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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Bishop Rhoades to rededicate diocese to Blessed Mother



TODAY'S CATHOLIC ARCHIVE PHOTOS

Shown above is the statue of the Blessed Mother at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will renew the consecration of the diocese to Jesus through the Blessed Mother at the 6 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Friday, Aug. 15, the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary.

The faithful are invited to the Mass. Bishop Rhoades will reconsecrate the diocese to the Blessed Mother during the Mass, which will be broadcast live on Redeemer Radio, 106.3 FM, and streamed live from the diocesan website, www.diocesefwsb.org.

Extra seating will be available outside the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on the plaza and lawn. Four large screens and a sound system will be set up on the cathedral plaza for the

Extra seating will be available outside the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on the plaza and lawn. Four large screens and a sound system will be in place.

able for the faithful who fulfill the usual conditions — see page 3. All who attend this Mass are eligible for the indulgence. Also eligible are any of the faithful who prayerfully follow the celebration as it is broadcasted over Redeemer Radio or online at diocesefwsb.org.

Some parishes have organized buses to bring the faithful to the consecration. All parishes across the diocese have been asked to ring bells at 6 p.m. to celebrate the consecration.

To prepare for the renewal, Bishop Rhoades has invited all to join him in the consecration to Jesus through Mary and proposed following the 33 days of preparation written by Father Michael

Visit www.diocesefwsb.org for consecration updates. Festival of Faith information is available at www.kofcfestival.com.

Mass. There will be some additional chairs as well, but the faithful are invited to bring lawn chairs or blankets.

A plenary indulgence is avail-

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Youths connect at Catholic Youth Summer Camp

BY DENISE FEDOROW

MILFORD — Young people in grades 4-6 and representing 23 parishes across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend connected with each other, nature and the Lord when they attended Catholic Youth Summer Camp, held this year at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford on the shores of Lake Waubee, July 20-25.

The theme for the camp was "Were Not Our Hearts Burning?" based on Luke 24:32. Dave and Jan Torma, the camp directors, reported 55 campers and 15 all-

volunteer staff participated in the fourth annual weeklong camp.

"It's been a wonderful blessing," Jan said. "The children get a typical camp experience with activities like canoeing, archery, campfires and crafts, and we also integrate our Catholic faith within the camp experience."

Campers attended daily Mass before lunch, celebrated by priests that included Fathers Bob Lengerich, Daryl Rybicki, Daniel Scheidt and Terry Coonan. Campers raised the flag each



DENISE FEDOROW

This group of boys in fourth through sixth grades had fun fishing, canoeing, snorkeling and growing closer to one another and to God during their week at the fourth annual Catholic Youth Summer Camp held July 20-25 at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford.

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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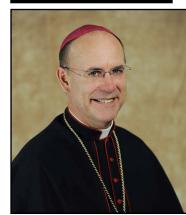
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Influx of unaccompanied minors: A humanitarian crisis



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

America is facing a humanitarian crisis: tens of thousands of children coming to the United States unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, a majority from El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, where violence has permeated the fabric of their communities. They come here to escape desperate circumstances. They have faced new perils every step along the way.

It is important to understand the root causes of this crisis, why these children are coming to the United States. Violence and poverty in their home communities has made life all but impossible. Gangs rule in many places and recruit children. They terrorize students and teachers in schools. They control whole neighborhoods, outnumbering the police. Many young people and their parents live in constant fear.

Honduras has the highest homicide rate in the world. El Salvador and Guatemala have the 4th and 5th highest murder rate in the world. Drug cartels have strengthened their hold on these countries as shipping routes for drugs to Mexico and the United States. Children are specifically targeted to join gangs and are threatened with death or rape or both. The governments of these countries are increasingly unable to protect these children and their citizens.

Many Americans are concerned about the violation of our immigration laws. I urge you not to look at these children through an enforcement lens, but through a child protection lens. In fact, a number of these children could qualify for refugee protection, consistent with U.S. and international law. Most importantly, I urge you to look at this issue through the lens of the Gospel, with the eyes of faith, faith in the One who said: *I was a stranger and you welcomed me* (Matthew 25:35) and who also said: *Whoever receives a child such as this in my name receives me* (Matthew 18:5).

This issue is not just a political one. It is a moral one. Sadly, there has been a lot of political posturing regarding this issue, forgetting or ignoring the fact that this issue involves at-risk children! Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has called for the care and protection of these children. In a recent letter, he wrote: "Such a humanitarian emergency demands as its first measure the urgent protection and properly taking in of the children." The Holy Father also said that the root causes of their flight should be addressed, such as violence and endemic poverty.

I was thinking recently about the refugees taken in by other nations, such as Lebanon and Jordan, which each host one million Syrian refugees. We have 60,000 children who have entered our country since October, the majority of whom could qualify for international protection as refugees. It would be morally wrong to send them back to their home countries without due process, without the chance to go before an immigration judge. God forbid that they be forced to return to possible harm or even death at the hands of



CNS PHOTO/ NANCY WIECHEC, REUTERS

Amelia Martinez holds up a sign as she and members of her family gather July 15 in support of undocumented immigrants in Oracle, Ariz. Dozens in the small community are donating their time, talent and treasure to make sure children fleeing danger in their home countries are welcomed and supported.

gangs and criminal networks! We need to protect these children who, without protection, are vulnerable to trafficking, kidnapping, extortion and other abuses.

The Catholic Church continues to be at the forefront in efforts to help these children. Catholic Relief Services is working on behalf of these vulnerable children in tough neighborhoods in Central America. Catholic Charities USA is engaged in activities both at the national and local level responding to the needs of the thousands of children coming to the United States, working with government agencies to find shelter for the children, finding bilingual volunteers and certified social workers. Migration and Refugee Services (a department of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) is providing community-based services to support the reunification of unaccompanied children with their family members in the United States. This program serves as an alternative to detention, allowing children to live with their families while they undergo immigration proceedings. USCCB/MRS also provides community-based residential services to unaccompanied refugee and immigrant children through its network of 12 Unaccompanied Refugee Minor foster care programs.

Many have asked me how they can help these children. Of course, we must keep them in our prayers. We can provide donations to

Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities, or the USCCB Migration and Refugee Services. Our own diocesan Catholic Charities is looking at the possibility of how we can help with caring for these children. I also invite you to contact our elected representatives in Washington, urging them to protect these children. We need to strengthen protections for unaccompanied, migrating children, focusing on the best interest of the children. We must continue to advocate for family reunification as an essential part of immigration reform. Resettlement in the United States should be allowed for those who cannot return safely to their countries of origin. And we should assist the Central American countries in protecting their own children from violence, gangs, and other criminal organizations, the root causes of their migration north.

We must not look at these unaccompanied minors as mere numbers or statistics. These are real children, human beings created in the image and likeness of God. They are our young brothers and sisters in Christ. They are children of God and must be treated with dignity and respect, care and compassion.

May our Lord bless them and our Blessed Mother watch over them! And may God forgive us and our nation if we turn our backs on them. To neglect to receive and to help these children is to neglect to receive and to help Jesus.

Sign of peace at Mass: Vatican says it stays put, but urges education

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The sign of peace at Mass has not always led to serenity among liturgists or within the congregations gathered each Sunday in Catholic churches around the world.

After nine years of study and consultation, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments has told Latin-rite bishops around the world that the sign of peace will stay where it is in the Mass.

However, the congregation said, "if it is foreseen that it will not take place properly," it can be omitted. But when it is used, it must be done with dignity and awareness that it is not a liturgical form of "good morning," but a witness to the Christian belief that true peace is a gift of Christ's death and resurrection.

The text of the congregation's "circular letter" on "the ritual expression of the gift of peace at Mass," was approved by Pope Francis and posted in Spanish on the website of the Spanish bishops' conference. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, confirmed its authenticity Aug. 1.

Catholic News Service obtained a copy of the letter in English.

In 2005, members of the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist adopted a formal proposition questioning whether the sign of peace might be better placed elsewhere in the Mass, for example at the end of the prayer of the faithful and before the offering of the gifts.

Cardinal Antonio Canizares

Llovera, current prefect of the congregation, and Archbishop Arthur Roche, the congregation's current secretary, said Pope Benedict XVI had asked the congregation to study the matter and, after doing so, in 2008 it asked bishops' conferences around the world whether to keep the sign of peace where it is or move it to another moment "with a view to improving the understanding and carrying out of this gesture."

"After further reflection," the letter said, "it was considered appropriate to retain the rite of peace in its traditional place in the Roman liturgy and not to introduce structural changes in the Roman Missal."

But that does not exclude the need for new or renewed efforts to explain the importance of the sign of peace so that the faithful understand it and participate in it correctly, the congregation's letter said.

It asked bishops to study whether it might be time to find "more appropriate gestures" to replace a sign of peace using "familiar and profane gestures of greeting."

And, it said, they should do everything possible to end "abuses" such as:

- "The introduction of a 'song for peace,' which is nonexistent in the Roman rite."
- "The movement of the faithful from their places to exchange the sign of peace amongst themselves."

- "The departure of the priest from the altar in order to give the sign of peace to some of the faithful."

- People using the sign of peace at Christmas, Easter, Baptisms, weddings, ordinations and funerals to offer holiday greetings, congratulations or condolences.

"Christ is our peace, the divine peace, announced by the prophets and by the angels, and which He brought to the world by means of His paschal mystery," the letter said. "This peace of the risen Lord is invoked, preached and spread in the celebration (of Mass), even by means of a human gesture lifted up to the realm of the sacred."

In some Catholic liturgical traditions, it said, the exchange of peace occurs before the offering in response to Jesus' exhortation in Matthew 5:23-24: "If you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

But in the Latin rite, the letter said, the exchange of peace comes after the consecration because it refers to "the 'paschal kiss' of the risen Christ present on the altar." It comes just before the breaking of the bread during which "the Lamb of God is implored to give us his peace."

This peace of the risen Lord is invoked, preached and spread in the celebration ...

Plenary Indulgence to be offered at Marian consecration Mass in the Cathedral

FORT WAYNE — A special papal blessing will be given by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the 6 p.m. Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption on Friday, Aug. 15, in Fort Wayne's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. This day will mark the culmination of the "33 Days to Morning Glory" Marian consecration program throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. In addition, Bishop Rhoades will be formally consecrating the entire diocese to the Blessed Virgin Mary during the Mass.

The papal blessing, which a diocesan bishop is permitted to bestow in the name of the Holy Father on three solemn occasions each year, carries with it a plenary indulgence for all those who meet the usual conditions (listed at right).

All who attend this Mass are eligible for the indulgence. Also eligible are any of the faithful who prayerfully follow the celebration as it is broadcast over Redeemer Radio or online at diocesefwsb.org.

An indulgence is defined by the Catechism of the Catholic Church (No. 1471) as "a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the

faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints."

Through indulgences, the infinite merits of Christ, as well as the merits of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints, are applied to our purification in this life or in the life to come (in purgatory).

A plenary indulgence removes all of the temporal punishment due to sins, and may be applied to oneself or to the souls of the deceased.

The conditions for obtaining a plenary indulgence are:

1. Being truly repentant and receiving sacramental absolution in the sacrament of Penance
2. Reception of holy Communion
3. Praying for the Holy Father's intentions.
4. Total detachment from any inclination to sin, even venial sins.

The first three actions may be fulfilled within 20 days before or after the offering of the indulgence. However, it is most appropriate if they are all done on the same day the indulgence is offered.



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Aug. 10, 11 a.m. — Mass at Holy Family Church, South Bend
- Monday, Aug. 11, 1:30 p.m. — Mass with Perpetual Profession of Vows, Saint Francis Convent, Mishawaka
- Monday, Aug. 11, 5:30 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Women's Care Center, South Bend
- Thursday, Aug. 14 – Friday, Aug. 15 — Board Retreat of Ave Maria University, Plymouth, Michigan
- Friday, Aug. 15, 6 p.m. — Mass and Marian Procession for the Solemnity of the Assumption, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and Headwaters Park
- Saturday, Aug. 16, 4:30 p.m. — Mass and Blessing of School Addition at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Fort Wayne
- Sunday, Aug. 17, 9 a.m. — 150th Anniversary Mass, Saint Francis Xavier Church, Pierceton
- Monday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, Aug. 19, 6 p.m. — Annual Bishop's Appeal Dinner, Grand Wayne Center, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, Aug. 20, 8 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Sacred Heart School, Warsaw
- Thursday, Aug. 21, 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Presbyteral Council, Sacred Heart Rectory, Warsaw
- Thursday, Aug. 21, 6 p.m. — Annual Bishop's Appeal Dinner, Gillespie Center, Hilton Garden Inn, Notre Dame
- Friday, Aug. 22, 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Hispanic Apostolate, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Warsaw

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

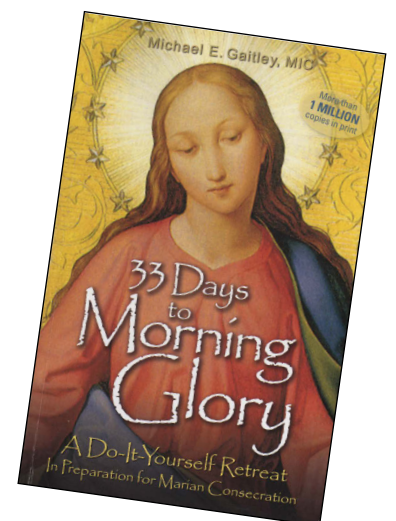
- St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne, has a holy hour all Fridays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka has an hour and a half (3:30-5 p.m.) of Adoration and Exposition every Saturday prior to the Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. They dedicate this time in honor of private prayer for the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
- St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur, hosts Eucharistic Exposition on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30-6 p.m. and on Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and 4:30-8 p.m. The parish asks participants to pray for the protection of marriage, religious freedom and unborn children.
- Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, hosts a holy hour for religious liberty beginning with a rosary at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.

MARY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Gaitley, a priest of the Congregation of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception. The guidebook, entitled "33 Days to Morning Glory," includes prayers and meditations for each day, using the writings of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul II, who were all deeply devoted to Mary. Bishop Rhoades has prepared a podcast on each saint's reflection. They are available in the "Podcast" icon at todayscatholicnews.org.

Many parishes will be offering the consecration in the parish settings and the book, "33 Days to Morning Glory," contains prayers of consecration as well. The faithful are encouraged to make a good Confession near the day of the consecration as well. Confessions will be available at the Knights of Columbus-



sponsored Festival of Faith by several priests on Saturday, Aug. 16. See the advertisement for times on the back page of *Today's Catholic*.

After the Mass, the faithful are encouraged to join the Marian procession from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception to Headwaters Park in Fort Wayne. The Festival of Faith will launch shortly after the procession. Food and drinks will be available.

Aaron Seng appointed diocesan director of youth ministry

BY TIM JOHNSON

MISHAWAKA — Aaron Seng has been appointed the director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The secretariat for the youth ministry office has been restructured. "In order to allow for closer collaboration amongst the Catholic Schools Office, the Office of Catechesis, and youth ministry, we have been brought together in one secretariat," said Carl Loesch, Secretariat for Catholic Education. "We are looking forward to working with Aaron to support the catechetical needs of our parish youth ministry programs, our high school campus ministry departments and the diocese as a whole."

"Aaron brings great passion and zeal to this position," Loesch said. "Any time I am around Aaron, it is hard not to be encouraged by his enthusiasm for sharing the faith. He will be a great asset to the parish youth ministers



AARON SENG

and the young people of our diocese."

Seng has worked with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for the past year.

"My work with the diocese involved serving in youth, young adult and men's ministry," he said. "This included speaking

engagements at parishes and schools, planning and work on retreats and other events, small team formation, ministry trainings, communications consulting and more."

"I have been blessed to work with many outstanding people along the way and look forward to now being able to focus specifically on serving those in youth ministry," he added.

After a year of valuable insight into the many good things happening in the diocese, Seng said, "I was honored at Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades's invitation to come into direct service of the many parents, pastors, volunteers, parish and school staff looking to effectively engage teens in the life and mission of the Church. I pray the Lord continues to bless this work."

More than ever before, Seng said teens today are in need of vibrant and consistent witness to the joy and beauty of knowing, loving and serving Jesus Christ.

He said, "What's more, they need this witness from their par-

ents and other adults who will invest in their lives and mentor them in the journey of discipleship."

"Young people at times feel unchallenged by a Christianity lived around them in a way that is anything but heroic," he said. "Yet we are all called to holiness; and true holiness is always powerful, transformative and attractive."

Seng is a native of South Bend. He and his wife Hayley and eight-month-old daughter Gianna-Marie attend St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. Seng has a Bachelor of Arts in catechetics and theology from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He worked for the university's Offices of Evangelization and Missionary Outreach while completing his graduate studies in theology and Christian ministry.

"Ever since a life-changing conversion to Christ in high school, I have held a great desire to serve the Lord and His Church in a radical way," Seng said.

"From that time on, I have been involved in the work of evangelization and equipping others for ministry. And the Church's mission to and with teens and young adults has remained at the forefront of that work."

His top goal is to serve the youth, he said, "Forming, equipping, supporting and networking the gifted men and women of our diocese who are in active ministry to and with teens will be an effective and sustainable way to reach as many young people as possible with the joy and beauty of the Gospel."

An early project that will launch in this regard will be a new website, which will serve as a platform for offering a wide array of resources, social media integration, idea-sharing forums, monthly newsletters, an event calendar and other tools that should be helpful in the field.

"This page will go live at www.fwsbYM.com on the day of our diocesan consecration (this August 15th), so be sure to take a look," he said.

Desperation of people in Gaza spurs violence, say cardinal, patriarch

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The president of Caritas Internationalis suggested Israeli and Hamas leaders pick up a pair of binoculars so they could see that "most of your victims are innocent people."

Honduran Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Tegucigalpa, president of the Vatican-based umbrella organization for national Catholic charities, said peace is impossible without reconciliation, and reconciliation requires recognizing each other as human beings.

"Israel and Hamas, why do you keep pointing out the speck in the eye of your brother while missing the plank in your own eye?" the cardinal asked in a statement published July 31.

"As Caritas," he said, "we pray for peace in the Holy Land. We pray for the Palestinian and Israeli families who have lost their children, mothers and fathers, and for those who have been killed. Our prayers are with the children who live in terror and whose mental scars will run deep long after this war is over."

Despite the violence, the cardinal prayed that Palestinians and Israelis "will remain free to believe in a future of justice and peace."

"This is the third war in five years between Israel and militants in Gaza," the cardinal said. "In the intervening years, Palestinians in Gaza have lived a life where water is scarce, much of their food comes from humanitar-



CNS PHOTO/IBRAHEEM ABU MUSTAFA, REUTERS

A Palestinian family rides a motorcycle as they flee their house in Khan Younis, Gaza Strip, Aug. 1. The president of Caritas Internationalis suggested Israeli and Hamas leaders pick up a pair of binoculars so they could see that "most of your victims are innocent people."

ian organizations and where the dignity of a job is beyond many people's reach."

On Aug. 1, shortly after what was to be a 72-hour cease-fire, Latin Patriarch Fouad Twal of Jerusalem said temporary halts in fighting obviously are good, but unless Israel changes its policies toward Gaza, the desperation of residents will continue to lead to violence.

"If conditions in Gaza remain that of a desperate land under siege, where the only things that spur hatred," then a temporary cease-fire will have no lasting impact, he told Fides, the news agency of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

"It almost seems as if the point

is to make Gaza a factory for desperate people who are easy to transform into extremists ready for anything," the patriarch said.

The next step, he said, must be lifting the Israeli blockade of Gaza. "Even the tunnels" dug by Hamas and a primary target of Israel's military action, "are a product of the embargo. If the siege ends, if roads are opened and the free movement of persons and products is permitted, if people are allowed to fish in the sea" along the Gaza coast, then "no one will need to dig tunnels."

The patriarch did not say Hamas militants are innocent. In fact, he seemed to put part of the blame on them for the high percentage of victims who are children and women.

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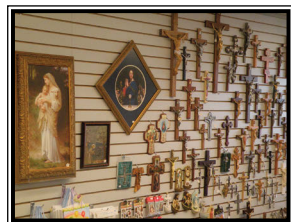
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Agency seeks donations for emergency aid for fleeing Iraqi Christians

NEW YORK (CNS) — A U.S.-based international Catholic agency July 28 issued a plea for emergency funds to help tens of thousands of Christians forced to flee their homes in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

"These Christian families have arrived with only their clothes, having been forced to leave everything behind in Mosul," said Ra'ed Bahou, who is the Catholic Near East Welfare Association's regional director for Jordan and Iraq. As families were "fleeing the city on foot," he said, "ISIS militants then stole whatever dollars they had in their pockets, even their passports and identification papers."

Bahou made the comments in a news release from CNEWA announcing the agency has launched a campaign to rush funds to the families.

Islamic militants known as ISIS, or the Islamic State fighters, have solidified their control over Iraq's second-largest city of Mosul by imposing Shariah, Islamic law, and are ordering Christians to convert or pay a special tax or they will die.

Mosul's Christians have instead fled to the Christian villages of Ninevah province — some just a few miles from Mosul — or to the autonomous Kurdistan region in northern Iraq.

An agency of the Holy See, CNEWA works throughout the Middle East, with offices in Amman, Jordan, Beirut and Jerusalem. It has been active in Iraq for more than 50 years, but redoubled its efforts among the vulnerable Christian population in 1991.

Donations can be made online at www.cnewa.org, by phone at (800) 442-6392, or by mail to CNEWA, 1011 First Ave., New York, NY 10022-4195. The agency is a reli-



CNS PHOTO/STRINGER, REUTERS

Iraqi children play on a makeshift swing along a street in Mosul, Iraq, July 28. Catholic Near East Welfare Association, a U.S.-based international agency, issued a plea for emergency funds to help tens of thousands of Christians forced to flee their homes in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

gious charity registered in the state of New York, so all contributions are tax deductible.

According to Bahou, Christian families have found refuge in churches, convents and monasteries, he added.

Syriac Catholic Archbishop Yohanna Moshe of Mosul and the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena — themselves homeless — the clergy, religious and villagers are trying to provide the basics, said the CNEWA release. It said refuge, especially in the villages of Alqosh, Bakhdida (Qaraqosh), Bartella and Tel Kaif, is "tenuous at best," because the Islamic State has cut the electricity and water supply, and has announced its intentions to overrun the region.

"These villages are in the hands of God," Bahou said, "as ISIS says their next 'gift' will be the villages of the Ninevah Plain."

Msgr. John E. Kozar, who is president of CNEWA, said the agency will get the emergency funds to the bishops, clergy and religious, "who in the frenzy are courageously providing water, food, mattresses and medicines" to fleeing Christians.

The world is "witnessing, at the hands of extremist thugs, the eradication of a cradle of Christianity in the cradle of civilization," the priest said in a statement.

He added that the agency will help the "shepherds of this flock to tend their sheep, with the basics they need for survival now ... even if their flock is dispersed."

The BBC reported July 28 that in a joint message, France's foreign minister and interior minister have offered Iraqi Christians asylum.

"We are ready, if they so desire, to help facilitate asylum on our territory," their statement said.

Sudanese woman condemned for apostasy meets pope

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Meeting a Sudanese woman who risked execution for not renouncing her Catholic faith, Pope Francis thanked Meriam Ibrahim for her steadfast witness to Christ.

The pope spent 30 minutes with Ibrahim, her husband and two small children July 24, just hours after she had arrived safely in Italy following a brutal ordeal of imprisonment and a death sentence for apostasy in Sudan.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, told journalists that the encounter in the pope's residence was marked by "affection" and "great serenity and joy."

They had "a beautiful conversation," during which the pope thanked Ibrahim for "her steadfast witness of faith," the priest said.

Ibrahim thanked the pope for the church's prayers and support during

her plight, Father Lombardi said.

The Vatican spokesman said the meeting was a sign of the pope's "closeness, solidarity and presence with all those who suffer for their faith," adding that Ibrahim's ordeal has come to represent the serious challenges many people face in living out their faith.

Ibrahim, a 26-year-old Catholic woman originally sentenced to death for marrying a Christian, had been released from prison in Sudan June 23 after intense international pressure. But she was apprehended again the next day at the Khartoum airport with her husband, who is a U.S. citizen, and their nearly 2-year-old son and 2-month-old daughter, who was born in prison just after Ibrahim's death sentence.

Charged with possessing fake travel documents, Ibrahim was not allowed to leave Sudan, but she was released into the custody of the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, where she

then spent the following month.

Italy's foreign ministry led negotiations with Khartoum for her to be allowed to leave Sudan for Italy.

She arrived in Rome July 24 aboard an Italian government plane accompanied by her family and Italy's vice foreign minister, Lapo Pistelli, who led the talks that ended in her being allowed to leave Sudan.

Pistelli told reporters at Rome's Ciampino airport that they had left Khartoum at 3:30 a.m. and spent most of the flight sleeping. However, he said, when awake, Martin, the 2-year-old, "practically dismantled the plane."

Ibrahim joined the Catholic Church shortly before she married Daniel Bicensio Wani in 2011.

She was later convicted of apostasy and sentenced to death by hanging. Sudan's penal code criminalizes the conversion of Muslims to other religions, which is punishable by death.

In latest interview, Pope Francis reveals top 10 secrets to happiness

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY — In an interview published in part in the Argentine weekly *Viva* July 27, the pope listed his Top 10 tips for bringing greater joy to one's life:

1. "Live and let live." Everyone should be guided by this principle, he said, which has a similar expression in Rome with the saying, "Move forward and let others do the same."

2. "Be giving of yourself to others." People need to be open and generous toward others, he said, because "if you withdraw into yourself, you run the risk of becoming egocentric. And stagnant water becomes putrid."

3. "Proceed calmly" in life. The pope, who used to teach high school literature, used an image from an Argentine novel by Ricardo Güiraldes, in which the protagonist — gaucho Don Segundo Sombra — looks back on how he lived his life.

"He says that in his youth he was a stream full of rocks that he carried with him; as an adult, a rushing river; and in old age, he was still moving, but slowly, like a pool" of water, the pope said. He said he likes this latter image of a pool of water — to have "the ability to move with kindness and humility, a calmness in life."

4. "A healthy sense of leisure." The pleasures of art, literature and playing together with children have been lost, he said.

"Consumerism has brought us anxiety" and stress, causing people to lose a "healthy culture of leisure." Their time is "swallowed up" so people can't share it with anyone.

Even though many parents work long hours, they must set aside time to play with their children; work schedules make it "complicated, but you must do it," he said.

Families must also turn off the TV when they sit down to eat because, even though television is useful for keeping up with the news, having it on during mealtime "doesn't let you communicate" with each other, the pope said.

5. Sundays should be holidays. Workers should have Sundays off because "Sunday is for family," he said.

6. Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people. "We need to be creative with young people. If they have no opportunities they will get into drugs" and be more vulnerable to suicide, he said.

"It's not enough to give them food," he said. "Dignity is given to you when you can bring food home" from one's own labor.

7. Respect and take care of nature. Environmental degradation "is one of the biggest challenges we have," he said. "I think a question that

we're not asking ourselves is: 'Isn't humanity committing suicide with this indiscriminate and tyrannical use of nature?'"

8. Stop being negative. "Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, 'I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down,'" the pope said. "Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy."

9. Don't proselytize; respect others' beliefs. "We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating. But the worst thing of all is religious proselytism, which paralyzes: 'I am talking with you in order to persuade you,' No. Each person dialogues, starting with his and her own identity. The Church grows by attraction, not proselytizing," the pope said.

10. Work for peace. "We are living in a time of many wars," he said, and "the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive" and dynamic.

Pope Francis also talked about the importance of helping immigrants, praising Sweden's generosity in opening its doors to so many people, while noting anti-immigration policies show the rest of Europe "is afraid."

He also fondly recalled the woman who helped his mother with the housework when he was growing up in Buenos Aires.

Concepcion Maria Minuto was a Sicilian immigrant, a widow and mother of two boys, who went three times a week to help the pope's mother do laundry, since in those days it was all done by hand.

He said this hard-working, dignified woman made a big impression on the 10-year-old future pope, as she would talk to him about World War II in Italy and how they farmed in Sicily.

"She was as clever as a fox, she had every penny accounted for, she wouldn't be cheated. She had many great qualities," he said.

Even though his family lost touch with her when they moved, the then-Jesuit Father Jorge Bergoglio later sought her out and visited her for the last 10 years of her life.

"A few days before she died, she took this small medal out of her pocket, gave it to me and said: 'I want you to have it!' So every night, when I take it off and kiss it, and every morning when I put it back on, this woman comes to my mind."

"She died happy, with a smile on her face and with the dignity of someone who worked. For that reason I am very sympathetic toward housecleaners and domestic workers, whose rights, all of them, should be recognized" and protected, he said. "They must never be exploited or mistreated."

Archbishop Chaput says pope will visit Philadelphia in September 2015

FARGO, N.D. (CNS) — Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput said Pope Francis has accepted his invitation to attend the World Meeting of Families in the U.S. next year, even though the Philadelphia Archdiocese still has not received official confirmation from the Vatican. Archbishop Chaput made the announcement July 24 before giving his homily during the opening Mass of the Tekakwitha Conference in Fargo. "Pope Francis has told me that he is coming," said the archbishop as he invited his fellow Native Americans to the 2015 celebration being held in Philadelphia Sept. 22-27. "The pope will be with us the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of that week," he said. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said July 25 Pope Francis has expressed "his willingness to participate in the World Meeting of Families" in Philadelphia, and has received invitations to visit other cities as well, which he is considering. Those invitations include New York, the United Nations and Washington. "There has been no official confirmation by the Vatican or the Holy See of Pope Francis' attendance at the 2015 World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia," the archdiocese said in a statement. "We still expect that any official confirmation will come approximately six months prior to the event."

Meeting 200 Pentecostals, pope renews friendship, talks unity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — His voice breaking with emotion, Giovanni Traettino, a Pentecostal pastor in southern Italy and longtime friend of Pope Francis, welcomed the pope, "my beloved brother," to his partially built church in Caserta. Pope Francis said he knows some people were shocked that he would make a special trip outside of Rome to visit a group of Pentecostals, "but I went to visit my friends." Traettino told the pope his visit was "unthinkable until recently," even though, he said, "even among evangelicals there is great affection for you. Many of us pray for you, every day. Many of us, in fact, believe your election as bishop of Rome was the work of the Holy Spirit." Pope Francis told the Pentecostals that "the Holy Spirit is the source of diversity in the Church. This diversity is very rich and beautiful. But then the same Holy Spirit creates unity. And in this way the Church is one in diversity. To use a beautiful Gospel phrase that I love very much, reconciled diversity" is the gift of the Holy Spirit. In addition to the visit, the pope fulfilled one specific request of the Italian evangelical community by recognizing the complicity of some Catholics in the fascist-era persecution of Italian Pentecostals and evangelicals. "Among those who persecuted and denounced the Pentecostals, almost as if they were crazies who would ruin the race, there were some Catholics. As the

NATIVE AMERICAN 'SMUDGING' CEREMONY TAKES PLACE DURING SUNRISE SERVICE AT TEKAKWITHA CONFERENCE



CNS PHOTO/NANCY WIECHEC

Dominique Montoya, 16, performs a Native American purification ritual known as "smudging" during a sunrise service July 26 at the 75th anniversary of the Tekakwitha Conference, an indigenous Catholic organization, in Fargo, N.D. Montoya is a Navajo from Fort Defiance, Ariz.

pastor of the Catholics, I ask forgiveness for those Catholic brothers and sisters who did not understand and were tempted by the devil," Italian news agencies quoted the pope as saying.

During South Korea trip, pope will beatify martyrs, meet Asian youths

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Korean martyrs who gave their lives for the faith, the young people who will be the leaders of the Church across Asia and people with disabilities are the key features of the schedule prepared for Pope Francis when he visits South Korea in mid-August. Pope Francis had said he would travel to the Asian nation to beatify 124 Korean martyrs and to participate in the sixth Asian Youth Day, a gathering of about 2,000 delegates from 30 countries. The martyrs were among an estimated 10,000 Catholics in Korea killed for their faith between 1785 and 1888. Pope Francis will preside over a Mass and their beatification Aug. 16 in Seoul. The pope will have lunch with young people Aug. 15 and meet a group of Asian youth at the Solmoe shrine built in honor of Korea's first Catholic priest, St. Andrew Kim Taegon, who was martyred in 1946 at the age of 25. He will close the Aug. 13-17 Asian Youth Day with

a Mass at Haemi Castle, background of the 1864 Donghak Rebellion.

Campaign against human trafficking must focus on victims, speakers say

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Estimates of the number of people around the world who are victims of human trafficking are rising, partly because globalization has made it easier to move people and partly because governments, churches and international organizations are better at recognizing the phenomenon, a U.S. government official said. Luis CdeBaca, ambassador-at-large in the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, held a digital video conference July 29 with priests and religious, ambassadors accredited to the Holy See and journalists gathered at the office of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. The conference and discussion about the U.S. State Department's 2014 Trafficking in Persons Report took place on the eve of the first U.N. World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. Pope Francis has called human trafficking "a crime against humanity." Meeting trafficking survivors, religious sisters caring for victims and dozens of senior police officials in April, he called human trafficking "an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ."

Changes in synod process designed to increase discussion, cardinal says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family will be shorter than a usual synod and will include new rules aimed at helping the bishops really grapple with the issues together, said the general secretary of the synod. "We want a frank, open, civilized discussion," Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri told Catholic News Service July 25. The extraordinary synod will meet at the Vatican Oct. 5-19, bringing together the presidents of national bishops' conferences, the heads of Eastern Catholic churches and Vatican officials. The world Synod of Bishops, which will include more bishops — many elected by their peers — will meet at the Vatican Oct. 4-25, 2015, to continue the discussion on pastoral approaches to the challenges facing families today. Although the number of participants in the extraordinary synod is smaller, it will include a dozen or more voting members named by the pope, three priests chosen by the Union of Superiors General, a dozen or more expert advisers, about a dozen representatives of other Christian churches and up to 30 observers, more than half comprised of married couples — who will be encouraged to address the assembly, the cardinal said. Cardinal

Baldisseri said he is not surprised by all the attention the synod is getting in the Church and the media, because "the problems of the family are what people are dealing with every day."

Obama administration says it plans opt-out alternative on mandate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Obama administration has filed a brief with the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver indicating it plans to develop an alternative for Catholic and other religious nonprofit employers to opt out of providing federally mandated contraceptives they object to including in their employee health care coverage. Several media outlets, including AP, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*, reported July 23 that the administration said it would come up with a "work-around" that would be different than the accommodation it currently has available to such employers. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as part of the health care law, requires nearly all employers to cover contraceptives, sterilizations and some abortion-inducing drugs for all employees in their company health plan. It includes a narrow exemption for some religious employers that fit certain criteria. Currently, there is an accommodation for those employers who don't fit the exemption but who are morally opposed to providing the coverage. They must fill out a self-certification form — known as EBSA Form 700 — to direct a third party, usually the manager of an employer's health plan, to provide the contested coverage.

Like good shepherd, Church must seek out, help abused, says survivor

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Just as Jesus commanded pastors to leave their flock to find the lost sheep, the Church must set out in search of all those who have been abused by clergy and offer them help, said one abuse survivor. Victims of abuse should be the focus of a new pastoral ministry since they are isolated, hurting, vulnerable to self-harm and suicide, and in need of Christ's true healing, said Mark Vincent Healy, one of the six abuse survivors who met Pope Francis at the Vatican July 7. In his private meeting with the pope, Healy said, "I needed to tell His Holiness just how awful it is when there is no justice, no one listening on a humanitarian level," and how all that isolation and guilt push people to suicide or self-harm and addictions. He also told the pope how much spiritual help both survivors and the Church need. Healy spoke with Catholic News Service by telephone from Ireland July 25. The Church needs a new evangelization "and a new mission based on Matthew 18, verse 12," — the Parable of the Lost Sheep, in which Jesus tells His disciples to seek those who are lost, he said. The Church is "to be a light and is supposed to shine this light" where there is darkness, not passively expect those in need to "come into the light" and seek help, Healy said.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Zirkle takes over as Ancilla College interim president

DONALDSON — Retirement didn't last very long for Dr. Kenneth Zirkle. He recently took over as the interim president of Ancilla College.



KENNETH ZIRKLE

"I had to break it to my family carefully. My wife and daughters all thought I would take some time off, but the opportunity at Ancilla was one I couldn't pass up," Zirkle said.

The retirement this summer of Ron May left a gap at the college that was filled when the board of trustees sought an interim president to step in as the college's ninth president. Zirkle, who retired as the chief academic officer at Mercyhurst University North East last fall, was approached to step in at Ancilla.

The one-year appointment is an interesting assignment for the Pennsylvania native. "Ancilla is a remarkable school serving a diverse set of communities here in northern Indiana. This is the best kind of challenge. This year I will work with the faculty, staff and trustees to move the institution forward while they search for a permanent president. Even in one year we can continue to do great things," he said.

Zirkle brings decades of executive experience to his term at Ancilla. His career spanned several universities in different states including the State University of New York, University of Findley (Ohio), Becker College (Massachusetts), Post University (Connecticut), and Mercyhurst University (Pennsylvania).

Bishop Luers announces assistant principal

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School announces the selection of James Huth as assistant principal. Huth is 1981 graduate of Bishop Luers High School. He has served as a teacher (1988-1999), assistant principal (1999-2007) at Columbia City High School and served as the school leader at Imagine MASTER Academy (2007-2012). Most recently, Huth has served as Bishop Luers athletic director.

ACE to send forth 254 Catholic school teachers and leaders in missioning ceremonies

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) will send

COME AND SEE WEEKEND OFFERED TIME FOR DISCERNMENT



CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

Over 70 priests, seminarians and young men discerning a call to the Priesthood spent time in Eucharistic Adoration, heard Msgr. Michael Heintz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, speak about faith, discerning God's will and responding to His call in their lives, and, shown above, participated in a group rosary, praying the joyful mysteries together at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, during the Come and See weekend July 18-19.

forth 254 Catholic school teachers and leaders to serve in more than 175 schools around the country, capping a summer of intensive study, community formation and spiritual fellowship on campus.

ACE's annual missioning Mass on July 25 in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, served to celebrate and bless the teachers and leaders as they return to the communities they serve across the country.

Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi of Mobile, Ala., celebrated the Mass as well as in missioning ceremonies held July 24 at the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. He joined Holy Cross Fathers Timothy Scully, Sean McGraw and Lou DeFra, founders of ACE, in sending forth 178 teaching fellows, 54 participants in ACE's Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program and 22 teachers in the English as a New Language program.

The missioning Mass marked the close of ACE's summer programs of graduate-level coursework; leadership formation for Catholic school principals, superintendents and pastors; and professional and spiritual rejuvenation for Catholic educators on Notre Dame's campus.

St. Francis Xavier celebrates 150th anniversary, mission

PIERCETON — St. Francis Xavier Parish will celebrate its 150th anniversary with a Mass on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 9 a.m. Bishop

Kevin C. Rhoades will be the celebrant.

Franciscan Father David Mary Engo will offer a parish mission Aug. 12-14 at 7 p.m. with talks on "The Father's Love," "Forgiveness" and "Communion." Refreshments in the hall will follow each talk.

St. Bernard, Wabash, to celebrate Sesquicentennial Mass

WABASH — St. Bernard Parish, Wabash, is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2014. Festivities include a celebration on the feast of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, the patron saint of the parish, on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at 5:30 p.m. The blessing of a time capsule will follow the Mass and the St. Bernard Parish children will release blue and yellow commemorative balloons. Parishioners Mike and Amy Davis, who own B&K Drive In, will provide dinner.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate a special jubilee Mass at 2 p.m. The festivities will conclude that day with a vespers service.

St. Bernard Parish youth have collected 150 baby items that were donated to the LIFE Center in May. The parish is also compiling a parish cookbook and a special jubilee book, which will be available in the fall.

AWS FOUNDATION AWARDS \$250,000 TO USF JESTERS GROUP



PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS

AWS Foundation of Fort Wayne has awarded the University of Saint Francis-sponsored Jesters program \$250,000 to support and enhance services. The funding will provide \$50,000 in annual program support, doubling for the next five years the Jesters contribution AWS was already making. Jesters was founded at the university in 1978 to engage individuals with disabilities in the creative arts to enhance their quality of life. For more information visit sf.edu/jesters. Shown is the spring 2014 Jesters stage performance on Spring Street.

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS ANNOUNCE CHAPTER ELECTION RESULTS



PROVIDED BY THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION

At the Provincial Chapter Election held recently at St. Francis Convent, Mishawaka, Franciscan Sister M. Angela Mellady was reelected Provincial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. The Provincial Council Members elected were Sister Margaret Mary Mitchel, (Vicar Provincial), Sister M. Ann Kathleen Magiera, Sister M. Madonna Rougeau, Sister M. Lissetta Gettinger, Sister M. Clare Reuille, Sister Jane Marie Klein and Sister Lethia Marie Leveille. The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration serve in health care, educational and ecclesial apostolates in Indiana and Illinois. In Fort Wayne, the sisters serve at the University of Saint Francis. They also serve at St. Anthony de Padua School in South Bend and Marian High School, Francis Alliance, St. Francis Convent and Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka.

Children's Autism Center serves community with faith and science

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the increase in the incidence of autism spectrum disorder diagnosis has risen to one in every 68 children in the U.S. Early diagnosis and intervention have become the hallmark of best quality of life outcome for these children who display a range of social-interaction and communication challenges.

In Fort Wayne, the number of programs and centers providing therapies for children on the autism spectrum and other developmental disabilities has increased to meet the growing need. The Children's Autism Center (CAC) is one such center where life experience and stewardship play an essential role in providing quality in-home or -school and center-based therapies for its clients.

Jill Forte, executive director of the CAC, brings not only her sharp intellect and professional expertise to the task, but her deep faith and life experience as well. With a bachelor's degree in cytotechnology and a master's in pathology, Forte is currently pursuing an Ed.D in Organizational Leadership from Indiana Wesleyan University.

As a devout Catholic, having joined the Church in 1994, Forte believes that by serving the community she also serves God. "As a Catholic, you access faith in every part of your life," she says. That faith coupled with her studies in organizational leadership has Forte "leading by example" at the center. "Staff and families who know me know that I hold my faith as the most important driving force of everything I do in my life," she reports.

Her interest in autism began almost two decades ago when her son Nick, the second of her three children, was diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS) at the age of 26 months. PDD-NOS is some-



Jill Forte, right, founder and executive director of the Children's Autism Center in Fort Wayne, observes one of the center's Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapists, Kim Kleber, working with a client on achieving a goal.

times interchanged with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), but is characterized by significant challenges in social and communication skills development.

After much research Forte and her husband Rob invested in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for Nick beginning at the age of 3. ABA therapy involves a program of instruction that breaks skills down into manageable units and utilizes procedures such as reinforcement, shaping and extinction to teach the skills.

Following this intensive early intervention with Nick, Forte realized the effectiveness of ABA therapy on developmental needs and began her pursuit of the establishment of an ABA classroom within the Learning and

Development Center in downtown Fort Wayne in hopes of assisting other children in need. It began with four students and four staff and eventually spun off to become the Children's Autism Center, housed in a north and a southwest site in Fort Wayne.

Since its establishment Forte has directed the center to be a place where the 30 staff members and 45 clients, ranging in age from 3 to 19, work together to create the best quality of life for all.

"God has a plan for all of us and He puts people and circumstances in our lives for a reason. When God gave me Nick, He set forth a plan for me. That plan included the center, the children and families we serve, the staff who work alongside us every

day, and the role that we all play in the community to transform the way children with disabilities live their lives," she says, adding, "We work every day to increase awareness, acceptance and openness to people who think differently about the world. ... The challenge is to keep our eyes open to what else God has planned for us and to be open to follow the twists and turns of the path."

The center, Forte says, is the result of her family's strongly held belief in stewardship and in science. "To be a faithful steward of the gifts God gave me, it was important to me to share what I had found to be effective with Nick. As part of that stewardship, it was also important that the therapy be empirically based,

medically recommended. ... We see our role in the community as providing a service of therapy, as well as serving as advocates for persons who need us in other capacities such as training or support."

Forte's hope for the autism center is growth, growth, growth. "I hope we're able to expand, grow and improve our services," she says, adding, "There's a lot of need out there."

Outside the center, where Forte's son Nick continues to receive support, the family lives out their faith in other ways as well. Catholic education has been paramount for the Fortes. All three children have or currently attend Bishop Luers High School. Nick received his elementary education first in the public schools, then at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School during which time he was able to join his classmates in receiving the sacraments of first Communion, first Reconciliation and Confirmation. Now he is involved in many aspects of high school life at Bishop Luers, including the school play, the bowling team and more.

Currently he is a regular pianist, with his piano teacher Ken Jehle, at Masses at St. Joseph Church where he and his family are active members. And he was a lector at the diocesan disability Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

With faith and stewardship goals in mind with family and the center Forte reflects, "The center gives me a place to actively steward every day. ... It is my challenge to lead in a way that serves as a model for our staff and families and reflects my faith beliefs. Every decision I make, every action I take must be one that I will be proud of when I account for my life," she concludes, "Today is the only day that matters."

For more information on the Children's Autism Center visit www.childrensautismcenter.org.

Sisters of St. Agnes celebrate jubilees

FOND DU LAC, Wis. — The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Agnes honor 23 sisters who celebrate jubilees this year. Those from or that have served the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are:

80th jubilee

Sister Colombiere Revelant is from Wisconsin and served as teacher and principal in New Haven and Decatur. At 99 years of age Sister celebrates 80 years as a Sister of St. Agnes.



SISTER COLOMBIERE REVELANT

75th jubilee

Sister Ancilla Lengerich was born in Decatur and has worked in the medical field as a nurse in Wisconsin during her 75 years as a religious.



SISTER ANCILLA LENGERICH

70th jubilee

Sister Germaine Lichtle was born in Decatur and has taught first and second grades at



SISTER GERMAINE LICHTLE

St. John School in New Haven before moving to other states.

60th jubilees

Sister Daniel Weinzierl is from Pennsylvania and taught grades 5 and 6 at St. Henry School in Fort Wayne from 1972-1977. She also taught fifth grade at St. John the Baptist in New Haven from 1986-1989.



SISTER DANIEL WEINZIERL

Sister Magdalena Langlois is from Wisconsin and has taught grades 1 and 3 at St. Henry School in Fort Wayne from 1957-1966 and grades 3 and 4 at St. Joseph School in Fort Wayne from 1973-1979.



SISTER MAGDALENA LANGLOIS

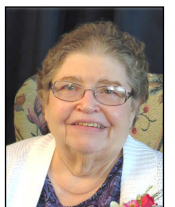
Sister Mary Albert Flynn is from New York and taught seventh grade at St. Joseph School in Fort Wayne from 1974-1976.



SISTER MARY ALBERT FLYNN

50th jubilees

Sister Angela Behen is from Illinois and taught sixth grade at St. Joseph School in Fort Wayne from 1975-1977.



SISTER ANGELA BEHEN

Sister Kathleen Delaspina is from Pennsylvania and worked in hospice care for nine years in Fort Wayne.



SISTER KATHLEEN DELASPINA

Teens encounter Christ's love and serve as disciples on bcX Retreat

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

NOTRE DAME — High school students from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend joyfully came together for the annual bcX Retreat, July 22-25, to participate in liturgical celebrations and community outreach, learning how to effectively “be Christ to others” and “see Christ in others” throughout the world.

The retreat, held at Holy Cross College, encouraged these teens to engage more deeply in their faith and experience Christ in a profoundly transformational way. Grounded in the understanding that the sacraments provide the heart and soul of Christian life, each day the retreatants were offered the opportunity to gain a greater awareness and appreciation of God's love by receiving Holy Communion at Mass. This Eucharistic foundation then propelled them to live out their call of missionary discipleship through service to the community and enhanced relationship with one another.

“One of the most important parts of being sent on mission is being closely united with the One who sends us,” remarked Megan Swaim, director of youth ministry at St. Pius X, Granger. “We have to remain close to Jesus through prayer and the sacraments so that we can be His hands and His feet. If we are not connected to Him through prayer and the sacraments, then the work becomes our work, instead of His work.”

The group of 45 committed students included parishioners from both St. Vincent de Paul and Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne, as well as from St. Pius X in Granger. Participation on the retreat was made possible by the financial support of the parishes as well as through a generous grant from the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. Retreatants were led by adult team members and college-aged volunteers, several of whom participated in bcX as teens themselves, to serve alongside ministries in the South Bend community.

Each day, separate squads ventured to assist at outreach sites including the Center for the Homeless, Women's Care Center, Better World Books, Catholic Worker House, Northern Indiana Food Bank, Downtown Soup Kitchen, Unity Gardens, Healthwin Rehabilitation, St. Margaret's House, Holy Cross Parish and St. Stanislaus Parish.

Sarah Hill, director of youth ministry at St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne, remarked that the students demonstrated tremendous passion, courage and understanding throughout their service work.

“It was truly beautiful to see the outpouring of love the stu-



PROVIDED BY BCX RETREAT

Wednesday night Mass was a “barefoot Mass,” before which each student washed the feet of another, emphasizing common discipleship, then all attended Mass barefoot.



Retreatants work in the Unity Garden, which provides the opportunity for people to come together and share in food grown locally.



Students help with projects at the Our Lady of the Road Catholic Worker Drop-In Center.

dents displayed in imitation of Christ's self-sacrifice,” she said. “I was proud and overjoyed to witness their dedicated efforts to touch the lives of others through this service.”

After each day of hard work, the teens returned to Holy Cross College to relax before listening to powerful witness talks on authentic faith, steadfast hope and selfless love. Holy Cross College staff and students as well as youth ministry leaders

from around the diocese gave the talks. Touching on the themes “Love Unleashed” and “Being Christ to Others,” the presentations allowed each member of the retreat to reflect more intensely on what takes place in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and through the actions of unselfish charity and service. In both cases, the giver becomes the true gift, becoming poured out for the creation of a new and beautiful reality in the world.

KNIGHTS SUPPORT JOURNEY OF HOPE



PROVIDED BY SCOTT GRING

For the seventh year running the Knights of Columbus Council 553 Santa Maria welcomed and served a pasta dinner to the young men of Push America's Journey of Hope on July 18 in South Bend. Journey of Hope is a cross-country bicycle trek to raise money and awareness for people with disabilities. Comprised of three 35-member teams from Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, these men average 75 miles a day from the west coast to Washington, D.C., stopping in communities along the way to participate in events aimed to educate people about the abilities of people with disabilities — such as puppet shows, wheelchair basketball and dances.

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS

St. Bernard Church to celebrate 150 years Aug. 24

Gothic church building designed to teach and inspire

BY LAURIE KIEFABER

WABASH — St. Bernard Church, Wabash, parishioners and faithful will celebrate the parish's sesquicentennial Aug. 24. However, the Catholic community will always be known for the priests who served there, those who remember them and the buildings they called home.

Most current parishioners did not personally know the early church pastors, but they did hear about a few. Father Edmund Ley is well known in church history for opening the first Catholic school there in 1922. Current parishioner Ann Rowe said her mother, Elizabeth Rowe, and grandmother, Louisa Ratajc, cleaned his home.

"He had a farm and pet squirrels he fed," Rowe recalls her relatives saying.

But Father Ley was not the only animal lover among St. Bernard's pastors. Father Eugene Zimmerman kept parakeets in his home. The priest also enjoyed smoking cigars.

"When you think of him the first thing you think of is his cigars," said parishioner Janet Shoemaker. "Occasionally he would leave his lit cigar on the (stone) window sill of the church. Before we had air conditioning if the windows were open, it would be nothing for cigar smoke to be wafting into the church."

Shoemaker added Father Zimmerman was known for his singing. "I think he made St. Bernard a singing parish," she said. "Father Zimmerman was going to sing all the verses to songs."

Father William Kummer served as pastor after Father Zimmerman.

Parishioner Caroline Biltz said under Father Kummer's direction the parish council became an elected body (no longer appointed) and the front doors of the church were restored.

Now administrator of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel in Fort Wayne, Father Kummer remembers fondly the Wabash church being his first pastorate. He recalled Christmas in 1983.

"Someone had brought in a live Christmas tree that took up about one-third of the sanctuary," Father Kummer laughed. "On Christmas Eve the temperature dropped to 15 below zero and Bishop William McManus exempted people from attending church that day. That evening, a trumpeter got her lips stuck (on her instrument's mouthpiece). At 5 p.m. the temperature was about 13 below."

Father Daniel E. Peil served as



St. Bernard Church pastors

Father John Ryan*	1862-1865
Father Bernard Kroeger*	1865-1866
Father George Steiner*	1866-1868
Father Matthew E. Campion*	1868-1871
Father Frederick C. Wiechmann	1871-1879
Father Michael M. Hallinan	1879-1881
Father John H. Bathe	1881-1898
Father Peter J. Crosson	1898-1900
Father Robert J. Pratt	1900-1910
Father William D. Sullivan	1910-1921
Father Edmund A. Ley	1921-1932
Father Charles A. Scholl	1932-1940
Father Leo A. Hoffmann	1940-1956
Father Robert J. Zahn	1956-1976
Father Eugene Zimmerman	1976-1982
Father William Kummer	1982-1985
Father Daniel E. Peil	1985-1993
Father Timothy A. Wrozek	1993-2001
Father Sextus Don	2001-present

*Pastors of St. Patrick Church, Lagro, who visited Wabash as a mission

pastor following Father Kummer. Several parishioners remember Father Peil had acquired a simple wooden coffin, which he shipped from parish to parish when he was transferred. Parishioner Angel Shear had heard he was unafraid of death.

"He kept it in the garage," said parishioner Richard White.

"He also was really extraordinarily good on visiting the sick," White added. "Even when he was sick, he would go visit the sick. He visited my mother and she was not even a Catholic."

Father Tim Wrozek, who served after Father Peil, also had a good sense of humor.

Father Wrozek initiated Christ Renews His Parish at St. Bernard, which increased parishioner involvement.

"You can't imagine what it did," Rowe said. "It was a real spiritual awakening (for the parish)."

Shoemaker appreciated Father Wrozek's ability to connect with youth. "He was pastor when my children were teenagers," she said. "He strengthened their faith, went with them to youth conferences and was there for the kids."

St. Bernard's current pastor, Father Sextus Don, also connects with youth. "I love seeing my kids serve at Mass and how he interacts with them," Shear said. "He's a good influence and someone they can talk to and be comfortable around."

The late Bishop John M. D'Arcy assigned Father Don, an order priest from the Salesians of Don Bosco, to St. Bernard in 2001. Ordained in Sri Lanka in 1979, Father Don said he has enjoyed his time here and found the parishioners very welcoming.

"What impressed me when I arrived were the church's stained

glass windows," he said. "They're so catechetical. They go from Genesis to Revelation! ... We can use these windows for catechesis."

A great deal of thought went into designing the one-of-a-kind stained glass windows as well as the Gothic-style church and school. As new pastor in 1940, Father Leo Hoffmann saw the need for a new church and school and took on the building projects with help and direction from the parish council, Architect A.F. Moratz of Bloomington, Ill., and the James I. Barnes Construction Company in Logansport.

In addition, relics from St. Donatus and St. Victoria are embedded in the marble altar.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux had a deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, so a rose window depicting scenes from her life was built in the south church wall in the choir loft. Church history states Erhard Stoetner, who received training in Munich, designed all stained glass windows in the church including the 15 x 10 foot window. The windows were manufactured by T.C. Esser Company, Milwaukee, Wis.

In August, Father Hoffmann's legacy will be celebrated by the current parish community as well as Fathers Kummer and Wrozek. Two former associate pastors also plan to attend the celebration: Father Adam Schmidt, now retired and residing at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community and Msgr. John Suelzer, now pastor of St. Charles Borromeo in Fort Wayne.

Later this year, St. Bernard parishioner Mike Thompson will be publishing a book on church history. Other church members are planning a photo book showing the symbolism of the church and a cookbook is in the works.



LAURIE KIEFABER

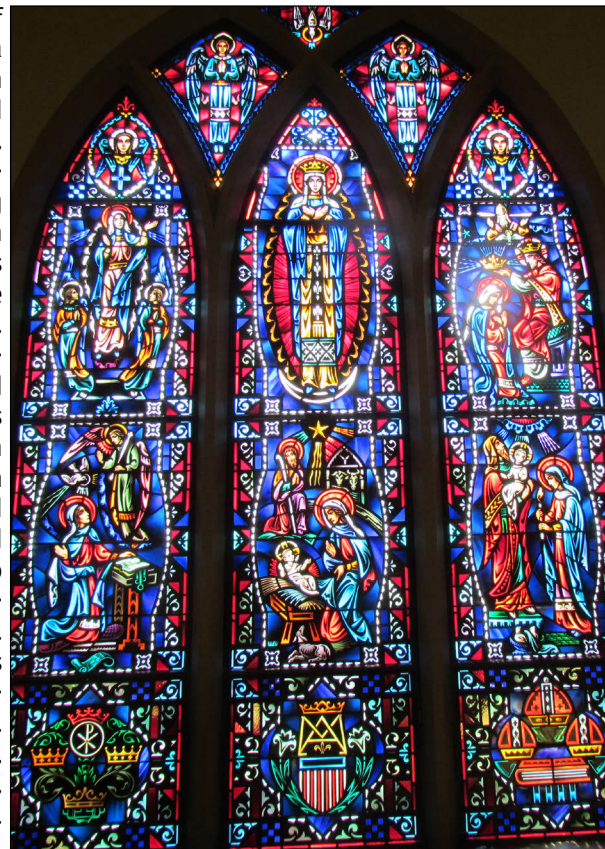
St. Bernard Church as it looks today at the corner of Cass and Sinclair streets in Wabash.



LAURIE KIEFABER

The first St. Bernard Church was dedicated in 1867 at 429 W. Maple Street in Wabash. The brick structure was later part of an exchange with the Methodists in Wabash for an unused church and house at Sinclair and Cass streets. In 1953, the building served as the garage for the Wabash Transit Lines, a local bus service. It is now privately owned.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux had a deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, so a rose window depicting scenes from her life was built in the choir loft. Church history states all stained glass windows in the church were designed by Erhard Stoetner, who received training in Munich. The windows were manufactured by T.C. Esser Company, Milwaukee, Wis.



LAURIE KIEFABER

S OF CATHOLIC LIFE IN WABASH

St. Bernard School continues rigorous education in academics and faith

WABASH — Religious Sisters no longer teach at St. Bernard School, but students are still challenged to do their best in a faith-filled environment.

“We try to take students where they are and push them to their maximum capabilities spiritually, emotionally, physically and socially,” said Theresa Carroll, who will start her ninth year as principal at St. Bernard. Before becoming principal, Carroll taught at the school beginning in 1995. She holds degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University and Ball State University.

Carroll said faith is just as important today in school as it was in 1900.

“God is being removed from so much,” she said. “Catholic schools keep Him present; He’s our focal point.”

St. Bernard School accepts all students, no matter what their faith background, Carroll said.

“We have educated children from Catholic, Muslim, Hindu, other Christian faiths and students who have no faith life,” she said. “All are welcome here. Our students come from Wabash, Huntington and Miami counties and a few Manchester College professors have sent their children here.

“Prayer is part of everything we do,” she continued. “We pray at the beginning of school, at the start of new classes, before and after we eat ...”

Angel Shear, who taught at St. Bernard from 1988 to 1993, remembers the faith-filled atmosphere.

“We have a lot of kids go through who are not Catholic,” she said. “But they went to Mass and participated. Their parents wanted their kids to have an education from (St. Bernard) and that was part of it.”

While about half of students are not Catholic, all of them learn about the Catholic faith including the rosary, sacraments, Stations of the Cross, the creed and more, Carroll said. Morality, modeling good behavior and maintaining a family environment also are stressed.

“We tell students ‘You have to stand up for what’s right and set a good example for the younger ones,’” Carroll said. Oftentimes kindergartners will read books to fifth and sixth graders.

Carroll said the Knights of Columbus do a tremendous job of fundraising for numerous causes and charities, including the school. “They are awesome!” she said.

Students graduating from St. Bernard School tend to be confident, hard workers and hope-



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ST. BERNARD CHURCH

On Nov. 12, 1950 various diocesan officials gathered for the dedication of the cornerstone laying at St. Bernard School in Wabash. Pictured are Father Leo Hoffmann, pastor of St. Bernard Church, laying down mortar for the cornerstone while Msgr. T.E. Dillon, superintendent of Catholic schools and pastor of St. Mary Church in Huntington, looks on. Holding the cornerstone is T.H. Winkeljohn, parish councilman.



LAURIE KIEFABER

St. Bernard School as it stands today.

fully “the kind of students who will get involved in sports, clubs or student government,” Carroll said. Alumni have moved on to become valedictorians, salutatorians and class and student council presidents.

St. Bernard School history:

- St. Bernard School opened for one year in 1900, but closed due to lack of support.
- St. Bernard School reopened Sept. 5, 1922 with the Sisters of St. Joseph in Tipton as teachers for 40 children in six grades.
- New school built and opened Sept. 4, 1951 with 141 students.
- Second floor added to school

in 1961.

- Peak enrollment reached in 1965 with 251 students in eight grades.
- School was in danger of closing in 1969 as Sisters of St. Joseph announced they were leaving Wabash due to personnel shortages. After numerous letters written by parents and parishioners to the sisters and bishop’s offices, sisters agreed to continue teaching at St. Bernard.
- Enrollment is currently 75 students, pre-K through sixth grades. Previously grades 1-8 were taught and in the early 2000s pre-K through fourth grades were taught.
- Early childhood education or pre-K added in late 1980s or early 1990s.
- About 100 women religious and laywomen have taught students. Currently four full-time teachers, five part-time teachers and two aides or paraprofessionals are employed.
- More than 9,000 students educated.
- Curriculum includes Spanish for grades 1-6, language arts, math, science, social studies, religion and leadership classes, visual art, physical education and music with technology integrated into every subject. Participation in numerous local, state and national contests and competitions is encouraged.
- Average student/teacher ratio: 9/1.

St. Bernard history highlights

- The Wabash church began as a mission of St. Patrick Church in Lagro, according to a church history written by Kenneth E. Gray, a former U.S. Army commander and curator of the Wabash County Museum in the 1960s. Father John Ryan celebrated Mass for 35 Irish and German souls starting in 1862. He began building the first church in 1864. The one-story, brick 30-foot by 66-foot church at 429 W. Maple St. was dedicated in 1867 and seated about 40.
- In 1898, Father Peter Crosson added 16 feet to the length of the church, increasing seating capacity to 250. However, by 1900 the community was outgrowing this space. Father Robert Pratt exchanged the church properties for an unused two-story brick Methodist church, a church house at the corner of Cass and Sinclair streets and \$5,500 cash on April 17, 1900. After renovations, the church with seating for 500 was dedicated Sept. 23, 1900.
- On Sept. 5, 1922, Father Edmund Ley opened the first parochial school on the first floor of the church, according to church history. That year, the Sisters of St. Joseph in Tipton taught 40 students in six grades.
- By 1940, new Pastor Leo Hoffmann saw the need for a new church and school and took on the building projects. The new church was dedicated May 3, 1953.
- 2001: Communion rail removed, new baptismal font constructed, confessionals updated, walls repainted, cork floor



The second St. Bernard Church at the corner of Cass and Sinclair streets had to be demolished before a new one could be built in the same spot. Demolition of the structure began Aug. 27, 1951.

removed, tile and new carpet laid, wooden doors in back of church replaced with glass ones, new bathroom added, pew refurbishing and kneeler replacement.

- 2003: New stations of the cross installed, replacing those damaged by July 4, 1988 fire.
- Ministries include parish council, finance committee, choir, musicians and cantors, liturgy committee, extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, gift bearers, lectors, ushers, altar servers, religious education teachers, youth group, Mantle of Mary, church cleaners, collection counters, maintenance committee, SCRIP program to support school, Girl Scouts, school board, Home and School Association and Knights of Columbus.

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CAMP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

morning to honor their country, learned about the saint of the day, memorized Scripture, and ended each night with a campfire.

Campers participated in Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday afternoon. Fathers Bob Lengerich, Christopher Lapp, Daniel Whelan and James Bromwich offered the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Torma said the campers had the opportunity to sand and decorate Ashiko drums that they played to one of their theme songs, "This Beating Heart" and performed for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades when he celebrated Mass on Friday, the last day of camp.

Bishop's visit

Bishop Rhoades thanked the campers for inviting him and told them he'd been looking forward to visiting them.

"To have a camp where you can also pray, have a lot of fun, but also deepen your faith is a beautiful thing," Bishop Rhoades said.

He commented on how beautiful it was to look out at the lake while celebrating Mass in a stone chapel. He told the children that it was the feast day of St. James the Apostle and any apostle's feast day is always special to him because "a bishop is a successor to the apostles, called to lead the Church."

He asked the children if they'd gone fishing while at camp and reminded them that St. James and his brother John were fishermen. The bishop spoke of how the apostles followed Jesus and reminded the youth that being a follower of Christ is not about power, but about service.

"If we want to be great, we should be humble like Jesus," he said. "I'm sure this week at camp you learned a lot about what it means to be a follower of Jesus, to serve Him and each other. ..."

"All of you are to be friends of Jesus; to be by His side, to talk to Him. How privileged we are to receive His Body and Blood," Bishop Rhoades said. "The teaching of the Apostles has gone out to all the world. Our job also is to help spread the Gospel with the help of the Holy Spirit."

At the conclusion of Mass prayer cards were passed out and the bishop invited the children to pray with him a prayer to Mary, Untier of Knots, one of Pope Francis' favorite devotions. The obstacle course Dave Torma developed for the campers involved untying a knot at one of the stations. The bishop was invited to a picnic lunch by the lake with the campers and to hear them perform a medley of songs.

Campers' experiences

Campers were excited to share their favorite experiences from



PHOTOS BY DENISE FEDOROW

Youth participating in the Catholic Youth Service Camp process into the rustic stone chapel at Camp Mack for Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

the week at camp. Olivia Warden, first time camper from St. John the Baptist in New Haven said she liked "everything."

"Meeting new friends — all the fun activities," she said. Warden would definitely recommend attending the camp to others who, like her, have not gone before.

Several of the campers mentioned doing the Emmaus Walk as a favorite, including Elizabeth Stureman from St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne.

Colin Stahl from St. Pius X Parish in Granger said campers were challenged to track seven miles with their counselors walking the Emmaus Walk and back, and he tracked 15 miles. "We also went fishing two times — that was really fun."

Dave Torma explained that the Emmaus Walk was a one-mile walk along a wooded path to a natural "cross" tree in the woods and back to the starting point. Scripture said it was seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus, so he challenged the campers to walk the seven miles, and 98 percent of the campers met that challenge.

"Four Sisters (of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration) came and talked to us about their stories," said McKenna Kleinrichert from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne. "That was neat — and we got journals to write in and bracelet rosaries."

The sisters who visited — Sister Lissetta, Sister Mary Grace, Sister Maria Kolbe and Sister Lucia — not only shared their vocation stories, but stayed to play knockout basketball, eat dinner and enjoy the campfire. Later, they led the girls in night prayer. The camp facilities were



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades greeted the youngsters after Mass celebrated in the stone chapel at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford on Friday, July 25. Children in fourth through sixth grades camped from July 20-25.

shared with a deaf camp that week and one of their counselors taught them a sign language blessing that they shared with Bishop Rhoades before their picnic lunch. He in turn taught them the blessing over food in Spanish.

The adults were having as much fun as the kids. Mary Ann Sobieralski, known as "Grandma

S," parishioner at St. Jude, South Bend, has volunteered all four years and said she has a passion for children. "I get more blessings than the children do," she said, "and for those kids who've come each year, I watch them grow not only physically but also spiritually."



Jan and Dave Torma have been the directors for the Catholic Youth Summer Camp for the past four years. They both speak of what a blessing the camp is for them as well as for the campers. In the background is the outdoor stone chapel where the campers celebrated daily Mass. The camp was held at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford this year but has been held in two other locations as well.

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The avocado blessing: Make it count

BY MONICA MURPHY

"I'm not going to die from cancer; I'm going to learn how to live from cancer."

— Josh Comeau

MISHAWAKA — Josh Comeau, age 36, remembers the night of his conversion, back in the summer of 1999. In that moment, Comeau told himself, "I owe my life to try and make it right." He went back to Indiana University in Bloomington after a "Jesus" summer and founded Indiana University Christian Student Fellowship, a non-denominational organization, and eventually served as the lead guitarist.

He still was not sure if he wanted to be Catholic or Protestant. He had no foundation in his Catholic faith but started asking a lot of "why" questions. Months later, at a Festival of Praise conference, in Steubenville, Ohio, he saw a mural of Jesus handing Peter the keys to the Kingdom, and knew in that moment that Catholicism was the answer: "How could I leave 2,000 years of tradition?" Comeau said.

Since his time at Indiana University, he has been a bold witness, standing up as a public servant in all aspects of his life: as a son, husband, father, friend, firefighter and cancer fighter. But above all, his true call of servanthood is found in his contagious attitude and astonishing faithfulness.

Comeau was recently diagnosed with stage 4, the most aggressive stage, Glioblastoma brain cancer. His Glioblastoma was the size of an avocado, 90 percent being visual cancer and 10 percent replicating on a cellular level. About a month and a half ago, he had headaches and became irritable. About two weeks later, he read Scripture, and all the vowels swept off the pages. About two weeks prior to June 4, he started getting really tired and took many naps at work.

At the fire station, they were dispatched and Comeau, who was the driver, blew through one stop sign. The streets started to get narrower and the captain said (multiple times), "You are getting close to these cars!" Seconds later, "BAM!" Comeau hit a parked truck. Since all this happened, the captain had to fill out paperwork and Comeau knew that it would be "a big headache (no pun-intended)."

Comeau was not worried about any testing, because he did not smoke or drink. The test turned out fine but no one could understand what was wrong, as he was not able to follow commands. He remembered time slowing down, and people talking extremely fast. He was sent to Memorial Hospital.

On Thursday, June 5, the MRI scans showed a tumor in his brain.

The biggest relief for Comeau was that he was not imagining things. Friday, June 6, was the day

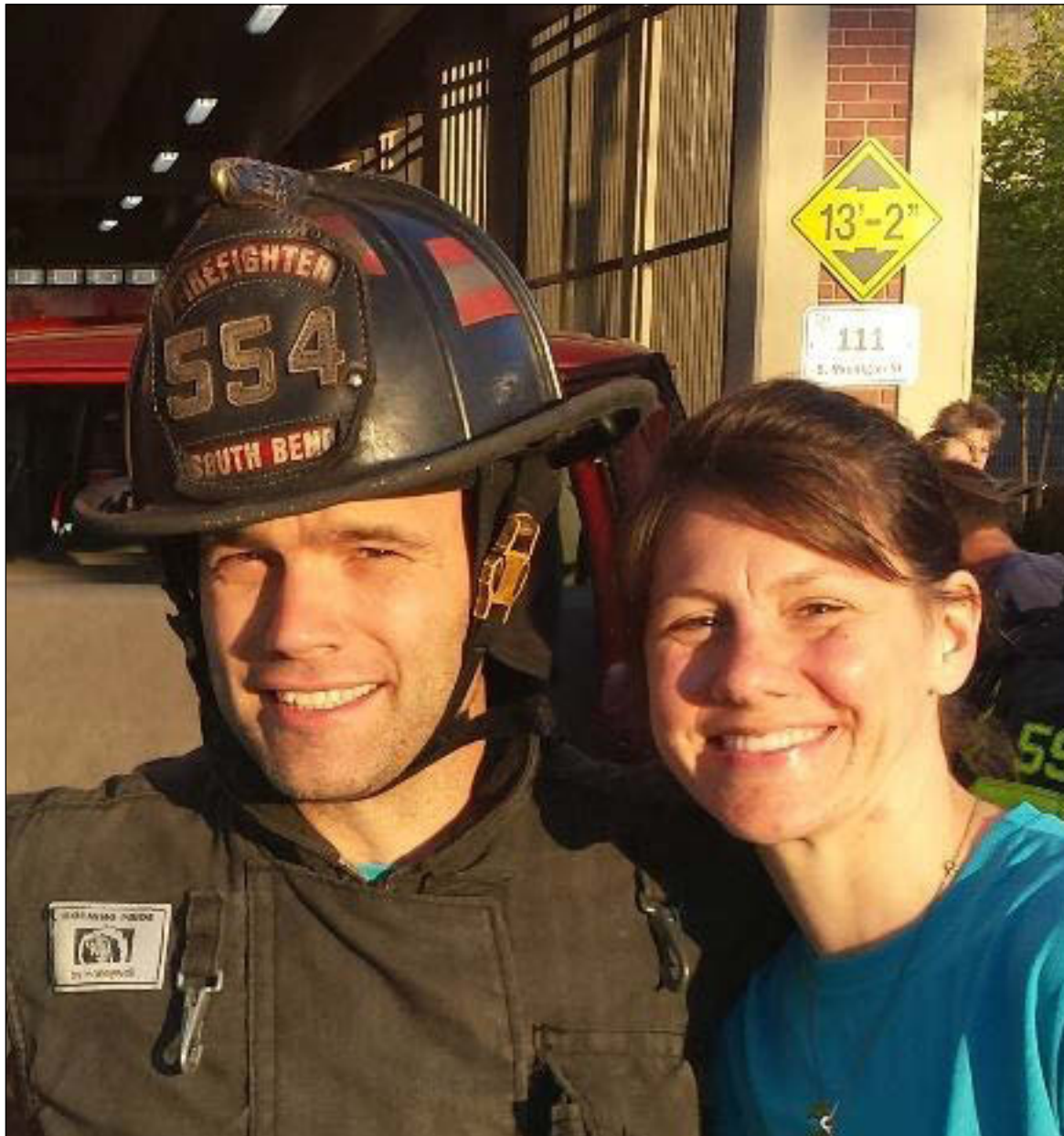


PHOTO PROVIDED BY MONICA MURPHY

Firefighter Josh Comeau is shown with his wife Rosary.

of the big surgery.

Comeau told the doctors, his family and friends, "We are team Comeau and we are going to kick ... whatever is in there." He wrote Scripture on his arms and was ready to "go into battle."

The doctors told him that they would need to shave his head, and

Comeau responded (with some humor of course), "Shave it; it will save me a haircut anyway."

After surgery, a close family friend received an image of Mother Mary holding Comeau, removing the thorns from his head, and kissing each place where she had removed them. Comeau

was thankful that so many people were there to pray during the surgery. It provided his wife, Rosary, tremendous relief. He was happy when he heard familiar voices after his surgery and said, "Team Comeau, we did it." Comeau was overwhelmed with the love and gratitude by so many.

He was conscious every moment in the ICU and told himself, "Stay focused. Stay sharp and frosty." The IV machines beeped constantly (you know, that beep ... beep ... beep sound), and he told himself, "It is God saying 'I love you.'" With every breath that he took, he said, "Thank you God for that deep breath." Every breath was a time to pray, and a chance to shower love on the nurses and staff who responded with such love. This experience taught Comeau that God is not one of randomness — everything He does is very calculated.


Comeau is "eclipsed by the multiple of miracles" that has happened: people coming back to their faith, his father going to Mass with him every Sunday that he is alive, parish members at Queen of Peace, Mishawaka, the firefighters and other volunteers who freely give their time. "Miracles are when hearts open up to God."

Here is some life-altering wisdom from Comeau:

"Are you interested in the truth? The truth could lead you down a difficult path. Or are you interested in the easy way out? When most people are confronted with the absolute truth, they disregard it. I hope that they do not stay lost because the Lord pursues them. I have lived more since June 4 than I have in 36 years prior. I am here to kick cancer's butt. If attitude has anything to do with it, I feel like I am leaving cancer in the dust, through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is God's miracle. I am here to just be used."

Comeau hopes that the lessons of this avocado are never forgotten.


Josh Comeau is from Mishawaka, the husband of Rosary Comeau, and the father of five small children. You can help Josh beat cancer at <http://www.gofundme>.



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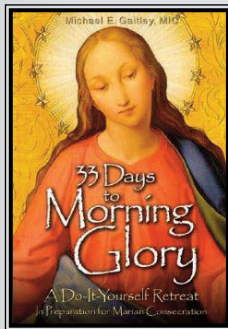
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Holy Cross College named a College of Distinction

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College has been honored as a College of Distinction for the 2014-2015 school year. The College of Distinction designation is given to select schools to honor their excellence in student-focused higher education. Holy Cross was found to excel in all Four Distinctions and will receive a personal profile on the Colleges of Distinction website.

Colleges of Distinction is a web-based guide for high school juniors and seniors seeking a school that is nationally recognized and highly recommended by professionals in the field of education. Colleges and universities are nominated for participation by high school counselors, and then evaluated using qualitative and quantitative research. Schools selected must excel in the Four Distinctions: engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes. The colleges and universities are not ranked and instead are members of a consortium of other equally impressive schools.

"We focus on colleges that are the best places to learn, grow and succeed," said Tyson Schritter, executive editor of Colleges of Distinction. "Schools designated as 'Colleges of Distinction' create well-rounded graduates and are among the very best in the country."

Holy Cross College President, Holy Cross Brother John R. Paige, said, "Here at Holy Cross College we say 'The Experience Matters.' I am pleased that the college is again recognized by our educational peers as providing a formative and transformative experience for the young people who matriculate here."

USF awards downtown campus work to Design Collaborative

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis has awarded its downtown campus project to Fort Wayne architecture and engineering firm Design Collaborative. The project will bring together the former Fort Wayne Area Chamber of Commerce building and Scottish Rite Center into learning space and opportunities for students to study new and established programs in the heart of downtown Fort Wayne.

The design will include renovations to the Chamber of Commerce building to accommodate programs offered there, including a new Risk Management and Insurance degree, in the new home of the Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership.

The USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center in the former Scottish Rite Center will also see some renovation, although no major modifications are planned for the auditorium in order to preserve its historic elements. A consultant will work with Design

Collaborative to ensure the design considers the historic nature of the structures.

As the new location for USF's Music Technology Program, the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center's west end will, in collaboration with USF's music consultants, contain specially designed space to meet the program's acoustic and technical needs. The building's western portion will also hold the classrooms and technology for the Media Entrepreneurship Training in the Arts (META) program.

The project size is approximately 69,700 square feet. Design work began Aug. 1. Construction is expected to begin in 2015.

"We're excited about this project," said Design Collaborative partner Ron Dick. "It brings together a long-time partner in USF and our passion for the development of downtown Fort Wayne, so we couldn't be more thrilled to see this happen for the university. We're also pleased to have the opportunity to preserve these two important buildings and repurpose them to create places of learning and growth for future entrepreneurs who will continue to grow our city."

"We are happy to not only see a long-held dream becoming reality, but to be part of the momentum that is transforming downtown Fort Wayne," said USF President, Sister of St. Francis M. Elise Kriss. "The university is proud to partner with Fort Wayne and other businesses to contribute to a vibrant downtown that represents an economic boon to the community."

Ancilla College and EARN Indiana team-up to create area internships

DONALDSON — Need an intern but can't afford one? EARN Indiana wants to pay half of your intern's hourly rate. Ancilla College has teamed up with Indiana INTERN.net and EARN Indiana to increase internship opportunities in Marshall and Starke Counties.

"Internships are the best way to keep talented college students in the area after graduation," said Jim Cawthon, Ancilla's director of career services. "Internships are excellent recruiting tools for businesses in Marshall and Starke counties."

"If companies pay the interns, they can usually attract the best pool of applicants," Cawthon said. "Companies that qualify as EARN businesses get help from the state in paying the interns they hire. Ancilla also offers internship credits for non-profits or those few for-profit companies that cannot afford to pay wages."

EARN will pay 50 percent of the wages of an intern if the businesses internship meets EARN standards and if the intern they hire is an EARN eligible student. EARN is part of Indiana financial aid.

To register for EARN, businesses and students must register on Indiana INTERN.net, a free internship-matching program linking employers and students.

SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS REUNION



DONNA QUINN

Faculty, staff and administrators gathered for the first staff reunion at Saint Joseph High School on July 11-12. Tours of the new building, pizza, visiting with former students and dinner at a local restaurant were among the events enjoyed by those who attended. Plans for the next reunion are already underway.

TEACHERS LEARN TO BUILD INTEREST IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS



PROVIDED BY TRAVIS HECKBER

Five teachers attended a weeklong training program designed to promote students interest in careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The ASM Materials Camp was hosted by Ivy Tech Community College. Pictured in front, from left, are Starr Martin, St. Aloysius, Yoder; and Rose Reinhart, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne. In back are Travis Heckber, St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne; Geoff Frank, St. Therese, Fort Wayne, and St. Rose of Lima, Monroeville; and Tim Strack, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne.

BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMEN WELCOMED

Freshmen entering Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne were invited Aug. 4 to Merge, a fun-filled event to introduce students to one another and to get familiarized with the school building. Activities included relay races, a scavenger hunt and minute-to-win-it games. At right is the gym shoe relay race.



PROVIDED BY SEAN MCBRIDE

CRS: Global High School program: Building solidarity at Bishop Dwenger through immersion experience

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School has recently partnered with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in an innovative initiative to help raise awareness of global issues right in the Fort Wayne community. The CRS: Global High School program, formally known as iNeighbor, began in 2011 when six specially chosen high schools from around the country were invited to join its initiative to build global solidarity. Each invited school completed an application for participation approval and was required to send one administrator and one faculty member to participate in international immersion experiences to see firsthand how CRS's programs are changing lives. Currently the CRS: Global High School program has grown to include 15 schools.

Bishop Dwenger began their partnership with a workshop on social justice given by a CRS representative. This year Bishop Dwenger Principal Jason Schiffli and theology teacher Melissa Wheeler, who is also the diocesan representative for CRS appointed by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, traveled as part of a 10-person delegation to Ghana July 7-16. Their mission, said Schiffli, was to visit remote villages in Ghana, one of the 100 countries around the world where CRS programs are successfully promoting health and hygiene programs for the people there.

"It was not a mission team," says Schiffli. "We didn't build or dig. It was a delegation to see the programs and how they were organized and planned." The successful programs are changing lives and communities, he reports, adding that the purpose of the trip was to bring information back to the school community to raise awareness.

An initial training was held in Baltimore, the location of CRS headquarters, for Schiffli, Wheeler and the other four high school representatives, two from Philadelphia and two from New Orleans, prior to their travels to Ghana. "Chris West, CRS community organizer, built a support group there to communicate throughout the year," says Schiffli, who plans to expand their communication as the action plan for global solidarity at Bishop Dwenger develops.

The delegation arrived in Accra, the capital of Ghana, then traveled to northern Tamale where more "traditional communities" comprised of villages with chiefs were located. In the adobe-hut-lined villages the team found water supplies or boreholes shared by more than one village with women transporting water baskets on their heads, sometimes

for miles.

To assist the villagers with a better, healthier quality of life, CRS works with the leadership of each village to determine its basic needs. The programs to meet those needs are then planned, organized and implemented by the villagers with the support of CRS. "It becomes their own development project. CRS oversees," says Wheeler.

One program, Eppics, involved building more health care facilities with adjacent boreholes to provide clean water for midwives to use during deliveries. Another project involved teaching new mothers to nurse their infants rather than feed them tainted water from overused supplies. These areas have seen a dramatic decline in infant mortality with the implementation of these initiatives.

The delegation team witnessed a reenactment of a motorized cart driven to carry an expectant mother to a nearby health facility. "Before they had the carts, they would put these women on the front of a bike or carry her in (to a health facility)," says Schiffli, adding that the roads were simply rutted and obscure trails. These



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SISTER BARBARA BUCKLEY

Melissa Wheeler, second from left in front, theology teacher at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne and the diocesan representative for Catholic Relief Services (CRS) appointed by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, and Bishop Dwenger Principal Jason Schiffli, back center, join CRS workers and members of the delegation who met with the Queen Mother, right of Schiffli, the leadership of the Samini Tribe, during their immersion experience in Ghana, in partnership with Catholic Relief Services to promote global solidarity.



Following a visit with the Queen Mother of the Samini tribe, the natives presented the delegation with two live guinea fowl for dinner and one live rooster for a wake up call. Pictured is Jason Schiffli, principal of Bishop Dwenger in Fort Wayne, accepting the live gifts.

community carts are another successful addition to the higher quality of life these villagers now enjoy.

Another remarkable program, I-shine, works to bring sanitation to these remote villages. "In one village we visited, the health of the people was better within three months into having latrines," says Schiffli.

The trip, Schiffli says, has broadened his appreciation of the work CRS does across the globe. "I was so impressed with how these programs change lives. ... The size and its success give me a greater appreciation for the organization. I was moved to help," he says passionately.

In the coming 2014-2015 academic year CRS will focus on food security for the communities

they serve, and as Schiffli and Wheeler present their experience to the Bishop Dwenger community they plan to incorporate the theme of food security in school lessons and events.

With Bishop Dwenger's action plan in the initial stages, Schiffli and Wheeler are enthusiastic about their challenge. "I want to instill passion in our kids. I want to help. Our school has much potential to help," says Schiffli, who hopes to involve the parents as well.

Wheeler says, "I hope the kids learn and experience enough to make this part of what they do. ... Fundraising is important but an internal change is needed."

"It's academic, intellectual and spiritual. There are so many venues, something for everyone. We can empower these kids. ... A



A visitor washes her hands alongside a native of a remote village near Tamale, Ghana with a tippy tap, a jug of water connected to a foot lever to ensure sanitation for the area. CRS has helped the people there implement hygiene and sanitation methods that have reduced infant mortality.

transformation of mind and heart will take place," Schiffli says.

The two hope to actively participate in fair trade with coffee houses after school, form a student social justice club with emphasis on CRS initiatives and have CRS initiatives in all four Catholic high schools in the future.

"People are people wherever you go. ... We want to build a

sense of solidarity in our community — which leads to action," says Schiffli.

The iNeighbor program will formally transition to the CRS: Global High School program at the April 2015 National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) conference, where Dr. Carolyn Woo will be keynote speaker.

Lessons from an obituary writer

“What have you got for me today?”

The woman on the telephone had a voice that was soft. Her tiny, floral print, navy blue dress seemed to swallow her petite frame. Bony fingers with short, unpolished nails held a No. 2 pencil, which hovered over a yellow legal pad. She held the phone in the crook of her neck. “Mmm hmm. Mmm hmm. Okay, then, what else? “Ok, thanks, Hal.” Then she put the receiver down and dialed the next number.

I was shadowing this woman in my first real writing job, working for a city newspaper. She was on the telephone with funeral directors. Her job was to train me in writing obituaries.

I was uncomfortable.

My father had drilled into all of his children the importance of being grateful for work, the dignity of work itself, and the necessity of not being too big for our

britches to prevent us from thinking we were so important we were above menial work. So I expected really, to be writing obituaries as my first assignment at this job at the city newspaper. That didn't bother me.

What did bother me, however, was that the process of writing obituaries seemed so cold and impersonal for something so significant. It seemed harsh to ask bluntly, “What have you got for me today?” in regards to a death. It amazed me that this woman came in each morning and simply dialed up the undertaker to find personal details of the life of someone who was no more, asking, “What have you got for me today?”

With each call reality hit me: some family was grieving deeply. Some husband had lost a wife, or a family a father, or saddest of all, parents a child. It didn't faze the newspaper obituary writer, and I



HERESA A. THOMAS

EVERYDAY
CATHOLIC

think that's what astonished me. She performed her task in a perfunctory manner, neither relishing the process nor despising it. It was simply something she had to do. “What have you got for me today?” was her saying, “Please give me the information I need to complete my task.” Then she carried on to do her job as best she could.

Matter-of-factly, this woman wrote down the necessary infor-

EVERYDAY, PAGE 17

Jesus alone gives eternal life



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 14:22-33

The first reading again this weekend is from the First Book of Kings. First and Second Kings prominently mention the kings of the united kingdom of Israel, but they are not political histories.

Of course, politics and other realities of life in Israel under the king appear in these books, but the chief purpose of these writings is to reveal God's mercy, justice and identity. So, often more emphatically and extensively than their references to the kings, these books mention prophets, who spoke for God.

The reading for this weekend from First Kings is in this mode of writing.

Principal in the reading is Elijah, the prophet. God spoke to him, so Elijah learned that God will be accessible and will communicate with him.

Elijah looked for God. A fierce storm was raging, but God was not in the wind or in the thunder.

Next came an earthquake, not an unusual event in the Middle East. Elijah could not find God in the earthquake.

At last, Elijah heard a tiny whispering sound. It was the voice of God.

Several lessons emerge from this reading. First, God interacts with humanity, and the resulting divine revelation is conveyed to

humans by humans. Elijah, after all, was a human.

Second, Elijah looked for God in these great outbursts of nature, in the storm and in the earthquake. God is supreme over nature. The ancient Hebrew concept, therefore, was that God used nature and all its powerful manifestations to teach the people that they should live according to the divine plan.

Sin so disrupts the order of life. Temptations abound, but no power exceeds God's power and perfection.

Finally, God appears in places and events and forms often least expected by humans, such as in tiny whispering sounds in the middle of storms and earth tremors.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans is the source of the next reading. In this reading, Paul verified his own status as an Apostle, and his own truthfulness. He mourned that his kin, the Jewish nation, did not accept God. It was a failure that, alas, occurred throughout Hebrew history, indeed throughout human history. Paul admitted his own humanity and frailty, but despite all, he insisted that he would remain true to his calling as a Christian and as an Apostle.

For its last reading this weekend, the Church gives us a passage from St. Matthew's Gospel. It is a familiar story.

Last weekend, the reading from Matthew was from verses immediately preceding these. It too was a familiar story, that of the Lord's miraculous feeding of the five thousand.

In this story, the Lord literally walks across water to reach the boat from which the Apostles were fishing. Peter, impulsive as was his personality, leaped from the boat in an attempt to meet Jesus. Actually Jesus invited

Peter to come forward.

As often happened, Peter's impulsiveness gave way to uncertainty and doubt. When these feelings took hold, Peter's own ability to walk on the water failed. He began to sink.

Jesus, not outdone by Peter's lack of faith, pulled Peter from the water, rescuing Peter from death. Understanding Peter's weakness, Jesus assisted him, giving him security and life.

Reflection

Last weekend, the lesson from the Gospel was that Jesus alone is the source of life. He is the only security. Life cannot be measured just by earthly standards. It must be measured by its totality, in other words, with attention given the fact of eternity.

Jesus alone gives eternal life. He alone is the source of life, especially and uniquely of eternal life. Nothing else possesses the power of the Lord, because Jesus is God.

We humans must believe that Jesus alone gives true life. Otherwise, left to ourselves, we will drown.

READINGS

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Ps 85:9-14 Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33

Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c Ps 148:1-2, 11-14 Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ez 2:8 - 3:4 Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22 Ps 113:1-6 Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12 Ps 78:56-59, 61-62 Mt 18:21 - 19:1

Friday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Ps 45:10-12, 16 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56

Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32 Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 19:13-15

A notable name on a 'dirty' list

The National Organization for Women has put the Little Sisters of the Poor on a list that it calls the “Dirty 100.”

These are organizations that have objected for religious reasons to the government's order that they provide their employees free coverage of contraceptives and early stage abortifacient drugs.

The list made me wonder who's really conducting a war on women. It's one thing to disagree with your opponent's legal positions or religious beliefs. It is something else entirely to call them “dirty” for holding them.

I keep hearing in my head the words Boston lawyer Joseph Welch spoke to Sen. Joe McCarthy, who was trying to smear another attorney: “Have you no sense of decency?”

I know something about the Little Sisters. They are our neighbors in my part of Washington, D.C. A number of our students at The Catholic University of America go to their home after classes to help care for the residents. I sometimes go there for Mass, or just to say hello — it's almost right across the street.

If I were old and in failing health and had no family to take me in, there is no place I would rather be than in their care. That is the work of the Little Sisters — to give food and shelter to the abandoned elderly.

St. Jeanne Jugan, their founder, began her mission by caring for a blind and partially paralyzed old woman. She gave the woman her own bed and moved into the attic. She soon took in two more and then a dozen. Then she acquired an abandoned convent and gave a home to 40 more.

By the time of her death, there were 2,400 Little Sisters caring for thousands of homeless across Europe and North America.

St. Jeanne envisioned the order as being the sisters — the little sisters — of the poor people they cared for. The rule of their order asks the sisters “to share in the beatitude of spiritual poverty, leading to that complete dispossession which commits a soul to God.”

That's not exactly a group I would call “dirty.”

Then again, this is not the first



JOHN GARVEY

INTELLECT
AND
VIRTUE

time the Little Sisters have been criticized. St. Jeanne was born in 1792 amid the French Revolution. That fall, several hundred priests and bishops were killed in what's now called the “September massacres.”

Two years later, Robespierre's Revolutionary Tribunal sent 16 Carmelites — the Martyrs of Compiègne — to the guillotine for holding religious views that the revolutionaries wanted to replace with a civil cult.

The French Revolution is a frightening lesson about what can happen when we shove religion aside to press on with the state's priorities.

When the Little Sisters expanded their charity to Great Britain in 1851, they encountered similar anti-Catholic sentiments. They would later be forced out of China, Myanmar and Hungary because of religious intolerance.

That has not been the case in this country — at least not until now.

It is sad to see an American organization such as NOW so convinced of its own rightness and so heedless of our traditions that it would not only deny religious freedom to a kindly order of nuns, but call them “dirty” for wanting to carry on their work of charity in a Catholic spirit.

There will always be boundary disputes, over where our rights end and the state's powers take up. But when we despise the very people that our system of ordered liberty is meant to protect, just because they claim their rights, we set off down a very different road.

That is the spirit that animated Robespierre and Saint-Just — the notion that those who do not share one peculiar and narrow view of the world are enemies of the people.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America.

READINGS for the week of August 17

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Rom 11:13-15, 29-32 Mt 15:21-18

Monday: Ez 24:15-24 (Ps) Dt 32:18-21 Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10 (Ps) Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35c-36b Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28 Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14 Ps 107:2-9 Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Mt 23:1-12

The Sunday Gospel reflection for Aug. 17 can be found online at todayscatholicnews.org. Look for Msgr. Campion under columnists.

On quality of life

I recently saw a man in his mid-70s who came to my office accompanied by his wife for his yearly check-up. He had successful coronary artery bypass surgery about 12 years prior and his heart was still doing well.

Unfortunately, about three years earlier he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's dementia and during this visit I could really see the mental deterioration. He had very significant short-term memory loss and I wasn't confident that he would even remember if he had experienced any chest pain in recent months.

His wife would patiently give him adequate time to answer my questions and if he didn't answer in a timely or accurate fashion she would answer for him. I could easily see the love in her eyes and her caring attitude toward her husband. She asked me multiple questions about his medical care and was clearly trying to make sure I remained dedicated to giving him the best of care.

One might ask the question: "What is his quality of life?" I have had these discussions with patients as well as family members of my patients multiple times over the years. I am guilty of saying, "His quality of life isn't very good anymore." It did not occur to me until more recent times that there is so much more to consider than the perceived quality of an individual's life.

How about the example of the patient I just presented with dementia? Not too long ago I may have not seen this from his wife's perspective or for that matter God's. She has been presented with an opportunity to serve the Lord by serving her husband. While I was being narrowminded by thinking only of my patient with dementia, one really needs to explore the whole picture. His wife's spirituality may very well grow exponentially as she makes

sacrifices for her husband and receives the graces sent by the Holy Spirit.

Other friends and family members may also grow in faith and spirit because of this man's illness. This man may not really be suffering and he appeared quite happy in his state of dementia. Who are we to judge "quality of life?"

Now on a more personal note, my mother was in a nursing home facility in Cleveland for about 10 years before her death. She developed dementia at about age 72 and by age 74 my siblings and I had to make the difficult decision to place her in a nursing home for her own safety. She didn't know me the last several years of her life and I frequently prayed that God would take her. And yes I was thinking that she had poor quality of life. But as I look back there was more in play here as well.

When her dementia progressed to the point that she was no longer able to care for herself at home, I lobbied to move her to Fort Wayne and place her in a nursing home so I could keep a close eye on her. One of my sisters who lives in the Cleveland area wanted her to stay in her home town and promised to visit often and help care for her so that is what we did. My sister kept her word and visited my mom often and began a tradition of visiting her every Saturday with her two young sons. They brought great joy and comfort to my mother and they were the last family members to no longer be recognized by my mother Regina.

Only after her death did it occur to me that my mother's progressive illness had helped shape the lives of these two young boys as they grew into young men. They were given a great example by my sister — to visit the sick and honor thy mother. As spiritual writer Henri

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

Nouwen says in his book "Can You Drink the Cup": "When we lift the cup of life and share with one another our sufferings and joys in mutual vulnerability, the new covenant can become visible among us. The surprise of it all is that it is often the least among us who reveal to us that our cup is a cup of blessings."

In the future I will be very careful with how I use the phrase "quality of life" and would suggest that the next time you hear this phrase you may want to take a moment and look at the whole picture. As I look back at what my thoughts were during the last years of my mother's life, I realize my thinking was flawed. Rather than praying to God to take her from this earth, I should have prayed that her life would continue to be an instrument used for the glory of God, which it was!

We need to learn how to recognize burdens as opportunities to serve the Lord. As it says in Colossians 3:23-24: "Whatever you do, work at it with your whole being. Do it for the Lord rather than for men, since you know full well you will receive an inheritance from Him as your reward."

Dr. David Kaminskas is a board certified cardiologist and member of Lutheran Medical Group who has practiced in Fort Wayne since 1982. He is a member of The Jerome Lejeune Guild of Northeast Indiana.

been left out or misspelled in the obituary. Emotions run high when people die and a nicely written obituary is reassurance that this life mattered. I came to realize the importance of doing this small thing with precision — or as Mother Teresa would say, with great love.

Lastly, I learned something else from this experience: that it's good to ask God the question that the newspaper obituary writer asked every day of the funeral directors: "What do you have for me today?"

Once I know that, I can act purposefully, with precision and meaning and care, show kindness and make a difference.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for August 10, 2014
Matthew 14:22-33

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: a watery walk at night. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BOAT	CROWDS	MOUNTAIN
ALONE	WAVES	TERRIFIED
A GHOST	CRIED OUT	IN FEAR
AFRAID	PETER SAID	LORD
COMMAND ME	GOT OUT	STRONG
WIND	FRIGHTENED	TO SINK
HAND	LITTLE FAITH	DOUBT

GHOSTLY

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

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EVERYDAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

mation on the legal pad, took it to an electric typewriter — and showed me the format she wanted me to use.

"We vary the wording somewhat," she explained to me the very first time, "Sometimes this way. ..." And she showed me wording with the deceased's name up front. "And sometimes this way." Then she showed me a slightly different version. Several others followed.

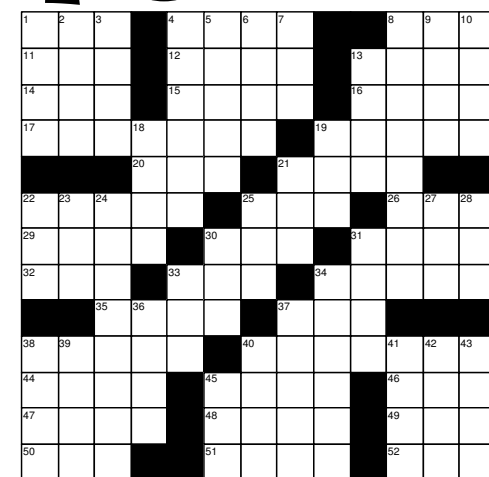
"Okay," I replied. "We really try to make sure there are no spelling errors," she continued. "You have to check everything. If there is information missing, you need to call back to get it. Make sure you include this, and this and this." And she filled in the precise details.

So I learned to follow her directions, calling the funeral homes each morning, one by one, to glean information. And I wrote up the obituaries, carefully, precisely, painstakingly sometimes, making sure the form was just right, that *this Cecelia* had an "e" not an "i" in her name, and that *that* Mr. Tom Jenkins wanted his father's initials not full names used, and that in another case, although it was usually not done, the deceased woman's cat had to be mentioned in the write-up or the family would be very upset.

Over time I came to realize what a kindness, even an act of mercy, writing obituaries is. An obituary is usually the last public write-up that a person will ever have. A small mistake can cause suffering to the family. Mistakes can be painful to survivors. No son or daughter of the deceased wants to wake up three days before the funeral of their beloved parent and see that his or her name has

The Cross Word

August 3 and 10, 2014



Based on these Scripture Readings: Is 55: 1-3; Rom 8: 35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21 and 1 Kgs 19: 9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

ACROSS

- 1 Chart
- 4 Speechless actor
- 8 Top
- 11 Expert
- 12 Like a wing
- 13 eat, drink without
- 14 International (abbr.)
- 15 Decent
- 16 Opinion (French)
- 17 Christ
- 19 "Why buy what is not"
- 20 Not New Testament
- 21 Potter's oven
- 22 Capital of Ghana
- 25 A group
- 26 To shorten (abbr.)

DOWN

- 29 Crowd followed Jesus on
- 30 Mendicant friars do
- 31 Negative (prefix)
- 32 Male cat
- 33 Hotel
- 34 Apparatus
- 35 Formal dance
- 37 Bread and fish
- 38 "Come, receive and eat"
- 40 Forced servitude
- 44 American Assoc. of Retired Persons (abbr.)
- 45 World organization
- 46 Governor
- 47 Devil is Father of
- 48 Belch
- 49 Kimono sash
- 50 Goal
- 51 Alack's partner
- 52 Nothing
- 1 Wound
- 2 Teen woe
- 3 Family animals
- 4 Philippine city
- 5 Book by Homer
- 6 Speed
- 7 Before, poetically
- 8 An agreement with David
- 9 Continent
- 10 Posttraumatic stress disorder
- 13 Charles variation
- 18 Put in order
- 19 Horse steerer
- 21 Beer container
- 22 Toward the stern
- 23 Dove sound
- 24 Equated
- 25 Jesus walked on
- 27 Energy unit
- 28 Gravestone mark
- 30 Metronome marking
- 31 Long time
- 33 You are the of God
- 34 Flies down upon
- 36 Holes
- 37 Fish tank dweller
- 38 Strong and heavy wind on Horeb
- 39 Stranded Noah's trip
- 40 Author of Romans
- 41 Greek word for contest
- 42 Mongolian desert
- 43 Devil's work
- 45 BB association

Answer Key can be found on page 19



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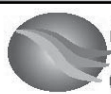
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Sacred Heart music director to release jazz CD

NOTRE DAME — J.J. Wright, the music director at Sacred Heart Parish at Notre Dame and doctorate student in sacred music at the University of Notre Dame, has announced the release of his CD, "Inward Looking Outward."

In addition to his career in church music, Wright is also a jazz pianist. The CD will be released Aug. 19 with his New York City based jazz piano trio on Ropeadope Records.

Trained as a jazz improviser at the New School for Jazz in New York City, Wright is also passionate about sacred music. Palestrina and Bach vie with Monk and Cannonball Adderley as just a few of his harmonic and melodic inspirations. While with the U.S. Naval Academy Band, Wright performed for the president — as well as several other high-profile diplomatic gigs — and with the Caribbean Jazz Project: Afro Bop Alliance, recording and performing with vibraphonist Dave Samuels, which was nominated for a Grammy and won a Latin Grammy.

"Inward Looking Outward" is Wright's debut album of original compositions and covers from Jon Brion, Sufjan Stevens and Phil Collins. He is joined by Nate Wood on drums and Ike Sturm on bass and will release the album on Ropeadope Records in conjunction with a U.S. tour in August 2014. He will be performing at the South Bend Jazz Festival on Saturday, Aug. 16.

"This project directly arose out of my studies in the Master of Sacred Music program at the University of Notre Dame," Wright said. "The recording session and mixing was partially funded by two generous graduate student research awards from the Institute for Studies in the Liberal Arts."

"The upcoming tour, which will feature concerts in jazz clubs and churches, will feature both the music from the CD and a newly composed vespers service for the feast of the Transfiguration, has been partially funded by ISLA's American Dream Summer Grant," he added. "My studies in the sacred music program at Notre Dame provided the foundation in both musical and Christian practice in order to transform the vision for both of these projects into a tangible reality."

Wright is also the editor and creator of sacred music at Notre Dame's online journal, "Music and the Sacred."

The 'Little Flowers of St. Francis Story Book' — a first

MISHAWAKA — Joe Higginbotham has recently introduced a first of its kind adaption of the classic "Little Flowers of St. Francis of Assisi for children." Geared to kids ages 5-10, "The Little Flowers" is filled with inspiring tales of Francis' great faith, his love for Jesus, and some of the favorite classic stories about Francis that many know and love. A short prayer follows each of the 25 stories.

Higginbotham, a secular Franciscan and the director of liturgy and music at St. Bavo Parish in Mishawaka, became interested in Francis of Assisi after a moving experience at the saint's tomb in Assisi, Italy. The more he learned about Francis, the more he believed that Francis had something to say to today's culture. It is Higginbotham's desire to introduce this beloved saint to children and their parents.

Higginbotham says, "Francis has always been universally loved and his message is timeless. Today he is more popular than ever thanks to Pope Francis."

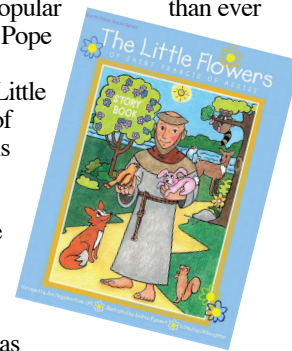
"The Little Flowers of St. Francis Story Book" is a 64-page full color book.

Andrea Pynaert has masterfully brought these classic tales to life with her expressive, colorful and heart-warming illustrations.

The book retails for \$9.95. It also has a companion 32-page coloring book, which sells for \$2.99.

Preview copies of the books were introduced at the National Catholic Education Association convention in April of this year in Pittsburgh. Both received rave reviews from hundreds of attendees there.

For more information visit www.FranciscanMusic.com or call 574-514-0395.



Natural family planners cautious about new fertility monitoring apps

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As new fertility monitoring apps such as Clue and Glow make news, specialists in natural family planning caution that any technological application is only as good as the expertise behind it and the comfort level of its users.

"The caveat with any app is: Who designed it? Is it a real NFP educator?" said Theresa Notare, assistant director of natural family planning in the Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Is there concrete, clear information folded into the app?"

Notare acknowledged that she does not have personal experience with new smartphone apps such as Glow, marketed by PayPal co-founder Max Levchin and aimed primarily at those trying to achieve pregnancy, and Clue, which helps women monitor various physical symptoms to avoid pregnancy or become pregnant.

John Kippley, president of Natural Family Planning International, based in Cincinnati, said apps can be "a waste of money" unless they educate couples about the science behind the measure-

ments.

"But if they can get people oriented toward natural family planning, then they can be worthwhile," he added.

Natural family planning involves the monitoring of certain physical signs and symptoms such as basal body temperature and cervical mucus to help a woman track the fertile and infertile phases of her menstrual cycle. It requires couples to abstain from sex during the woman's fertile days and is the only method of avoiding pregnancy supported by the Catholic Church.

But Ida Tin, the developer of Clue, said her ultimate goal is "to replace the birth control pill, or at least give an alternative" to the use of hormonal birth control, which the Church opposes.

Clue adds self-measurements of such categories as sex drive, mood, pain levels and skin problems to its algorithm that determines fertile days.

Although they may not be getting the national media coverage given to Glow and Clue, several fertility apps with ties to Catholic universities or to the Couple to Couple League, a natural family planning organization with Catholic roots, are on the market now or will be soon. These include:

- MUFertility, developed by the Marquette University College of Nursing Institute for Natural Family Planning and used in connection with the Clearblue Easy fertility monitor, which measures hormonal levels in the urine to determine fertility.

- iCycleBeads, which uses the "standard days method" of family planning and originated at the Institute for Reproductive Health at Georgetown University in Washington.

- CycleProGo, offered by the Couple to Couple League in Cincinnati, "allows couples to chart electronically, record symptoms, confirm their fertility status, and share charts with their teacher or friends," the organization's website says. Charts and data can be accessed from multiple devices, so husband and wife can both be involved in charting.

CycleProGo can also be used to determine peak fertility as an aid to achieving pregnancy.

Among the other apps currently offered for sale or for free are Woman Calendar, iChartMe, myNFP, MeFertil, NFP Manager:Sympto, FemiCycle, iOvulation, Nurtur, FemCal: Period and Ovulation Calendar, My Cycles and iFertility Log.

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.

Sausage and corn roast

South Bend — St. Casimir Parish, 1308 Dunham St, will have a corn and sausage roast on Sunday, Aug. 17, from noon to 5 p.m. The \$1 admission ticket entitles the entrant to a free corn and a cash raffle. There will be music, food, prize booths and kids games with all proceeds benefiting St. Casimir Parish.

Music to my ears

South Bend — The gift of music is being made possible by the St. Cecilia Choir of St. Adalbert Parish, who recorded a Christmas album in 1978. Digitally re-mastered, the album "From St. Adalbert's, A Gift of Christmas" is now available on CD. The album includes eleven English carols and eleven Polish carols with sentimental favorites such as Dzisiaj w Bethlejem, Lulajze Jezuniu, Joy to the World and O Holy Night. Each CD is \$15. No orders will be taken after Oct. 1. Payment is due on delivery after Nov. 1 in the parish office. To order call (574) 235-5968, or email claudiaannmaslowski@gmail.com. Leave your name, phone number and the quantity needed.

Limited openings

South Bend — Saint Joseph High School has limited openings in grades 10-12. Go to www.saintjoehigh.com or call 574-233-6137. Summer office hours are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

Port a pit chicken dinners

Walkerton — The Knights of Columbus Council 5709 will be holding a port-a-pit chicken fundraiser on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Dollar General parking lot.

Benefit dinner planned

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent Boy Scouts will hold a benefit dinner for Daniel Spillers at the Scout Lodge, 8965 Auburn Rd., Saturday, Aug. 9, from 2-5 p.m. Serving tenderloin, chicken strips, potato wedges and onion rings for \$10 donation. All proceeds go to help with medical costs.

Divine Mercy Devotion planned with speaker, Father Dan Cambra, MIC

Auburn — Father Dan Cambra, MIC, from the Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, Mass., will be speaker at all weekend Masses Aug. 9-10, at Immaculate Conception Church, 500 E. Seventh St. Mass times are Saturday, 5 p.m. and 8 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Queen of Angels athletic association plans BBQ cook-off

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a BBQ cook-off and bake-off Saturday, Sept. 6, from 5-9 p.m. Amateur grillers and bakers wanted. No entry fee. Food entered in competition will be sold to benefit the Queen of Angels Athletic Association. Visit www.fwbbq.com or call 260-422-5996 for details.

Bishop Luers alumni golf outing

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers alumni and friends will golf on Saturday, Sept. 6, at Brookwood golf course for a 1 p.m., shot gun start Florida Scramble. Four person teams with dinner and prizes at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 per person or \$20 for no golf. To register, sponsor a hole or volunteer contact Melissa Hire at mhire@bishopluer.org or Sarah Shank at sshank@bishopluer.org or call 260-456-1261 ext. 3040. All proceeds go to tuition assistance.

Theology on Tap offers summer series

Granger — Theology on Tap will be held Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Villa Macri, 225 Toscana Blvd. Series theme of Spiritual Warfare will include: Aug. 12 – Discernment of Spirits: Distinguishing Ally from Enemy – Jesuit Father Brian Dunkle; and Aug. 19 – summer cookout. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/tot.

Knights to host bus to ballgame

Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will host a bus trip to Chicago for the Chicago Cubs vs. the L.A. Dodgers baseball game on Friday, Sept. 19. Cost is \$50 per person, adults only. Bus leaves St. Pius X Church at 10 a.m. For tickets call 574-272-1565.

Peace Fest

Mishawaka — Queen of Peace Parish will have a festival Aug. 21-24. Thursday and Friday will be a rummage sale, amateur wiffleball pool play and Friday will offer breakfast. Saturday will add a classic car show, family games, food, entertainment, youth and triva night, moonlight madness rummage sale and fireworks. On Sunday Mass will be followed by games and a live auction. Visit queenofpeace.cc for details.

DONATIONS

Blood donations needed

The American Red Cross is in need of blood donations. There are three locations for donation: Fort Wayne Donor Center, 1212 E. California Rd.; Lutheran Hospital Donor Center, 7900 W. Jefferson Blvd., Suite 107, (260) 480-8170 or Goshen Donor Center, 226 S. Main St., Goshen, (574) 533-8083. To make an appointment or for information call 1-800-GIVELIFE or 1-800-448-3543.

The CrossWord
August 3 and 10, 2014

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REST IN PEACE

Elkhart

Evelyn C. Gianinno, 91, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

Ronald A. Hull, 78, Cathedral Immaculate Conception

Conrad S. Symonds, 46, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Michael W. Fridley, 60, St. Vincent de Paul

Rita Marie Ansberry, 87, St. Jude

Denise M. Cornelius, 64, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Shirley Mae Carmichael Zuber, 82, St. Peter

Morris W. Walchle, 80, Our Lady of Good Hope

John P. Musto, 92, St. Charles Borromeo

Betty Boissenet, 89, St. Jude

Granger

Phyllis Brodack, 91, St. Pius X

Kenneth M. Brothers, 53, St. Pius X

Huntington

Mildred Elizabeth Scher, 87, Ss. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Dewey F. Vanlue, 92, St. Joseph

Helen M. Hiatt, 92, St. Monica

Monroeville

Alice R. Wyss, 87, St. Rose

Iona M. Brames, 88, St. Rose

Paul J. Coyne, 75, St. Rose

New Haven

Paul J. Larson, 66, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Dorothy J. Kryder, 91, Basilica/Sacred Heart

Plymouth

Margaret C. Gilley, 86, St. Michael

South Bend

Ruth Ann Zablocki-Jones, 53, Little Flower

Annemarie H. Arch, 65, Our Lady of Hungary

Romeo C. Regalla, 67, Little Flower

Stefan Szauer, 81, Our Lady of Hungary

John Scott Harding, 75, St. Matthew

Margaret H. Petron, 97, Holy Family

Marjorie M. Horvath, 80, Holy Family

Edna L. Meykel, 90, St. John the Baptist

Elizabeth J. Horvath, 89, Our Lady of Hungary

Virginia V. Jelinski, 88, St. Stanislaus

Patrick J. Biggs Sr., 86, Corpus Christi

Warsaw

Thomas S. Ludwig, 82, Sacred Heart

Waterloo

Winifred Charleston Baker, 95, St. Michael

Father David Murphy, O. Carm., 95, National Shrine of St. Therese in Ill. Father Murphy taught at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame

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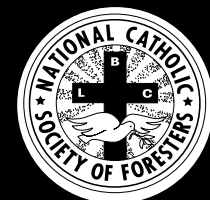
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48th Annual **Sept. 1 2014**

Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish
228 North Main Street, Avilla, Indiana

LABOR DAY CHICKEN BARBECUE & FESTIVAL
(Serving Barbecue & Ham 11:00 to 5:00 PM)
CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE

•Games •Raffles •Fun for everyone!

FESTIVAL of Faith

Friday and Saturday, August 15 & 16, 2014

at HEADWATERS PARK

330 South Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, 46802

Beginning with a 6:00 p.m. Mass in the Cathedral

of the Immaculate Conception celebrated by

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who, following Mass, will lead a

Marian procession from the Cathedral to Headwaters Park.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Friday, August 15

- *Marian Mass at the Cathedral 6:00 p.m.*
- *Procession from Cathedral to Headwaters Park 7:00 - 7:15 p.m.*
- *Opening Ceremony 8:15 p.m.*
- *Bill Werling & "Breakaway Band" (live music-square/line dancing) 8:30- 10:30 p.m.*
- *Food and Beverages available 8:30 - 10:30 p.m.*

Saturday, August 16

- *Pancake and Sausage Breakfast; Bingo 10:00 a.m.*
- *"Festival of Faith" 5K Run 10:00 a.m.**
- *Rosary and Confessions 11:00 a.m.*
- *K of C Shroud of Turin replica, with video on display all day 12:00 p.m.*
- *Table displays of non-profit groups promoting their mission and charitable works 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.*
- *Special Guest Speaker Dr. Ray Guarendi: "Laughter: the Sanity of Family" 1:00 p.m.**
- *Children's Games with the Franciscan Friars, rides, give aways 2:00 p.m.*
- *Concert by Fort Wayne Area Community Band 2:30 p.m.*
- *Pie bake off (bring your favorite pie to be judged by Franciscan Friars) 3:30 p.m.*
- *Guest Speaker Father David Mary Engo 3:30-4:30 p.m.**
- *Live Entertainment 7:00 p.m.*

***for more information visit www.kofcfestival.com**

Everyone Welcome, Please Join Us!