deacon."

As a deacon Norton says, "I expect that I will continue to learn that it is wise and more efficient to trust in Christ rather than myself! ... I am excited about the entire experience. I have been told that deacon year is very special because it is the first time that a man experiences the grace of Holy Orders. I hope that it will help me grow in my identity as a spiritual father."



The Diaconate Ordination Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 24, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

WITH PRAYERFUL BEST WISHES



WILLIAM MEININGER



JONATHAN NORTON



MATTHEW SOBERALSKI

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

NIV Luke 10:2

As they enter their diaconate year.

Vocation Office

Archbishop Noll Catholic Center
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As Hispanics approach majority in U.S. Church, needs for ministry loom

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. (CNS)

— Training of pastoral leaders and provision of most other resources for Hispanic ministry aren't keeping up with the fast-approaching time when Hispanics will make up the majority of Catholics in the United States, according to a new report.

"Hispanic Catholics have reached critical mass in the Church," said Hosffman Ospino, lead author of the National Study of Catholic Parishes with Hispanic Ministry. He said 55 percent of all U.S. Catholics under the age of 30 are Hispanic and Hispanics account for 71 percent of the growth in the U.S. Catholic population since 1960.

"Ignoring the growth of Hispanic Catholics in the United States would be self-defeating for our churches and schools," he added.

Ospino, assistant professor of theology and ministry at Boston College in Chestnut Hill, presented his findings from the first major survey of how parishes are handling the rapid demographic shift May 5 at the college.

Hispanics currently account for about 40 percent of all U.S. Catholics and their share of the population is continuing to increase. Nationwide, 4,358 parishes — almost one-quarter of the U.S. total — were identified as having some sort of organized ministry to Hispanics.

The study cited many signs of vitality in parish Hispanic ministry — including youth, a strong

permanent diaconate system and thriving apostolic movements. But other areas require urgent attention, it said.

Among the "urgent dynamics" of parish Hispanic ministry that are in need of attention, it listed: disproportionately limited financial and human resources, a "disquieting gap" in Hispanic enrollment in Catholic schools, and a cohort of pastoral leaders who are approaching retirement age with too few people in training to replace them.

The study pointed out that the oldest Catholic parishes under the flag of the United States were and continue to be Hispanic.

In the Southwest, a vibrant Catholic Church existed long before the United States acquired parts of Mexico, making for Hispanic-dominated parishes that predated the development of "national" parishes. National parishes were created in the 19th century to minister to European immigrants such as Germans, Italians and Poles, intended to be a temporary system for helping newcomers maintain their faith connections while they integrated.

As the study notes, "when absorbing the annexed Mexican territories, long-standing Hispanic parishes were typically treated as 'only' national parishes," although many different nationalities fall under the cluster of Hispanic.

The report is a summary of the findings of a national study, conducted by the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry in collaboration with the Center for Applied Research

in the Apostolate of Georgetown University. Several future reports will delve into angles such as education and leadership training, Ospino told Catholic News Service.

The study is based on responses to surveys sent to diocesan and parish leaders who work in Hispanic ministry. Parishes were counted as offering Hispanic ministry if they offer Mass or religious education in Spanish, for example, even if they don't formally have a Hispanic ministry program, Ospino said.

Other elements in the report include discussion of leadership structures and leadership development; apostolic movements such as Cursillo and Communion and Liberation; and programming and education for children, youth and adults.

In an event at Boston College where the study was released, Mark Gray, of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington, said one conclusion he draws from the study that should catch the attention of Church leaders is "if you don't do Hispanic ministry well, then you face an uncertain future."

Unlike past generations of immigrants, he said, people today have many more choices in where they can go to worship, whether another Catholic parish that offers something different, a non-Catholic Christian church that is welcoming or even the growing phenomena of dropping all religious affiliation.

"We call them drive-bys,"



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

A woman prays during a 2008 Mass for the national encounter of the Cursillo movement at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. A Cursillo, Spanish for "little course," is a three-day retreat focused on prayer, study and Christian action.

Gray said, because people will drive by a church that doesn't offer what they need and go elsewhere.

Timothy Matovina, a University of Notre Dame professor of theology and executive director of that school's Institute for Latino Studies, pointed to some of the study's findings he thinks are significant: that two-thirds of the pastors doing Hispanic ministry are not Hispanic; that most of them got any training they have in Hispanic ministry on their own; and that just 13 percent said they received relevant training in Hispanic ministry in the seminary.

Matovina also observed that the immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean who are adding to the surge of Hispanics in the Church are arriving to find a different sort of Church than did earlier waves of immigrants.

"A hundred years ago, immigrants arrived to an immigrant Church," he said. "Now they are arriving to a middle-class Church."

It will be important to the future of the Church for the more established parts of the Church, where there is more money and

power, to think of the growing sector of less-wealthy Hispanics as deserving of their support as part of the same Church, Ospino said.

Ospino told a story to illustrate how that's relevant to meeting the pastoral needs of a working-class or poor group of newcomers.

He described a parish with a high level of immigrants that was in financial crisis. The parish was administered by a religious order that also ran three wealthier, non-immigrant parishes in the same region. The religious order leaders went to the three wealthier parishes asking for support to keep the immigrant parish open. "They said no," Ospino said.

In a subsequent interview with CNS, Ospino said perspectives such as that of the non-immigrant parishes in that story illustrate a basic flaw in how many American Catholics think about the growth of Hispanics toward dominance in the Church.

"We need to shift the language in the Church," Ospino said. "We can't simply treat Hispanics as a subgroup of the Church anymore. In many parts of the country, to speak about Hispanic Catholics is to speak about the majority of the Church."

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Theology teacher finds a place at canonization of Sts. John and John Paul

So many people thought it odd that I would purchase a ticket to travel alone to Rome for only one weekend without any accommodations. But it was just as difficult for me to explain that I wasn't going to Rome, per say, I was going to the canonization of one of my life's greatest heroes.

My first encounter with John Paul II was as an "accidental" World Youth Day participant during Jubilee Year, 2000. I say "accidental" because I was past the age cut-off for "youth" at that time. Nevertheless, despite having no idea what International Youth Festival in Rome was, I felt called to go. So I went — alone, without any accommodations.

Crushed in the streets by the millions of Catholics in attendance for the week I found myself in awe at the zeal and the passion these faithful had toward the elderly pope. Catholic all my life, I realized of course, that the Vicar of Christ deserved any and all love that a person could render. Still, I was finding myself

feeling awkward at the ambiguity I personally felt toward him.

As chance would have it, I found myself corralled up against a crowd control gate as the Italian police, none too softly, cleared the road ahead of what turned out to be part of Holy Father John Paul II's driving route. What had been an over-zealous crowd of pilgrims en route to St. Peter's Square now turned into a surging mass of anticipation. Being forced up against the rail made me a first row spectator to a papal "drive-by." Honestly, I just didn't understand the fuss. But being in Rome, I decided to do what the Roman Catholics seemed to do. So I latched my legs and my arms around the gate — so I wouldn't be wrested from my prime real estate — I leaned over the fence and focused my camera down the street ready to get my more-than-enviable snapshot of the Holy Father. I imagined myself telling jealous pilgrims, "Yep, you betcha. I was that close. Here's my picture to prove it." That was



PILGRIM JOURNEY

KATHLEEN KERSHNER

the length, depth and breadth of my spiritual relationship with the Holy Father and his flock.

The moment of truth was upon me. I held my camera steady while all around me — every nation and language — tried to peel me from my front row spot. Just as the Holy Father came within snapshot "gotcha" range, my fingers and my wrist went limp. The camera slipped completely from my hands and dangled from the end of my arm by its wrist strap. My entire body

PILGRIM, PAGE 12

Jesus still is with us



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

5th Sunday of Easter Jn 14:1-12

The Acts of the Apostles once more is the source of the first reading. The early chapters of Acts marvelously reveal to us the lives led by the early Christians. Very obvious, and important, in this glimpse into events so long ago is the place of the Apostles, and among them the place of Peter.

The Apostles led the community. Moreover, the Christians recognized the Apostles' leadership. The people listened to the Apostles. Indeed, reverence for the Apostles was so deep that the people placed their possessions at the Apostles' feet, allowing the Apostles to control even the material assets of the community.

In Acts, this community was situated in Jerusalem. Although the very heart of Jewish life, and a city extraordinarily unique in meaning for Jews, Jerusalem was not Corinth. It was not Antioch. It most certainly was not Rome. In the total scheme of things, it was not a very important city.

Actually, the Romans maintained as their capital for Palestine the city of Caesarea, a seaport on the Mediterranean Sea. The ruins of this city now are in the suburbs of modern Tel Aviv. In Caesarea, the Roman governor resided, and the Roman occupation had its headquarters.

It is interesting, incidentally, that the only relic of the administration of Pontius Pilate as governor, aside from mention in the Gospels, is a stone carved with his name, and the stone was found in the ruins of Caesarea.

The vast Roman Empire, under one system of laws, allowed for movement from place to place. Thus, nationalities mixed. So, Acts refers to Jews, but also to "Greeks," as Jews at the time called foreigners.

Care of the needy, and widows were very needy, seemed to prefer Jews. The Apostles responded that their task was to teach the Gospel, but they did not dismiss the obligation to care for the needy.

So, they chose seven holy men to be deacons. It was an exercise not just of organization but also of innovation, in the name of Jesus.

First Peter provides the second reading, centering Jesus as essential in salvation. He is the promise of God. The reading urges Christians to be true to Jesus.

St. John's Gospel supplies the last reading. Not a Resurrection Narrative, it recalls the Lord's discourse with the Apostles, consoling them as to what they should expect in the future.

He will be with them always. He is "the way, the truth and the life" which belongs only to the Son of God.

Reflection

Almost a month has passed since Easter. For weeks the Church joyfully has told us of the Resurrection. He lives!

Before long, the season will end. We will return to life in 2014, with its burdens and uncertainties.

The Church tells us not to lose heart. Jesus still is with us. He is our rock and our shield. He lives in the

community of Christians. However, if authentic, this modern community must be the same as the community described in Acts.

Applying the picture in Acts to the present is interesting. Which Christian community actually resembles the gathering of Christians in Jerusalem long ago, precisely in their reliance upon the Apostles with Peter at their head? It has to be the Roman Catholic Church.

The community profoundly is dedicated to the Lord. It cares for the sick and the needy. Care for others is no charming sideline for Christians. It is of the essence of the religion.

The Church tells us, as the Easter season concludes, that Christ is with us. But, in turn, we must draw ourselves into the community that the Lord created. He is in this community.

Being in the community, however, is more than joining a club. We must completely give our hearts to the Lord.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12

Monday: Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-4, 15-16 Jn 14:21-26

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

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

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

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

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

'Humanae Vitae': what if?

Cardinal Carlo Caffarra of Bologna has long been a vocal supporter of "Humanae Vitae's" teaching on the morally appropriate means of family planning. So it was noteworthy that Cardinal Caffarra recently conceded that, while "Humanae Vitae's" conclusions were true, its presentation of those truths left something to be desired. As the cardinal put it, "No one today would dispute that, at the time it was published, "Humanae Vitae" rested on the foundations of a fragile anthropology, and that there was a certain 'biologism' in its argumentation."

Which put me in mind of a document I discovered in 1997 in a dusty Cracovian library while ingesting copious amounts of anti-histamines: "The Foundations of the Church's Doctrine on the Principles of Conjugal Life." Its somewhat academic title notwithstanding that document represents one of the great "what if" moments in modern Catholic history.

The document was the final report of a theological commission established in 1966 by the archbishop of Cracow, Karol Wojtyla, to help him in his work on the Papal Commission for the Study of Problems of the Family, Population and Birth Rate, inevitably dubbed the "Birth Control Commission" by the world media. According to one of the document's authors, Father Andrzej Bardecki, the Polish theologians on Wojtyla's commission had seen two drafts of an encyclical on conjugal morality and fertility regulation. One had been prepared by the Holy Office (now the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith); it strung together various papal statements on the issue without even mentioning Pius XII's endorsement of natural family planning. And that, Bardecki told me, struck the Cracow theologians as "stupid conservatism." The other draft had been sponsored by German cardinal Julius Döpfner; it represented a grave misreading of what God had inscribed in human sexuality "in the beginning," the Cracovians believed, and did so in a way that emptied individual choices and acts of their moral significance.

So: were the only options "stupid conservatism" or the deconstruction of Catholic moral theology?

The Cracovians didn't think so. They thought the truth of the Church's teaching about conjugal morality and fertility regulation could be presented in a humane and personalistic way: one that acknowledged both the moral duty to plan one's family and the demands of self-sacrifice in conjugal life; one that affirmed methods of fertility-regulation that respected the body's dignity and its built-in moral "grammar;" one that recognized the moral equality and equal moral responsibility of men and women, rather than leaving the entire burden of fertility-regulation on the wife. In proposing this fresh presentation of classic



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

moral truths in a delicate area of pastoral care, the Cracovian theologians drew on the pioneering work done by their archbishop, Karol Wojtyla, in "Love and Responsibility" — work that Wojtyla, as John Paul II, would later develop in the Theology of the Body.

And so, what if? What if Paul VI had adopted the Cracovian approach to presenting the truths he taught in "Humanae Vitae?" What if the encyclical had been built upon a less formalistic, even abstract, view of the human person and human sexuality? What if "Humanae Vitae" had deployed a richly textured and humanistic anthropology that was not susceptible to the charge of "biologism?"

1968 being the year it was, and the theological politics of the moment being what they were, there would still have been an uproar I expect. But had the Cracovian report provided the framework for "Humanae Vitae," the Church would have been better positioned to respond to that uproar.

The Catholic Church now has ample materials with which to make sense of, teach and apply its settled convictions on the morality of marital love and procreation: the Theology of the Body; John Paul II's magnificent 1981 apostolic exhortation, "Familiaris Consortio"; the pastorally sensitive 1997 Vademecum for Confessors on the Morality of Certain Aspects of Conjugal Life. And we have a brilliant analysis of the effects of a contraceptive culture in Mary Eberstadt's "Adam and Eve After the Pill" (Ignatius Press), which is must-reading for every bishop attending the upcoming synods on the family.

Still, I wonder: what if?

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

Problems with living wills

In last week's column, I covered the most thorough way to make your wishes known for end-of-life care in the event that you are incapacitated. This week I cover problems with written documents related to end-of-life care: Living wills, advanced medical directives, physician orders for scope of treatment (POST), and physician orders for life-sustaining treatment (POLST). I will use the term "living will" to include all such forms.

Origin of living wills — surprise!

In 1930, a young American lawyer Luis Kutner, established the first Euthanasia Society in the United States, but it didn't catch on. However, only eight years later, the Euthanasia Society of America (ESA) was founded and tried to change laws to allow euthanasia (killing of patients). By the mid-1960s, the ESA had not succeeded in legalizing euthanasia anywhere, so it took a step back and decided that in order to prepare more people to accept "mercy-killing," it would have to promote the "right of the individual to consent to or refuse medical treatment" — website of The World Federation of Right to Die Societies.

In 1967, the now older American Lawyer Luis Kutner worked with the ESA to develop the first living will. Dear Abby (Abigail van Buren), a fellow member of the ESA and euthanasia supporter, popularized the living will in her widely read columns. California became the first state to adopt living will legislation in 1976, and by 1992, living will legislation had passed in all 50 states.

Living wills gained acceptance because of the commonsense idea that people would want the freedom to reject unnecessary medical intervention that was only delaying an inevitable death. In fact, in his 1980 Declaration on Euthanasia, St. John Paul affirmed that patients may reject "extraordinary" or "disproportionate" care with due consideration of potential benefits and burdens. In the same document,

though, he explicitly rejected euthanasia defined as "an action or an omission which of itself or by intention causes death, in order that all suffering may in this way be eliminated."

The link between living wills and euthanasia has been expressed by supporters of euthanasia. A *USA Today* headline of an article interviewing euthanasia advocates (Aug. 16, 1985) read "Living Wills First Step, Euthanasia Group Says." In 1986, Derek Humphry, author of a "how-to" book on assisted suicide and founder of the Hemlock Society (now known as Compassion and Choices) that works to mainstream a universal right to euthanasia, said, "We have to go stage by stage, with the living will, with the power of attorney, with the withdrawal of this; we have to go stage by stage. Your side would call that the 'slippery slope.' ..."

Your words may be used against you

I recommend that you discuss your end-of-life wishes before you contract a terminal illness or injury. I strongly recommend that you do not fill out a living will under pressure or without designating a healthcare representative. Living wills cannot predict and provide for every possible scenario ahead of time; they are too limited. In fact, their language can be so vague that one physician may interpret your wishes one way, while another would do the opposite. Look what happens when Christian churches do not have an authoritative interpreter of the Bible — many different ideas and many splintered Christian groups.

The 2013 Indiana POST Law and Form

In 2013, the Indiana legislature passed a POST law, and the Indiana Catholic Conference did not remove its opposition to the law until a conscience clause was inserted to protect physicians from

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. THOMAS W. MCGOVERN

being forced to carry out acts they would consider unethical. The form generated from this law (<http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm>) will be presented to you when you are hospitalized in our state and have an illness that may soon lead to death. You are not required to fill it out.

The Indiana POST form presents as morally neutral the choice to refuse "artificially administered nutrition"; this means that you can choose to starve yourself to death if you cannot receive food and fluid by mouth. This is a form of euthanasia since it omits something (food and water) that will lead to death. St. John Paul stated on March 20, 2004 that the "administration of water and food, even when provided by artificial means ... is morally obligatory."

Summary of Problems

Living wills have their origin in the euthanasia movement as a step to achieving societal acceptance of euthanasia, they are too vague to be helpful in the complicated course of medical care, and they do not include a trusted, living interpreter.

For more information and a fill-in-the-blank Indiana Catholic Health Care Directive that includes both key principles of moral health care and a place to designate healthcare representatives, go to www.indianacc.org. Click "resources" on the left, then open the first document under "Health Care."

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.

to a most amazing man, mother of a beautiful little Rose, teacher of theology under the protection of St. Joseph — could there have been any doubt that when Holy Father Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI joined with the company of saints and the people of God in the canonization of John Paul II and Good Pope John XXIII on the feast of Divine Mercy that I would be in that number? Not alone — but with a million members of our family. Not without accommodations — but under a Roman sky — perfectly at home.

Kathleen Kershner is a native of South Bend. Teacher of theology at her alma mater, Saint Joseph High School, she holds a Masters of Arts in Theology from the University of Notre Dame and a Bachelor of Arts in journalism from Indiana University, Bloomington.

others faces, laughing hysterically, we hugged each other intensely and jumping up and down we yelled from the depths of our souls in utter joy, "Il Papa, Il Papa, Il Papa!!!"

I had an epiphany at that moment. We are the Holy Roman Catholic Church. We are one family. These are my brothers and sisters. John Paul is our father. We are not alone. We are God's people. The delight of His heart. This Church is the Church of Jesus Christ. Rome is our home. We are not alone! We are not alone!

I committed my "yes" to John Paul's call to risk everything for Jesus that day under a 110 degree Roman sun in a field 13.5 kilometers outside of Rome. Consecrating my heart and life to the Father and to the Blessed Virgin, I begged the Lord that I no longer live, but His Son live in, with and through me.

Fourteen years later, married

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for May 18, 2014

John 14:1-12

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Easter, Cycle A: questions from Thomas and Philip. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

HEARTS	BE TROUBLED	IN GOD
HOUSE	MANY	PREPARE
A PLACE	TAKE YOU	MYSELF
GOING	THOMAS	KNOW THE WAY
TRUTH	LIFE	NO ONE
FATHER	PHILIP	SHOW US
BELIEVE	WORDS	DWELLS IN ME

KNOW THE WAY

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

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Loreto Starace and St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne

Loreto Starace, born in Italy in 1884, came to Fort Wayne in 1913 and along with a traveler's usual luggage he arrived with a law degree he had earned from the University of Naples. In fact, he had left behind a law practice to become proficient in lay apostolate work. He believed that the 40 or so Italian-speaking people then residing in Fort Wayne needed their own parish, and Starace, using his lawyer's communication skills, convinced Father Antonio Petrilli to come to Fort Wayne from Chicago.

By 1914, St. Joseph's Italian Mission had become a reality. Not long after, Starace decided it was time to return to his native Naples with the intention of teaching English literature. With the coming of World War I he was commissioned a lieutenant that thrust him into the conflict.

As the war waged on, during the daylight hours of war he witnessed first hand its terrible reality. However, during the nights he was to be found tending to the spiritual needs of the wounded.

Having experienced such horrors Starace once wrote in his journal, "I deem myself dead. A bullet in the head, and then to heaven." In fact



TOM CASTALDI

HERITAGE NOTES

in 1915, he was found dead on the battlefield, shot by a bullet that had pierced him in the head. He was truly given the gift of foreseeing the end of his earthly journey.

Interestingly in 1916, Pope Benedict XV reported Starace appeared to him and in the glow of an apostle. Perhaps amazing prediction with its heavenly prayer reached its ultimate conclusion. Certainly Loreto Starace's earlier vision for St. Joseph Parish in Fort Wayne was fulfilled becoming a blessed reality that has served the community well.

Tom Castaldi is the host of "Historia Nostra" heard on Redeemer Radio WLYV AM 1450 and WRRO 89.9 FM.

PILGRIM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

slumped over the rail as my legs lost all strength. I was only able to hold my head up and watch as he drove past me. I heard my voice, very quietly, feebly and tearfully utter, "Il Papa" and he was gone.

I let my head sag and I began to cry. I cried and cried. I cried until there was nothing left to cry. And I didn't know why. As I focused, I saw that all around me everyone seemed to have been crying. All the faces around me were covered with tears. We suddenly seemed to see each other and we began laughing. We spoke different languages. We had no way to communicate with words. But we laughed as we reached out towards one another. Wiping each

Sports

SAINTS CROWNED CONFERENCE CHAMPS The Bishop Dwenger High School boys claimed a long-awaited team title at the Summit Athletic Conference (SAC) track-and-field meet on Saturday, May 10, after it was postponed on Friday night. The Saints took first-place finishes from Greg Tippmann in the 800-meter run and Eric Cagnet in the discus throw. Their defending state pole vault champion, Jarod Schipper, was a double winner in the pole vault and long jump. — *Michelle Castleman*

St. Charles dominates CYO track-and-field action

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) track-and-field action, St. Charles dominated both the girls' and boys' tri-meets over St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJFW/SJHC)

and St. Aloysius at Bishop Luers High School on warm and sunny Thursday evening, May 8.

For the girls, the Cardinals won all but two events — the 200-meter dash (Dori Javins, SJFW) and the short relay (SJFW/SJHC). Eighth-grade standouts Alice Talarico and Faith Taylor each won three indi-

vidual events. Talarico took blue ribbons in the long jump, leaping 13.475 feet, in the 100-meter dash clocking a 13.7 and the 400 running a 66.10. Taylor claimed the shot put (26-7), the high jump (4-4) and 800-meter (2:47).

Other first place finishers for St. Charles were Grace Sullivan, Rachel Scott and Julia Stefanek.

In the boys' competition, St. Aloysius' Will Schroeder was a double winner in the sprints, but it was St. Charles that was victorious in the remainder of the events, including both relays. Patrick Finley took honors in the high jump and 800-meter run. Matt Kochanski won both the mile and the 400-meter dash,

while Isaac Blume got first in the hurdles and shot put. Adam Lightner threw the discus, 92-9, for first place and Bradley Black jumped 15-2.75 to win the long jump.

The next meets will take place on May 15 with the CYO City Meet coming up on May 21.

History conference to be held at Saint Mary's

NOTRE DAME — The Holy Cross History Association will have its 33rd annual meeting at Saint Mary's College and Convent, Notre Dame, from May 29 to June 1.

Opening the 33rd Conference will be Marvin O'Connell, author of the definitive biography of Edward Sorin, founder of the University of Notre Dame. O'Connell, an emeritus of the Notre Dame's History Department, will participate in a question-answer dialogue facilitated by Holy Cross Father Jim Connelly, one of the original founders of the History Association.

Other speakers include Sister Mary Mulligan, who will trace four-generations of involvement with Holy Cross; Holy Cross Brother Raymond Papenfuss, with cultural diversity; Sister Maureen Grady speaking on Holy Cross Sister Maura Brannick; Holy Cross Brother George Klawitter presenting on Brother Francis Xavier Patois, Carpenter-Mortician.

"Make Music To My God While I Live" will feature the musical heritage of the Holy Cross sister composers. Presenter Barbara Ziliak, former director of music and liturgy at the Church of Loretto, assisted by organist Carrie Bowe and a sisters' choir, will perform.

Laura Haigwood, professor of English at Saint Mary's College and her students, Nora Cawley, Chelsey Fattal, Payton Moore and Sarah Swiderski, will offer their biographical writing project; Cecile Charette will talk on Mother Mary Maximilienne; Robert Pelton will present "The 1961 Call To Latin-America: A Chilean Holy Cross Response"; Sister Margaret Shields with "Sun Shines Through The Cracks — The Love Relationship Between CSC And SMRA Sisters"; and Marsha Stevenson, the visual-arts librarian at the Hesburgh Library, will speak on Rome's St. Brigida

Church's significance in Holy Cross history.

For information about the conference contact Holy Cross Brother Larry Stewart at 574-631-8972.

Catholic Youth Summer Camp openings available

MILFORD — Were not our hearts burning?— Lk. 24:32. Parents are encouraged to consider sending any children going into the fourth, fifth or sixth grade to travel along the road to Emmaus at Catholic Youth Summer Camp. This fun and faith-filled week will take place on the beautiful shores of Lake Waubee at Camp Mack in Milford, July 20-25. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will visit the camp. For more information visit www.stjudeparish.net. Contact Dave and Jan Torma, camp directors, at 574-291-3381 or fisherofmendjt@msn.com.

SJRC hosting second annual NICU reunion on June 7

MISHAWAKA — Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRC) will host its second annual Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) reunion from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 7.

Families with children who spent time in the SJRC NICU are invited to join staff for food, games and to reconnect. The reunion will be held in the Education Center, garden level and on the patio outside the dining room at SJRC's Mishawaka campus, weather permitting.

"We are privileged to serve people during the most significant moments of their lives," said Keely Paston, RN, administrative director, Maternal Child Services. "When these families are in our NICU, they become part of our family. It's refreshing to see these precious children and their families grow together through the years."

SJRC's Level III NICU, located at the Mishawaka hospital, provides advanced services for babies

who need extra care. The SJRC NICU has 12 private rooms where parents are welcome to stay with their baby 24 hours a day.

Expert care is provided around the clock by a team of professionals, including a neonatologist, a neonatal nurse practitioner and nurses specializing in the care of premature and sick newborns.

Families who have questions about the NICU reunion may call 574-335-3919.

MoonTree Studios to present photography of Sister Damian McNamara

DONALDSON

— MoonTree Studios will hold an opening reception for Sister Damian McNamara's exhibit of photography, titled "A Journey Into Infinity," on Saturday, May 17, from 1-3 p.m.

Sister Damian has had a lifelong interest in photography, influenced by parents who took lots of pictures of the family and of the places where they traveled. She remembers being most interested in taking pictures during sporting events in high school. Immediately after that, her focus shifted to lighthouses, and then to old barns.

In her more recent work, Sister Damian prefers to hone in on the unusual picture; images of things that cause people to stop and take a longer look, and to ask questions. She uses only a standard 35MM lens and a zoom lens; no special-effects lenses or manipulation of the images. As a photographer, her belief is that the art is in one's point of view and the composition of the image. She does not agree with altering the reality captured by the camera and she finds that photography is a spiritual journey.

Images of the Blessed Mother are of particular interest to Sister Damian.



SISTER DAMIAN MCNAMARA

BISHOP LUERS TEAMS COMPETE AT STATE ACADEMIC SUPER BOWL



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Luers High School Academic Super Bowl teams competed in the State Academic Super Bowl Match held at Purdue University on May 10. Bishop Luers Social Studies team earned State Championship and the Fine Arts team placed third. In the photo is the social studies team including, from left, Travis Javins, Sam Stein, Isaiah Klotz, Jonathan Baum, Sebastian Skordos and moderator Jeanine Skordos.



The fine arts team consists of Duncan Justice, moderator Monica Zwick, Makenna Zwick, Samantha Justice, Andrew Schenkel and Jacob Schall.

'Moms' Night Out' faith-filled, family-friendly

BY JOHN MULDERIG

NEW YORK (CNS) — Good intentions are not enough to sustain the wholesome but weak comedy "Moms' Night Out" (TriStar). Though faith filled and family-friendly, the movie — helmed by directors, and brothers, Jon and Andrew Erwin ("October Baby") — is just not very funny.

Stressed-out moms Allyson (Sarah Drew), Sondra (Patricia Heaton) and Izzy (Andrea Logan White) take a break for a night on the town. But the relaxing excursion they've planned soon turns into a series of frantic misadventures.

Partly, these are based on miscommunication with their husbands: Allyson's supportive mate Sean (Sean Astin), Izzy's easily overwhelmed hubby Marco (Robert Amaya) and Sondra's solid spouse Ray (Alex Kendrick), a Baptist minister. But they also involve Sean's sister Bridgette (Abbie Cobb) whose infant son — left in the care of her responsibility-shy ex, Joey (Harry Shum Jr.) — has gone missing.

The quest for the baby leads to a tattoo parlor where one of its artists, leather-clad biker Bones (country singer Trace Adkins), joins the mix. And, since Allyson's minivan has also inex-

plicably disappeared, a British-born cabbie (David Hunt) gets drawn into the chase as well.

Christian themes are prominent in "Moms' Night Out," and the quiet moments during which faith occupies center stage are more successful than the manufactured mayhem to which most of the running time is devoted. In the same serious vein, the picture also boasts a moving affirmation of the rewards of parenthood.

Though much of the humor falls flat, there are a few amusing interludes. One of these features Allyson's frustrated and flustered interaction with a spacy restaurant hostess played by Anjelah Johnson. Overall, however, there's something strained about all the would-be wackiness on display.

The film contains fleeting slapstick violence. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

John Mulderig is on the staff of Catholic News Service.



CNS PHOTO/PROVIDENT FILMS

Andrea Logan White, Sarah Drew, Patricia Heaton and Sammi Hanratty star in a scene from the movie "Moms' Night Out." The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

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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.

Performing Arts spring concert

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School performing arts department will have a free spring concert Saturday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. Performances by Bishop Luers concert choir, concert band, Knight Stars, Reigning Knights and Minstrels.

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, May 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Moments of Faith." Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register by May 23 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

Knights host Sunday breakfast at Queen of Angels

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus St. Gaspar del Bufalo Council 11043 will be serving breakfast Sunday, May 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Queen of Angels activities center, 1500 W. State Blvd. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 6-12 and \$20 per family. Carryout will be available. All proceeds will be donated to the charitable causes.

Alumni called to memorial Mass

South Bend — An alumni memorial Mass will be Thursday, June 5, at 7 p.m. in the Chapel of Saint Joseph School, 453 N. Notre Dame Ave. Contact Henry Chandler, alumni coordinator, at 574-234-2904, ext. 547 or e-mail hchandler@saintjoehigh.com if you plan to attend. Enter at door A off the Notre Dame Ave. parking lot.

Summer camp registrations begin

South Bend — Registration for Saint Joseph High School Summer Camps is available online. Camps run June 16-July 10 and include athletics and fine arts classes for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Visit saintjoehigh.com.

Aging with Grace

Fort Wayne — Villa of the Woods, 5610 Noll Ave. will host Aging with Grace, a free public event Thursday, May 22, at 10 a.m. Presentations will be given by Home Care Services, Fort Wayne Police Department, Walgreens Pharmacy and the Better Business Bureau. Refreshments served. Call 260-745-7039 to reserve a seat.

Concert planned at St. Vincent

Fort Wayne — John Angotti and his band along with the St. Vincent de Paul music ministry will perform a concert Tuesday, May 20, at St. Vincent dePaul Church at 7 p.m. Donations of food and money will be accepted at the door for the St. Vincent de Paul Society for the poor. No tickets needed to attend, all are welcome.

Friends of St. Adalbert School Mass and potluck dinner planned

South Bend — All St. Adalbert parishioners, alumni, school families and friends of the school are invited to the St. Adalbert School Mass and potluck dinner to be held Saturday, May 17. Bilingual Mass featuring the school choir and alumni begins at 5 p.m. with dinner following in the school hall. Bring a main dish, side dish/salad or dessert to share. The evening includes entertainment, door prizes and recognition of three very special friends of the school. Contact Linda Cornett at 260-637-6329 or SaintAdalbertAlumni@gmail.com.

Natural family planning classes to begin

South Bend — Learn about a natural, highly effective, healthy, and economic way to plan your family and enhance your marriage. A six session class series on Natural Family Planning (Ovulation and Sympto-Thermal Methods) will begin on Friday, June 6, from 7-9 p.m. at The Life Center, 2018 Ironwood Circle.

The instructor is Cathy Rakowski, PhD. To register, contact The Natural Family Planning Program of St. Joseph County at 574-234-5411 or email nfpstjoseph@catholic.org

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a spaghetti dinner on Wednesday, May 21, from 5-6:30 p.m.

Graduation Mass for homeschool students

Fort Wayne — Northeastern Indiana Catholic Home Educators invite any Catholic homeschooling eighth-grade or senior to the homeschool graduation Mass. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 3 p.m. with a ceremony to follow at St. Mary on June 6. For information contact Jenn McDonald at jenn@highlanddove.org or 260-485-8828.

Central Catholic alumni to gather

Fort Wayne — An all alumni reunion will be Saturday, June 28, at 4 p.m. at the Classic Cafe Catering and Event Center. Buffet dinner and cash bar. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 due by June 20. Call 260-485-0290 for information.

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Timothy J. Dawson, 28, St. Vincent de Paul

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Julian W. Reed, 94, Saint Anne Home Chapel

Bonnie J. Pearson, 72, St. Charles Borromeo

Michael Steven Rizzo, 48, St. Joseph

Anna B. Harrod, 89, St. Mary

James Klosowski, 62, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Sonia Sunny Bercot, 75, Most Precious Blood

Kathryn L. Haucke, 94, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

McKenzie Lauren Philipot, 12, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

Thomas L. Murray, 89, St. Pius X

Gloria F. Carr, 91, St. Pius X

Mary B. Fahey, 92, St. Pius X

Huntington

Sister Virginia Schmitt, OLVM, 92, Victory Noll

Mishawaka

Eunice Freeman, 98, Queen of Peace

Jack A. Sterzik, 90, St. Joseph

Charles H. Blair, 81, Queen of Peace

Paul T. Hillebrand, 88, St. Joseph

South Bend

Florence B. Bajdek, 97, Christ the King

Patricia B. Carter, 73, Holy Cross

Leo Kwasneski, 86, St. Anthony de Padua

Doris J. Geraghty, 82, St. Matthew

Father Matthew Sienkiewicz, 90, St. Hedwig

Betty A. Kwasneski, 84, St. Anthony de Padua



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JERRY KESSENS

The 33 graduates receiving certificates from the Education for Ministry program in Fort Wayne gather for the graduation ceremony on May 7 in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades offered Evening Vespers at the ceremony. The program began in 1991 and 719 laity from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend have received certificates.

GRADS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

would like to continue their faith formation," Emilian added.

During vespers Bishop Rhoades thanked the graduates for their two-year commitment "to the service of the Lord and His Church. I hope your participation in this program has been not only helpful in growing in your knowledge of the faith, but also in your own spiritual lives and journey of faith."

After reflection upon the reading to the Hebrews about Christ's eternal priesthood, Bishop Rhoades told the graduates, "In completing the Education for Ministry program, you go out to continue the work of Christ the priest, prophet and king, in the activity of the Church. In cooperation with our ordained priests, who share in a unique way in Christ's priesthood, you as laity are following a path of Christian discipleship and service that is so needed for the life and growth of the Church in our various parish communities and apostolates."

"The Lord has bestowed gifts and charisms on each of you to help build up His Body, the Church," Bishop Rhoades continued. "I am deeply grateful for the various roles you fulfill in this regard. I am very grateful for your witness to Christ and for your generosity in service to the Church."

One of those earning certificates from the program, Brett Rupright, a teacher at St. Joseph School-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne, said, "It was a wonderful experience that I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in Education for Ministry Program."

He said the second year of the program "brought back many wonderful memories of my own Catholic education. I spent many Wednesday nights thinking to myself where have I heard this before. It was a combination of my

wonderful teachers at St. Joseph School-Hessen Cassel and Bishop Luers High School. I'm very fortunate that this program was able to build upon the foundation that was started by my parents, George and Michelle Rupright, my grade school and high school educations."

Many of the graduates told *Today's Catholic* they took the course because they wanted to grow in their faith.

Barbara Cumberland, a teacher at St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, said, "I felt it important to obtain knowledge and clarification of the Catholic religion so I could teach my students at St. John's with confidence. Children are very perceptive. I know that I must give them precise, truthful and immediate answers. Any hesitation may cause them to doubt."

She added, "The journey was a positive in many ways. I learned new information, made new friends and received personal insights that allow me to continue my journey toward the ultimate goal of eternal life in heaven."

Dr. Denise Smith of St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne, said the instructional staff is "top notch." Smith has been on the RCIA team at St. Joseph for the last six years and is also a catechist.

"I will continue to be involved with catechesis at my parish and use the knowledge to continue my own growth in my faith," she said, "and, of course, to evangelize as Pope Francis and his predecessors have asked us to."

Bishop Rhoades spoke of this special time of grace in the life of the Church with Pope Francis' example and call to be a Church of missionary disciples that communicates the joy of the Gospel.

"He is constantly calling us to be a Church that is not self-centered or self-referential," Bishop Rhoades said. "He is calling us to go out, to go forth, especially to the edges of peripheries, to the poor, the sick, the suffering, the forgotten. This missionary impulse is so important

and so needed. Each in our own way, according to our own gifts and responsibilities, has a part to play in this missionary task."

Bishop Rhoades encouraged the graduates to daily growth in the love of God and neighbor in their life and ministry.

"We all need to cultivate our life of faith," the bishop said. "This requires a faithful life of prayer and ever-deepening communion with the person of Jesus. This is foundational for all ministry and for true discipleship. Without our personal encounter with Jesus, our ministry will lack the vital soul and source needed to bear lasting fruit."

Martha Anderson, a great-grandmother from St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne, told *Today's Catholic* that a friend who had participated in Education for Ministry recommended it. A priest also encouraged Anderson to consider more Bible study.

"It was very informative and very helpful to me," she said. "Now I am reading the Bible daily, praying before I read the Bible and trying to say my morning prayers every day."

John Trok, a dentist and catechist at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, will carry what he learned to his fifth- and sixth-grade classes at St. Elizabeth, "but also with my family and friends, especially the ones that have fallen away from the Church."

Trok has decided to also get involved with prison ministry. "I've always had an inkling for getting involved with this ministry, because one of my patients has been doing a Bible study at the Allen County Jail for quite some time," he noted.

He took the classes because "I needed another spiritual booster shot. And, I just knew it was the right thing to do for my journey within the Catholic faith."

Pope tells priests, show mercy; tells faithful, pester your priests

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Always be merciful, just like Jesus, who came to forgive, not condemn, Pope Francis told new priests.

"Always have in front of your eyes the example of the Good Shepherd, who didn't come to be served, but to serve and to look for and save those who were lost," he said in his homily May 11 — the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

The pope's remarks came during an ordination Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, where the pope ordained 13 new priests.

Most of the new priests — six Italians, four Latin Americans and one Korean — will serve in the Diocese of Rome. A 36-year-old new priest from Vietnam will serve the Diocese of Vinh in his home country and a new priest from Pakistan is part of the Order of Discalced Augustinians.

Pope Francis reminded the men that they were called by Jesus to continue His mission as teacher, priest and shepherd, and to serve the Church and the people of God.

He urged them to read, reflect on and teach the Word of God and to be a living example of what they preach.

Nourish God's people with His word and doctrine, "which isn't yours. You do not own the doctrine (of the faith). It is the doctrine of the Lord and you must be faithful to the Lord's doctrine," the pope said.

In their new role of administering the sacraments, including Reconciliation, he asked them to "never tire of being merciful! Please! Have the same ability to forgive that the Lord has, who didn't come to condemn, but to forgive! Have lots of mercy!"

He said it pains him terribly "when I see people who don't go to Confession anymore because they had been clobbered, yelled at. They felt that the doors of the Church had been closed in their face. Please, don't do this!"

He also encouraged the priests to show mercy.

A good priest "comes in through the door and the doors of mercy are the wounds of the Lord. If you do not enter into your ministry through the Lord's wounds, you will not be good pastors," he said.

Later in the day, the pope told those gathered in St. Peter's Square for the "Regina Coeli" to pray that God "help us pastors always be faithful" to God and to guide His children with wisdom and love.

With Christ as their model, priests must lead their people by showing them the way ahead, they must walk with their flock by showing mercy and friendship, and walk behind their people to help those who are struggling to keep up or who have lost their way, he said.

But often the faithful need to poke and prod their priest to remind him to give them God's guidance and support, he added.

"Pester your priests!" he said, much like a baby calf pesters its mother for milk and nourishment.

Pope Francis highlighted a metaphor used by St. Caesarius of Arles of the sixth century in which priests graze the fields of Scriptures, nourishing themselves on the rich teachings in order to — in turn — provide spiritual nourishment for their children.

The saint explained how the people of God have to fuss and nudge their priest to give them the "milk" of the Word of God, much like a calf nudges and "pushes its nose against the cow's udder to get the milk flowing. It's a beautiful image!" the pope said.



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