

December 21, 2014

Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



Think Green
Recycle
Go Green
Go Digital

50¢
Volume 88, No. 43
todayscatholicnews.org



**Our Lady of
Guadalupe**

Pages 8-9

Joy to the world

In Truth and Charity

Page 2

Tribute

Father Robert Traub dies

Page 3

Christmas cheer in music

Notre Dame's Children's Choir
celebrates second year concert

Page 6

World Meeting of Families

Diocesan plans for Philadelphia
event with Pope Francis

Pages 11-12

No issue next week

Next publication Jan. 4, 2015

TODAY'S CATHOLIC



CNS/BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY
"Nativity at Night" by Italian Baroque painter Guido Reni depicts the birth of Christ in a Bethlehem manger. The feast of the Nativity of Christ, a holy day of obligation, is celebrated Dec. 25.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: Ann Carey, Michelle Castleman, Karen Clifford, Bonnie Elbersson, Denise Fedorow, Diane Freeby, Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, Jodi Magallanes, Joe Kozinski, Vince LaBarbera and Deb Wagner

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Sean McBride

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Bethany Belleville
bbelleville@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen

tsteffen@diocesefwsb.org

(260) 456-2824

Web site: www.todayscatholicnews.org

Published weekly except second Sunday of January; and every other week from the fourth Sunday in June through the middle Sunday of September; and last Sunday in December by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, 1103 S. Calhoun St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801. Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne, IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or email: bbelleville@diocesefwsb.org.

MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260) 456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.
BUREAU OFFICE: 1328 Dragoon Trail, Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone (260) 456-2824. Fax (260) 744-1473.

News deadline is the Monday morning before publication date. Advertising deadline is nine days before publication date.

Today's Catholic may be reached at:

Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:
editor@diocesefwsb.org

ISSN 0891-1533
USPS 403630



Find us on Facebook!

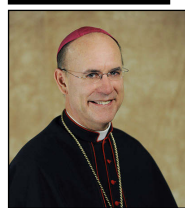
www.facebook.com/diocesefwsb



Follow us on Twitter!

@diocesefwsb

Joy to the world

IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

We are about to celebrate the joyful mystery of the Nativity of the Lord. God comes down among us, and we ascend to God. Christmas is the mystery of this *marvelous exchange*. In the Liturgy of the Hours, we read:

O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of the Virgin. We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share our humanity.

The Church invites us to rejoice on the feast of Our Savior's birth. Joy is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, a hallmark of the Christian life. Yet, we know that with life's problems and challenges, it is not always easy to live in joy. Christmas reminds us of the reason for our joy: the Lord is near; He saves us; He loves us.

The prophet Isaiah wrote long ago: *I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for He has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of salvation.* That's really the secret of true joy: it is "in God." This is why one can have joy even in the midst of suffering. Just think of the Christian martyrs. In so many accounts, we read that, approaching death, they were joyful. That's hard to grasp. But they had joy even in such horrible circumstances because of their knowledge that God was with them. They felt His love and tenderness. They trusted in their salvation.

Jesus prayed for our joy at the Last Supper. He prayed to the Father that His joy might be in His disciples and that their joy might be complete. We find the source of the joy in Jesus, our Savior, through prayer and charity. Even in the midst of trials and tribulations, we can know joy.

I pray that all may experience the joy of the Lord this Christmas. Pope Francis speaks often about how, as Christians, we are to be messengers of the joy of the Gospel. In the world, there is often a lack of joy. Many seek pleasures that do not bring authentic joy. To be messengers of joy, we must first experience the joy of the Gospel in our own hearts. This comes about when we listen with faith and perseverance to the Word of God and when we allow ourselves to experience the love of God and His consolation in our life. Only then can we bring that joy to others.

Pope Francis teaches us about listening to the Lord in prayer and hearing Him say to each of us: "You are important to me; I love you; I am counting on you." Joy is born from this encounter with Jesus and His love, especially through prayer.

Real joy, even in the midst of hardships, is the gift of knowing that we are loved, that Jesus is with us, not only that He came to save us 2,000 years ago, but that He saves us now. This is the true joy of Christmas. It is a joy that is deep and interior, that one can have even in the midst of life's challenges: grief at the death of a loved one, a debilitating illness, poverty, homelessness, etc. I think a lot these days about our Christian brothers and sisters in Iraq who have lost their homes and belongings and are living as refugees. They refused to deny their faith in Christ. And even though they seem to have lost everything, they haven't. They have not lost their greatest possession: Jesus and their faith in Him. And so they are able, even in their suffering, to experience the joy of Christmas.

The prophet Isaiah wrote: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwell in the land of gloom a light has*



JOE ROMIE

The outdoor Nativity scene from 2012 is from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades writes in this week's column, "The joy of Christmas cannot be dispelled since the light of Christ cannot be extinguished by the darkness of evil and death if we live in His love."

shone. In the midst of the horror of imprisonment by the Nazis and being taken to Auschwitz, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) wrote: "The star of Bethlehem is a star in the darkness of night even today." The joy of Christmas cannot be dispelled since the light of Christ cannot be extinguished by the darkness of evil and death if we live in His love.

We are called like the shepherds to bring the true joy of Christmas, the joy of the Gospel, to others. I invite you to reach out to someone who is hurting during this season. Reach out to them with the love of Christ, the joy of the Gospel.

When the angel Gabriel greeted Mary at the Annunciation, he said: *Rejoice, full of grace!* Gabriel invited Mary to a deep joy. She conceived the Son of God and carried Him in her womb. She went in haste to bring the joy that she held in her womb, the joy of her Son, to Elizabeth. And when she did, the unborn John the Baptist leapt for joy in his mother Elizabeth's womb. Joy is contagious.

We are called to imitate Mary by going out to bring the joy of faith in Christ to the world. The joy of Christmas, the joy of the Gospel, is meant for all people. This is the joy we should mean when we say to others *Merry Christmas!* We are not wishing them superficial merriment, something that is fleeting and transitory. We are wishing them the joy of God's amazing love, the

joy of God who comes as a tiny infant lying in a manger. May you all experience and share with others the true joy of Christmas!



**PUBLIC SCHEDULE
OF
BISHOP
KEVIN C. RHOADES**

- Sunday, Dec. 21, 10:30 a.m. — Television Mass, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Dec. 22, 11 a.m. — Mass and Luncheon for Diocesan Employees, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, Dec. 25, 12 a.m. — Midnight Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, Dec. 27, 4:30 p.m. — Mass at Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend

Vatican report calls U.S. women religious to continued dialogue

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A massive, detailed Vatican-ordered investigation of U.S. communities of women religious ended with a call to the women themselves to continue discerning how best to live the Gospel in fidelity to their orders' founding ideals while facing steeply declining numbers and a rapidly aging membership.

Although initially seen by many religious and lay Catholics as a punitive measure, the apostolic visitation concluded with the publication Dec. 16 of a 5,000-word final report summarizing the problems and challenges the women themselves see in their communities and thanking them for their service to the Church and to society, especially the poor.

The visitation process, carried out between 2009 and 2012 with detailed questionnaires and on-site visits, mainly by other women religious, "sought to convey the caring support of the Church in respectful, sister-to-sister dialogue," says the final report by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The process attempted to help the Vatican "and the sisters themselves to be more cognizant of their current situation and challenges in order to formulate realistic, effective plans for the future," said the report, signed by Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect of the congregation for religious, and Archbishop Jose Rodriguez Carballo, secretary.

In summarizing the results, the congregation called for special attention in several areas, including: formation programs for new members; the personal, liturgical and common prayer life of members; ensuring their spiritual practices and ministries are fully in harmony with Church teaching "about God, creation, the Incarnation and redemption" in Christ; strengthening



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Sister Sharon Holland, president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious receives applause after speaking at a Dec. 16 Vatican press conference for release of the final report of a Vatican-ordered investigation of U.S. communities of women religious. From left are Sister Holland, Sister Agnes Mary Donovan, coordinator of the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious and Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman.

community life, especially for members living on their own or with just one other sister; living their vow of poverty while wisely administering financial resources; and strengthening communion within the Church, especially with the bishops and Vatican officials.

The Vatican, the report says, "is well aware that the apostolic visitation was met with apprehension and suspicion by some women religious. This resulted in a refusal, on the part of some institutes, to collaborate fully in the process."

"While the lack of full cooperation was a painful disappointment for us," the congregation writes, "we use this present opportunity to invite all religious institutes to accept our willingness to engage in respectful and fruitful dialogue with them."

At a news conference presenting the report Dec. 16, the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life invited both the president of the LCWR and the chairwoman of the smaller U.S. Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious to address the media. They were joined by Mother Mary Clare Millea, superior general of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the apostolic visitor appointed by the Vatican.

The congregation's final report says that while apostolic visits are "a normal instrument of governance" designed to "assist the group in question to improve the way in which it carries out its mission in the life of the Church," the visitation of U.S. women religious "was unprecedented" in many ways.

"It involved 341 religious institutes of both diocesan and pontifical right, to which approximately 50,000 women religious throughout the United States belong," the report says. Only communities of cloistered nuns were excluded.

While not news, the report presents striking statistics: "Today, the median age of apostolic women religious in the United States is in the mid- to late-70s. The current number of approximately 50,000 apostolic women religious is a decline of about 125,000 since the mid-1960s, when the numbers of religious in the United States had reached their peak."

The congregation's report does not make specific recommendations other than urging the entire Church "to offer fervent prayer for religious vocations" and to ask religious communities to ensure they provide "a solid, theological, human, cultural, spiritual and pastoral preparation" for religious life.

Father Robert Traub dies

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Father Robert L. Traub, the oldest living diocesan priest, died at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community where he had been in residence for the past 15 years on Saturday, Dec. 13. He was 101.

Robert Traub was born on Aug. 23, 1913, in Muncie, the oldest of the nine children of Adam and Ann Traub. He attended St. Lawrence School, Muncie, and graduated from Central High School in 1931. After graduation from Columbia Academy, Dubuque, Iowa, in 1935, Father Traub enrolled at St. Meinrad Seminary, St. Meinrad. He was ordained to the Priesthood on June 3, 1939, by Bishop John F. Noll in the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Following his ordination, Father Traub earned a teaching degree from the University Of Notre Dame, and initially was appointed as an assistant at St. Joan of Arc Church, Kokomo, in September of 1940 with residence at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital. In July of 1943, he was named to the teaching staff of Catholic Central High School, Hammond, where he taught Latin, religion, civics, economics and American history.

In July of 1955, Father Traub was appointed pastor of St. Joseph Church, Bluffton, and in July of 1968 was named pastor of St. Louis Church, Besancon, for two years. Father Traub then was appointed pastor of St. Mary Church, Huntington. In July 1978, he was named pastor of St. John Bosco Church, Churubusco, and Immaculate Conception Parish, Ege.

Father Traub retired on Sept. 11, 1978 and resided at St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne, for nearly 20 years. He assumed the duties of temporary administrator there in 1988 for about three weeks. For the past 15 years he had been residing at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community.

In 2013, Father Traub celebrated his centennial birthday with a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. A year later he celebrated his 75th jubilee as priest.

Father Traub was known for his sense of humor and positive attitude. In a recent interview with *Today's Catholic*, when asked to what he attributed his longevity, the centenarian said, "It was exercise, parking the car a ways away and purposely choosing to walk to my destination." When asked what he enjoyed most about his Priesthood, he said, "Taking care of the sick, I suppose, and helping people in general." Father Paul D. Miller now becomes the oldest diocesan priest at 98.

Father John Pfister, pastor of St. Mary Church in Huntington, has known Father Traub for about 45 years. Father Traub, in retire-



FATHER ROBERT TRAUB

ment, assisted with Masses and Confessions for eight years at St. Jude Parish when Father Pfister was pastor there. He also attended the emergencies that were called in from Parkview Hospital. Of his friend, Father Pfister said, "He had a heart of gold. He loved children. He was really a good person." He related that Father Traub was a social man who enjoyed people. "He enjoyed playing cards and going to the Knights of Columbus fish fries. He also enjoyed traveling," said Father Pfister, who delivered the homily at Father Traub's funeral Mass upon his request.

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

Msgr. William Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X in Granger knew Father Traub most of his 40 years of Priesthood and was grateful to have the retired priest at St. Jude when he was pastor there. "He took care of most of the hospital calls," said Msgr. Schooler, adding, "He was a character. He kept things moving around in the house."

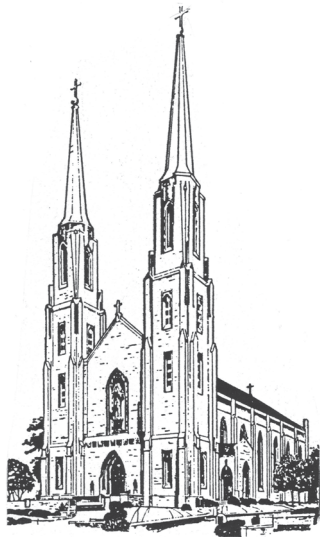
Msgr. Robert Shulte, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, wrote of Father Traub, "Father Traub is remembered for his constant sense of humor and friendliness. He was generous on serving many parishes during his retirement."

Surviving are his brothers, Dave Traub, Edward (Francis) Traub, and Jim (Jane) Traub; and sisters, Ann Quakenbush, Martha Jean (Bill) Taylor and Marjorie Dooley. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Richard Traub and his wife Mary, John Traub, brothers-in-law, Floyd Quakenbush and Joseph Dooley, sister-in-law, Ruth Traub and great-nephew, Nathan Marlow.

Funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, with Father John F. Pfister as homilist, at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, at St. Jude Church. Burial in Beech Grove Cemetery, Muncie.

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

1100 South Calhoun Street - Fort Wayne



Christmas Eve Masses:
5:00 PM (Children's Mass)

Midnight Mass
(Music begins at 11:30 PM)

Christmas Day Masses

9:00 & 11:00 AM

New Year's Masses

Vigil Mass December 31 - 5:00 PM

January 1

9:00 & 11:00 AM

January 4 - Feast of the Epiphany

7:00 PM - Evening Prayer & Concert

Visit the Cathedral during this Season of Grace.

Count down to Christmas by counting your blessings, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — No saint was ever known for having a “funeral face,” Pope Francis said; the joy of knowing one is loved by God and saved by Christ must be seen at least in a sense of peace, if not a smile.

Celebrating the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, Dec. 14, Pope Francis paid an evening visit to Rome's St. Joseph Parish, meeting with the sick, with a group of Gypsies, with a first Communion class and with dozens of couples whose newborn babies were baptized in the past year.

“Be joyful as you prepare for Christmas,” he told them at Mass, urging as a first step that people thank God each day for the blessings they have been given.

A Christian's Christmas joy has nothing to do with “the consumerism that leads to everyone being anxious Dec. 24 because, ‘Oh, I don't have this, I need that’ — no, that is not God's joy.”

With Christmas “less than 15

days away, no 13 days, let us pray. Don't forget, we pray for Christmas joy. We give thanks to God for the many things He has given us and for faith, first of all.”

Earlier in the day, reciting the Angelus with visitors in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis blessed the statues of the Baby Jesus that will take center place in Nativity scenes in Rome schools, churches and homes. Addressing the children who brought their figurines to the square, the pope said, “When you pray in front of your creche at home, remember to pray for me, like I will remember you.”

At the end of the Angelus, volunteers distributed a little booklet, marked “gift of Pope Francis,” containing the texts of the Our Father and Hail Mary and other “traditional prayers,” as well as prayers drawn from the Psalms and the “five-finger prayer.” Using the fingers on one hand, the prayer guides people in praying for those closest to them, for those who teach, for those who govern, for those who are weak and — on the pinkie or smallest finger — for one's own humility.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

A man holds a figurine of the baby Jesus as Pope Francis leads the Angelus from the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Dec. 14. The pope blessed figurines of the baby Jesus held by people in the square.

“The human heart desires joy,” the pope said in his Angelus address. “We all want joy; every family, all peoples aspire to joy. But what kind of joy are Christians called to witness? It is that joy that comes from closeness to God and from His presence in our lives.”

“A Christian is one who has a heart full of peace because he or she knows how to find joy in the Lord even when going through difficult moments in life,” he said. “Having faith does not mean not having difficulties, but having the strength to face them knowing that we are not alone.”

When joy or at least peace shines through a person's face, he said, others will wonder why, opening the possibility of sharing with them the Gospel.

With Christmas approaching, the pope said, “the Church invites us to give witness that Jesus is not just a historical figure; He is the Word of God who continues to illuminate people's paths today; His gestures — the sacraments — show the tenderness, consolation of love of the Father for every human being.”

Dressed in rose vestments for the evening Mass at the parish on Rome's western edge, Pope Francis explained that usually Advent vestments are a dark color, “but today they are rose because the joy of Christmas is blossoming.”

“The joy of Christmas is a special joy, a joy that is not only for Christmas Day, but for the entire life of a Christian,” he said.

Speaking without a prepared text, the pope said someone could say, “Oh, father, we make a big meal (at Christmas) and everyone is happy.” This is beautiful. A big meal is good, but it is not the Christian joy we're talking about.”

Christian joy, he said, “comes from prayer and from giving thanks to God.” It grows as one reviews all the blessings God has given.

“But there are people who do not know how to thank God; they always look for things to complain about,” the pope said. Speaking confidentially, he told parishioners that he used to know a nun who worked hard, “but her life was all about complaining,” so much so that “in the convent they called her ‘Sister Whiner.’ But a Christian can't live that way, always looking for something to complain about!”

On Sale Now!

GLORIOUSLY BROADWAY

SISTER ACT

AMERICA'S NEW MUSICAL-COMEDY CLASSIC

SUN. JAN. 25, 2015 • 3PM

Embassy Theatre | 800-745-3000

Tickets also available at the Embassy Box Office, All **ticketmaster** outlets, and at www.ticketmaster.com

For Group Discounts (10+) Call 260-424-5665

MIDWEST AMERICA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Your town. Your voice. The News-Sentinel

JamTheatricals

The Journal Gazette

24/7 LIVE

CCCC COUNSELING LLC
Catholic Therapy from Children to Adults
SPECIALTIES

- Anxiety and OCD Disorders • Panic Disorders
- Depression • Child/Adolescent Behavior Issues
- Relationship Issues • Substance Abuse

OFFICE: 10347 Dawson's Creek Blvd., Suite E
Fort Wayne, IN 46825 PHONE: (260) 438-8907
EMAIL: stacie.kreiger@gmail.com

Most Insurances Accepted

Stacie A. Kreiger, MA, LMHC
Licensed Mental Health Practitioner
Parishioner, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

verified by Psychology Today

High Quality • Not High Cost

Villa of the Woods
Senior Residential Living

Our affordable rates include:

- Furnished Room • Home Cooked Meals • 24 Hour staff
- Weekly Housekeeping Services • Laundry Service • Activities
- Free Cable TV • Medication Reminders • Free Medication Set

Financial Assistance for housing costs currently available through RCAP program.

A program of Catholic Charities

Visit us at www.villaofthewoods.com 260-745-7039

“And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.” Luke 1:14

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas

Rudi and Mike

FinancialFocus

www.FinancialFocusOnline.com

Rudi Siela CFP®, CLU, ChFC

260-637-6866

Mike Richardville MBA

Advisory Services offered through Investment Advisors, a division of ProEquities, Inc., a Registered Investment Advisor. Securities offered through ProEquities Inc., a Registered Broker Dealer, Member FINRA & SIPC. FINANCIAL FOCUS is independent of ProEquities, Inc.

Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem supports the life of the Church in Holy Land

BY MATTHEW BUNSON

Catholics are sometimes surprised to see an unusual group of men and women in the processions at major diocesan events. The men wear white cloaks and black berets, and the women are dressed in black mantles and black chapel veils. Adorning the left shoulder of each cloak and mantle is a vivid red cross surrounded by four smaller crosses, the famed Jerusalem Cross. If the vesture looks medieval, there is a very good reason.

The men and women marching in procession are members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. They belong to a Catholic order of chivalry that stretches back more than 1,000 years and that today claims some 30,000 members worldwide in 35 different countries. The order has one chief purpose: To support the life of the Church in the Holy Land, especially the vital labors of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, the diocese for Latin Christians that stretches across Israel, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza and Cyprus. The order, however, is committed not merely to maintaining the Christian presence in the Holy Land but helping it to flourish.

Given the horrific news coming out of the Middle East in recent years, the task is a very urgent one. Where Christians once were the majority, today in the Holy Land they comprise only 2 to 4 percent of the population. Christians are leaving their homeland because of the seemingly endless violence and

lack of economic opportunity.

For the Knights and Ladies of the Equestrian Order, a Holy Land without Christians is unthinkable, but this is a scattering that must be resisted not with military force but with prayer, humble service and generous gifts of time, talent and treasure.

The origins of the order are traced to the First Crusade in 1099, when Christian knights under the respected leader Godfrey de Bouillon captured Jerusalem from the Muslims. Before his untimely death the next year, Godfrey recruited a group of knights noted for their bravery and honor and asked that they and their successors pledge themselves to obedience, poverty and the fearless defense of the Holy Sepulchre and the holy places.

Thanks to the individual chapters that had been formed across Europe, the order survived the fall of Jerusalem to Islamic armies in 1187 and the final death of the Crusader States in the Holy Land in 1291. Its members continued to live the ideals of chivalry, including protection of the weak and, rarely, military service.

In 1847, Pope Blessed Pius IX, hoping to strengthen the Christian presence in the Holy Land, restored the Latin Patriarchate that had been defunct for centuries. He placed the order under the protection of the Holy See and commanded the Knights and Ladies to help the patriarchate and assist in propagating the faith across the region. Subsequent popes reorganized and modernized the order, including St. John Paul II who declared it a public association of the faithful in 1996.

The order, today, is headed by a



PROVIDED BY DR. THOMAS MCGOVERN

Dr. Thomas McGovern, who is a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, kneels to touch the 14-point star under crypt/cave altar where Christ is believed to have been born at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. The 14-points refer to three cycles of 14 generations from Abraham to King David to Babylonian exile and to Christ according to genealogy in Matthew Chapter 1. Members of the order are expected to make a visit to the Holy Land. Dr. McGovern made a pilgrimage earlier this fall.

Cardinal Grand Master, presently an American, Cardinal Edwin O'Brien, former archbishop of Baltimore. He is assisted by a consultative body called the Grand Magisterium, and by 52 lieutenancies, including 15 in North America and Canada.

Funds raised by the lieutenancies go to building and maintaining schools and the patriarchal seminary, as well as orphanages, clinics, housing and various special projects needed by the Latin Patriarchate and its 68 parishes. Recently, the order provided desperately needed aid to the people in Gaza because of the fighting between Israelis and

Palestinians.

Membership is by invitation and is possible only after approval by a candidate's pastor and bishop and finally the Holy See. Members are frequently reminded that to be a Knight or Lady is not some high honor but a life-long commitment to service undertaken with humility. They are expected to be faithful to the Vicar of Christ and the teachings of the Church; to be witnesses to the authentic Christian life; and to per-

form genuine acts of charity.

And then there is the close tie that exists between all Knights and Ladies and the very tomb of Christ in Jerusalem. Pope Francis told the members of the Order in 2013, "An ancient bond links you to the Holy Sepulchre, perennial memorial of Christ crucified who was laid there and of the Risen Christ who conquered death."

Knights and Ladies are thus asked to make at least one pilgrimage to the Holy Land, to visit the key Christian sites — especially the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre, Bethlehem, Nazareth and Galilee. It is an intense experience. Dr. Tom McGovern, the local section representative, including the 27 members of the order in the diocese, says of his recent journey to the Holy Land: "I understand the Gospels so much better after seeing where Jesus walked."

Similarly, Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick, a member for 16 years, is grateful for the education regarding the "true situation" of the Christians in the Holy Land. "I think," he observes, "the average person does not understand much about the Holy Land, other than what they might get from the evening news."

The Order of the Holy Sepulchre is rooted in tradition and the past, but it strives every day to make a future possible for those living in the very birthplace of the Catholic faith.

High-Efficiency Windows



Save on your energy bills now and let your windows pay for themselves later!

With the high cost of today's cooling and heating bills, our high efficiency vinyl windows pay for themselves in practically no time at all!

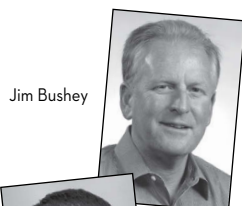
And right now we're offering zero percent down and 0% Interest for one full year. So you save on your energy bills now, and let your windows pay for themselves later. What a concept! Call today for a free estimate or call store for details.

Bushey's will donate \$50.00 to Catholic Charities for an order of five or more windows.



260.456.1247
1701 Fairfield Avenue • Fort Wayne, Indiana
www.busheysfw.com

12 months
0% Interest
Free in-home
estimate



Jim Bushey



Jeff Bushey



Sunrooms • Room Additions • Decks
Pergolas • Interior Remodeling
Basement Finishing

health
markets

Life | Health | Medicare | Long-Term Care

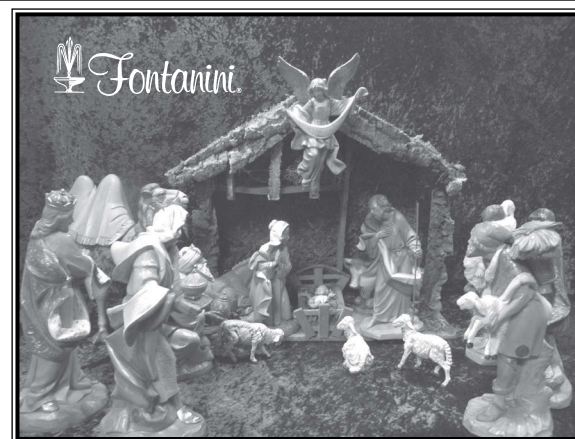
healthmarkets.com/aherber

C 260-452-8333
P 855-221-1466



Angela Herber

Licensed Insurance Agent
HealthMarkets Insurance Agency



**All Saints
Religious Goods**

8808 Coldwater Road - Fort Wayne, IN 46825 (260) 490-7506

From I-69 use exit 312 North
Located in Coldwater Centre at Wallen Road

Advent Wreaths & Candles • Religious Christmas Cards
Fontanini Nativities

Notre Dame Children's Choir celebrates second Christmas together

BY TRISH LINNER

NOTRE DAME — Sunday, Dec. 14, marked the second annual Christmas concert performed by the Notre Dame Children's Choir at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto on the campus of Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame. The choir was formed in the fall of last year.

According to Mark Doerries, the artistic director and conductor of the Chamber Choir, the choir was formed to "engage young singers with the powerful and often forgotten heritage of sacred music of the Christian church."

The choir is a part of the larger organization of Sacred Music at Notre Dame, with the cooperation of The University of Notre Dame. The goal, said Doerries, is to "specialize in the training of conductors, singers and organists at the graduate level to become future Church music leaders and professional musicians. Between the Notre Dame Children's Choir and Sacred Music at Notre Dame we educate musicians through the entire age range from 5-35."

The choir was conceived as a 20-voice ensemble. While Doerries serves as the artistic director, his wife Hillary serves as the accompanist and administrator of the program. During the summer of 2013, the Doerries visited local churches, schools and community centers introducing the choir concept and gaining support for the program.

"The Catholic parishes and schools of South Bend were particularly generous in lending their support of the program," Doerries said. "Many graciously established connections with us as an after-school music program."

The first round of auditions gave the new program 55 singers. As word spread throughout the community about the program, they have continued to grow. This fall the auditions led to an enrollment of 135 singers.

"We have grown from two choirs and four staff members to



PROVIDED BY MATT CASHORE

The Notre Dame Children's Choir is shown in a presentation Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto on the campus of Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame.

five choirs and 13 conductors, drivers, vocal coaches, music educators and administrators," Doerries said. "We also have a host of clergy who regularly lead the choirs in prayer. We are blessed and believe that our growth is a reflection of the importance of our work to empower singers through meaningful encounters with sacred music."

In addition to performing a wide variety of music from Gregorian Chant, to spirituals, the cantatas of J.S. Bach, and the music of Benjamin Britten, Mozart and contemporary rock and folk artists, the choir seeks to educate the whole child through musical, spiritual and social means. The choir seeks to combine sacred music traditions from many Christian faiths. They hold prayer services, vespers,

lessons and carols, and evensong services.

"We believe that connecting children to sacred music at an early age creates lifelong engagement with the Church and the art music of our concert halls. Sacred music connects singers to the theological roots of the Church and to western classical music; to lose this music is to forget our spiritual history, culture and ancestors," noted Doerries.

The Notre Dame Children's Choir unites singers from across the Michiana community from a wide variety of Catholic and Protestant faiths, rich and financially insecure households, as well as African American, Hispanic and immigrant backgrounds. It has had a profound effect on the students who are involved in the program.

"There are many things I like about the choir," said singer Lydia Potter, eighth grader at Mishawaka Catholic. "I have sung many songs in different languages and from different cultures. I have also met some of my best friends since the choir began."

"Since joining the choir," she added, "I have seen myself grow as a singer. I have been taught to read more parts of the music, how to project, and to sing a part of a large ensemble. All the directors are so nice and want you to learn and have fun. I'm very glad I joined and I hope we get even more members."

Parents are just as impressed. "Lydia has been part of the choir since the beginning," said Amy Potter. "I love the fact that this group of talented children can come

together from all walks of life and create such beautiful music. Lydia has been challenged vocally and has been given wonderful opportunities to share her talent with others in addition to her learning from others with more experience that share her love of singing. That being said, the community that has grown out of this shared musical endeavor is a very special one indeed."

Rita Lyden, who has two singers — Seamus and Lilia — in the choir, also spoke highly of the program.

"Lilia joined first and just loved it so much, she inspired her brother to join," she said. "They both have so much fun. They have both been practicing together for the Christmas concert, but they tried to keep some of the songs secret from us so we would be surprised."

"It's a commitment with two practices a week," Lyden noted, "but the directors go out of their way to make it special for the kids and they get social time as well as learning time."

The program is not only a benefit to the local community. The Notre Dame Children's Choir places Notre Dame graduate students in conducting, voice and organ programs into the classrooms as choir directors.

Through courses in children's choral methods at Notre Dame and the experience of teaching the choir singers in the classroom, the graduate students are being trained to enter their parish and regional communities upon graduation and to establish sacred music children's choirs with similar missions to the Notre Dame Children's Choir.

In the past year, the Notre Dame Children's Choir has established an annual performance at an outdoor concert at the South Bend Farmer's Market in early October, an annual community wide children's choir festival in May, and their annual Christmas concert on the campus of Saint Mary's College.

Composer Ruth Boshkoff enhanced this year's Christmas concert by a song written especially for the middle school Chamber Choir. A nationally recognized composer and music educator, Boshkoff was on hand to hear the children sing the song she composed for them.

"The song took me most of the summer to write," said Boshkoff smiling. "I wanted it to be different. I kept thinking about the whole Christmas story, the journey, the Wise Men and the three Kings. The children sang it beautifully. One mother came up to me and told me that her son sings this song all the time, all around the house practicing. That's the thing I most like to hear, when the children love to sing what I have written."

The Christmas concert this year drew over 400 family members, friends, students from Saint Mary's College and Notre Dame, the sisters from the college, as well as members of the Michiana community.

For more information about the Notre Dame Children's Choir, visit their website at www.ndc-choir.org or email at ndcchoir@nd.edu.

Cathedral Books & Gifts

30% OFF
All Christmas Items!*

through December 23, 2014

*Excludes Fontanini

20% OFF!

One Regular Price Item
Coupon expires December 31, 2014
NOT VALID WITH OTHER DISCOUNTS
One Coupon per Customer

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Christmas: Dec. 24 - 27 • New Year's: Jan. 1 - 3, 2015

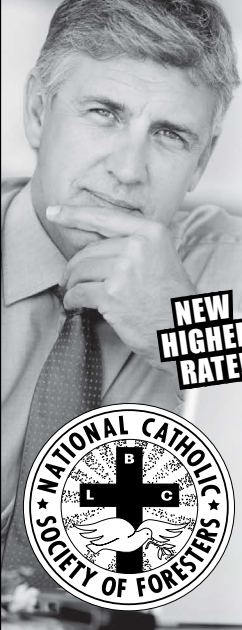
Hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri. - 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Thursday: 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

Extended Saturday Hours- Dec. 20: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**FREE
PARKING
in our garage!**

915 South Clinton Street • Fort Wayne 46802 • (260) 399-1443



Annuities¹

IRA AND ROTH

**NON-QUALIFIED AND QUALIFIED,
SINGLE OR FLEXIBLE PREMIUM**

4.15%
4.00%

**1st Yr Interest Rate,
10-Yr Surrender Charge^{2,3},
\$50,000+ Deposit, 1.5%
Min. Guaranteed Interest**

**1st Yr Interest Rate,
7-Yr Surrender Charge^{2,3},
\$50,000+ Deposit, 1.5%
Min. Guaranteed Interest**

HAVE A CD MATURING? HAVE A
LOW RATE SAVINGS ACCOUNT?

Products/features may not be available in all states. 1-ICC12FPDA, ICC12SPDA. 2-Interest rate guaranteed first 12 months from date of issue. Rates subject to change at any time. Initial deposits of \$300-49,999 receive 3.75% 1st year rate on 10-yr and 3.50% on 7-yr. Surrender charges apply for early withdrawal. 2.25% interest rate after 1st year. 3-Issue age 0-80 per state limitations.

ADVOCATE FINANCIAL

CALL TODAY! 260.338.1249

10.14AD2-ANN

Saint Mary's College athletics pairs with Team IMPACT

NOTRE DAME — The Saint Mary's College Department of Athletics has joined Team IMPACT and has been partnered with a 10-year-old girl from New Carlisle in a unique program which spans the country.

According to its website, Team IMPACT is an organization which improves the quality of life for children facing life-threatening and chronic illnesses by matching these courageous kids with local college athletic teams. Nearly 300 schools have been matched with 560 children in 37 states.

Through the organization, Saint Mary's College has been paired up with 10-year-old Bryanna Sikora. Sikora was born drug exposed due to her birth mother's substance abuse during pregnancy. As a result, she suffered from amniotic band syndrome, which occurs when amniotic bands wrap around the fetus resulting in development problems. Additionally, Sikora has been diagnosed with hydrocephalus, cerebral palsy and arthrogryposis. She has needed a trach, has a feeding tube and communicates through sign language and a communication device.

Sikora officially joined the Saint Mary's basketball team on Wednesday, Dec. 3. Sikora received a reversible jersey as well as other team apparel and was announced as the newest member of the team in a recognition ceremony.

Central Catholic High School Class of '64 awards scholarships

FORT WAYNE — The Central Catholic High School Class of 1964 held its 50th class reunion on Oct. 4.

With the invitation for the reunion, organizers requested donations for struggling classmates and to assist with costs of the reunion. Classmates donated from \$15 to \$600, which not only provided the basic costs for the reunion but assisted those in need to attend the reunion. During the post-reunion meeting it was decided to use the remaining donation funds to honor the parents who sacrificed so that their children could receive a Catholic education.

The Central Catholic High School Class of 1964 presented a scholarship in the amount of \$500 to both Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger high schools to help a descendant of a Central Catholic High School graduate pay down his or her high school debt and enable him or her to go on to higher education.

"I challenge those of you planning a reunion this year or in the future, to carry on this legacy," says Cindy Loraine DuBois, chairman of the Central Catholic High School Class of '64 Reunion Committee.

The Bishop Luers recipient of the scholarship is senior Makenna Zwick. She is the granddaughter of a 1964 Central Catholic graduate.

The Bishop Dwenger recipient is junior Zachary Hensler. He is the grandson of 1964 Central Catholic graduates.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

FOUR VINCENTIANS RECEIVE TOP HAT AWARDS



MARK WEBER

At the 70th annual meeting of the district council of St. Vincent de Paul of Fort Wayne, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass at St. Mary Mother of God Church for 150 members, reminding them that in their work, they followed the example of St. Lucy and that their service and love of the poor let the light of Christ shine for others. Top Hatter Gwen Dodane works at the Thrift Store, writes grants, organizes bus trips, visits the sick and ushers at her parish, St. Louis Besancon. Other Top Hat Award winners were Judy Roeger of Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne, Gerald Wuest of St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, and John Matera of St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne.

'Why Catholic?' deepens faith awakened with ARISE Together in Christ

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has invited all parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to offer "Why Catholic? Journey Through the Catechism" as a comprehensive, innovative adult formation program to parishioners starting this coming year.

"Why Catholic? Journey Through the Catechism" is based on the four pillars of Catholic faith as presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and offers insight into prayer, core beliefs, the sacraments and morality. Developed by RENEW International, the Catholic ministry organization that recently presented ARISE Together in Christ, the four-year program includes workshops, faith enrichment events, and prayerful small group discussions that help parishioners relate Catholic teaching to their everyday lives.

Information sessions detailing specifics of the program and its implementation are set for Jan. 12-14 at locations throughout the diocese.

Pastors, deacons, parish minis-

ters, staff and lay leaders are invited to attend the gatherings, which will review key steps to launch the program in parishes. English and Spanish sessions, as well as daytime and evening meeting times, are planned to encourage as many to participate as possible. All parishes are invited to attend, whether or not they participated in ARISE Together in Christ.

The schedule for workshops includes:

- Jan. 12, at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne, 1-3 p.m. or 6-8 p.m., with sessions offered both times in English and Spanish;

- Jan. 13, in Warsaw, with English session 6-8 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, and Spanish session 6-8 p.m. at Our Lady of Gaudalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine;

- Jan. 14, in South Bend, with English sessions offered 1-3 p.m. or 6-8 p.m. at St. Therese Little Flower or Spanish sessions offered at St. Adalbert Parish from 6-8 p.m.

Why Catholic? dovetails perfectly with the evangelization efforts in important ways. It deepens parishioners' understanding and appreciation of their Catholic

faith. It reinforces the many blessings of small communities experienced through ARISE Together in Christ. What's more, the Spanish and Vietnamese language options process builds unity among the diverse members of our community.

Cindy Black, who will coordinate the Why Catholic? effort in the diocese elaborated on these benefits. "Learning and growing in the knowledge of the Catholic faith is a lifelong process. We want to build up the spirit of evangelization and give people the opportunity to grow deeper in faith and have the confidence to share it with others." "The ¿Por qué ser católico?" process will be coordinated by Enid Roman-DeJesus, the director of Hispanic Ministry in the diocese.

Participants in "Why Catholic? ¿Por qué ser católico?" will begin in fall of 2015 by exploring Christian prayer during the first year of the program. The following year is dedicated to delving into the Creed: the core beliefs of the Church. Then participants will go deeper into the sacraments, followed by the study of Christian moral teachings. The materials and format are designed to create an environment where people can dialogue about things that matter, as each session also includes relevant Scripture references, reflection questions and prayers.

This Lent, parishes can continue to support new and existing small communities by offering "Lenten Longings" and "Reflexiones en Cuaresma" faith-sharing resources based on the Sunday readings for the six-week season.

For more information about how your parish can participate in Why Catholic? contact Cindy Black at 260-422-4611 or email her at cblack@diocesefwsb.org.

WOMEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION



PROVIDED BY SHIRLEY SMITH

Twenty-seven ladies representing St. Catherine-Nix Settlement, St. Joseph, Roanoke, St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City, and Sts. Peter and Paul, Huntington, met Nov. 8 for the Women's Morning of Reflection. Mass was celebrated by Father Dale Bauman, followed by breakfast and then a talk on several women from the Old Testament. The morning concluded with readings from the writings of Pope Francis and a general discussion of how the faithful can implement the ideas expressed in his papers.

Faithful celebrate, honor Our Lady of Guadalupe

BY CHRIS LUSHIS

WARSAW — Hundreds of Catholic faithful were in attendance for a late Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine on the night of Dec. 11. Those at the parish in Warsaw rejoiced at hearing the words of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, “¡Viva la Virgen de Guadalupe! ¡Viva Cristo Rey!” (Long live the Virgin! Long live Christ the King!), to which they responded joyously, “¡Viva!”

The Mass, which was celebrated in Spanish, began with a special procession of a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe surrounded by a large wreath made of roses. This memorial was placed under the church’s signature painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which Bishop Rhoades venerated and crowned during the celebration. The special feast was also highlighted by traditional Mexican mariachi music and singing offering praise and honor to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades emphasized the connection of Our Lady of Guadalupe with the woman described in the Book of Revelation, “the woman who appeared in heaven, clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of 12 stars on her head.”

Bishop Rhoades said, “The Virgin of Guadalupe appeared clothed with the sun, with a crescent moon under her feet and wearing garments sprinkled with stars.”

He continued, “Just as the woman in Revelation was with child, so is the Virgin of Guadalupe, who is wearing a maternity belt commonly used by pregnant Aztec women.”

“I think we can see in the image of Guadalupe the woman who gave birth to Jesus symbolically giving birth to a new people, to the Church here in America, when she appeared to Juan Diego in Mexico and through the amazing success of the evangelization of America which occurred in the years following Our Lady’s appearance,” Bishop Rhoades said. “We can say that Catholicism in America was born in Mary’s maternal arms.”

Devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe began after her appearance to St. Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill, Mexico, in 1531. During a time when pagan worship and human sacrifices were the ritual practices of the Aztec country, it was here that the Blessed Virgin Mary requested a church be built in her honor, where she promised to show love, compassion and protection to all those who believed in her. The Blessed Virgin instructed Juan Diego to bring roses he found miraculously growing in the middle of winter to the local bishop. When he opened his cloak, the roses spilled out, and a dazzling image of Our Lady remained for all to witness. As a result of the promotion of this apparition, millions of men and women converted to Catholicism and found safety under the mantle of the Blessed Mother.

Bishop Rhoades shared that the face of the Virgin of Guadalupe, which had so inspired the Mexican bishop, particularly moves him as well.

“It is tender and peaceful, sweet and serene,” Bishop Rhoades said. “The mother of the true God appeared with a mestizo face and spoke the language of the people. Her humble and compassionate gaze gave Juan Diego and the recently conquered native peoples true hope and consolation. Her presence and her words dispelled the darkness of superstition and fear. Our Lady of Guadalupe was God’s messenger, a messenger of the Gospel of her Son, who taught the people that the true God is a God of love and mercy. She wants us to spread the Gospel also today when so many have forgotten God or ignore Him and reject His Church.”

Bishop Rhoades also reminded the congregation of the battle described in Revelation between the dragon, Satan and the woman who has crushed his head. “We see this struggle between good and evil throughout the history of the world; it is one that all the disciples of Jesus must face in their lives,” the bishop said. “Pope Francis teaches us that we do not face this struggle alone, that ‘the Mother of Christ and of the Church is always with us. Mary walks with us always, accompanies us, struggles with us and sustains us in their fight against the forces of evil.’ In the end, she wins, not the dragon. Liberation and the hour of glory will come. Pope Benedict reminds us that the woman clothed with the sun is ‘the great sign of the victory of love, of the victory of goodness, of the victory of God.’ We are further encouraged by Pope Francis, who especially recommends praying the rosary to sustain us in this battle.”

Bishop Rhoades also celebrated a bi-lingual Mass at the University of



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis uses incense to venerate an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe during her feast day Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican Dec. 12. Pope Francis and thousands of Catholics from across the Atlantic celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the Vatican.

Notre Dame on the evening of Dec. 12 for the feast. Students performed traditional Aztec tribal dances and hymns in honor of the Blessed Virgin. All those in attendance were invited at the end of Mass to process together with the bishop and lay roses at the feet of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart’s statue of the Madonna and Child.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates Mass to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame.



Students performed traditional Aztec tribal dances at a Mass celebration at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame.



A procession of a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe surrounded by a large wreath made of roses takes place at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine on Dec. 11.

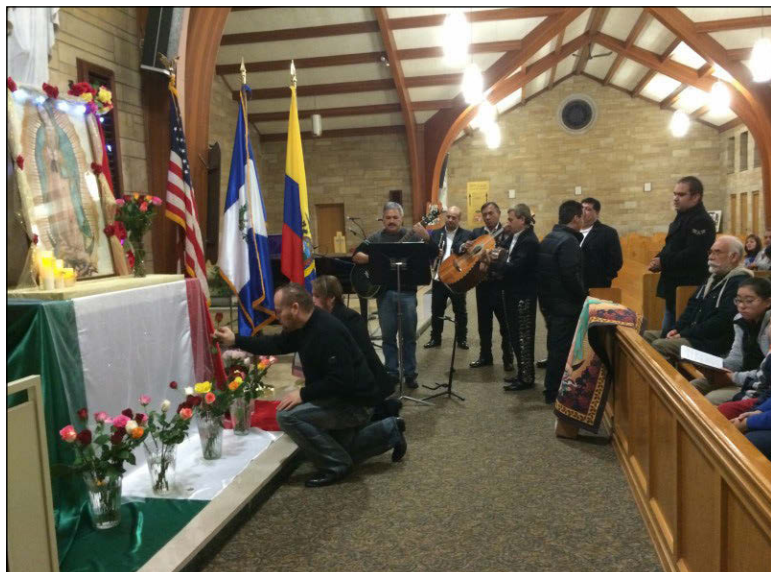


dalupe

CELEBRATING OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE IN FORT WAYNE



PHOTO BY BARBARA JOHNSTON/UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Guadalupe on Dec. 12 at the Basilica of the



St. Joseph Parish on Brooklyn Avenue in Fort Wayne observed the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a 5 a.m. Las Mañanitas celebration on Dec. 12. Parishioners are shown gathered in celebration of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. At right, Father Tim Wrozek, pastor, stands prayerfully before the altar as Aztec dancers perform during a special Mass celebrated that evening. The Mass also featured a re-enactment of the Apparition of Our Lady and a children's choir.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH PARISH



PHOTO BY BARBARA JOHNSTON/UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
ated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Dec. 12



PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades venerates and crowns a painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe at a vigil celebration of the feast day on Dec. 11 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw.



The Our Lady of Guadalupe feast was highlighted by traditional Mexican mariachi music and singing offering praise and honor to the Blessed Virgin Mary.



WISHING YOU
*A Very Blessed
Christmas Season*



Offering your choice of:

- Comprehensive 24 Hour Nursing Care
- Rehabilitation Suites & Services
 - Independent and Assisted Living Apartments
- Alzheimer and Dementia Care
- Adult Day Services

**Saint Anne Home
and Retirement Community**
1900 Randallia Drive - Fort Wayne
(260) 484-5555
www.saintannehome.com

Blight Christmas

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — Amidst the comfort of family, friends, food and cozy Christmas feelings, it is painful to be made aware that less than a day's drive away, there are families living in coagulated poverty and times so hard that the only abundance they have is hunger, want and more of the same tomorrow.

These are folks, some of whom have no beds, precious little heat and cook on a stove with a single surviving burner.

These are families whose teenage daughters have never seen a prom dress and to get one as a cast off is the fulfillment of a full color Cinderella dream.

These are Kentucky families who are experiencing the charity and kindness of parishioners of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel in Fort Wayne, assisted by Knights of Columbus of that parish.

This connection of heartfelt aid began in 2011, when Father Joe Koury, a priest from the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky, visited St. Joseph-Hessen

Cassel and appealed for assistance for his two parishes, Queen of All Saints in Beattyville, Kentucky, and Holy Family Parish in Booneville. Although these parishes are surrounded by the state's scenic splendor, a sharp focus reveals an imprint of unfortunate consequences of poverty and unemployment hanging around like a cloud of coal dust.

Times were better here when "coal was king" and there were jobs in the mines. But those days are past and employment is limited



DAVE KISTNER



PHOTO BY MICHAEL BLANKMAN

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel parishioners and Knights of Columbus from St. Joseph Council load a truck ready to roll on another mission of mercy to Queen of All Saints Parish in Beattyville, Kentucky.

to jobs with the school district, the city, county or private prisons (an industry unique to this area). This leaves the option of driving 80 miles to Lexington where if a job is found, one must sleep in a car or in a warehouse, returning home for the weekend. Tourism brings some dollars to the area from rock climbers, but not a significant amount.

Dave Kistner and his wife Sue heard Father Koury's description of the pathetic conditions so close to home and stayed after Mass to ask Father Koury how they could help. Father's succinct reply was "Come see me." Dave did that. He and his son Michael visited Beattyville and Booneville and came away determined to organize assistance to the stricken area.

Dave began his mission with a bulletin insert asking fellow parishioners for donations of "anything you use yourself," and filled a 16-foot box truck with beds, mattresses, stoves, refrigerators, clothing and personal hygiene items.

Now, three years later, Dave has made more than a dozen trips to Kentucky and fills a 26-foot truck. He has fine-tuned his trips to fit the seasons. His spring trip in February will include many gardening and canning supplies because the Beattyville and Booneville residents depend heavily on their gardens and food preservation. This load will also include toys for the kids. Youngsters at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel are asked to donate "old" toys that have been replaced at

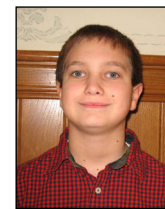
Hessen Cassel students also contribute to Kentucky mission

At Christmas time each year students of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel are asked to join their fellow parishioners in charity by contributing a gift received previously.

Two students, seventh-grader Mary Braun and sixth-grader Logan Pegen shared their reasons for giving.

Mary Braun: "I've donated some books to Beattyville because I like to read and I want to share that with others. Charity means loving my neighbor as myself."

Logan Peden: "The reason I donate to the people of Beattyville, Kentucky, is because I know they are extremely poor and deserve some of the items I own ... so I am giving them toys, my dinosaurs, clothes, a bike and more."



LOGAN PEDEN



MARY BRAUN

Christmas.

Life is edgy in these parts for various reasons, the main one is the lack of paychecks, which in turn results in substandard living conditions, the consequences of which are serious. For example, house fires are common because of the desperate methods used to keep warm. Victims of house fires are placed on a one-year waiting list for refrigerators, stoves and furniture.

Another poverty spin-off is domestic disputes, one of which caused Father Koury to call Dave Kistner with an emergency request for a set of bunk beds. It seems that in a family fight, dad struck mom in the presence of the children and was jailed. This brought about a visit from social workers, who removed the children from the home because they had no beds ... then, thanks to Providence and the fruitful source at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, bunk beds were on the next load to Beattyville, and mom and the kids were back together.

Dave Kistner now casts a wider net inviting *Today's Catholic* readers to help fill the truck bound for Beattyville in February 2015. Needed is "anything you use yourself"... beds, blankets, pots, pans, gardening tools, seeds (vegetable), toys, microwaves, electric skillets, crock pots, prom dresses, school supplies, backpacks, stoves, refrigerators, wheel chairs, gloves and scarves. For pickup arrangements, Dave Kistner can be reached at d.kistner@comcast.net.

"Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ... And the King will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for Me.'"

Advent with Redeemer Radio

Make Redeemer Radio
Part of your Advent

For more information
Check out RedeemerRadio.com

 **Redeemer Radio**
106.3 FM • 89.9 FM

Listen worldwide at RedeemerRadio.com

Contact or provide financial support at info@redeemerradio.com
4618 E. State Blvd., Suite 200 • Fort Wayne, IN 46815 • 260.436.9598



Regardless of the weather or the food served at a holiday feast, or whether you are alone or in the midst of many, Christmas is always a look at the past.

At the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne, we deal with time in a unique blend of the past, the present and the future for all whom we are called to serve.

May the Blessings of the season be yours.



3500 LAKE AVENUE FORT WAYNE
(260) 426-2044


CATHOLIC CEMETERY
ASSOCIATION, INC.

Diocesan plans announced for World Meeting of Families in 2015

As we have reported previously, World Meeting of Families events will be taking place in downtown Philadelphia, Sept. 22-27. Phase 1 begins mid-day Tuesday, Sept. 22, and will feature the Theological Congress that ends mid-day Friday, Sept. 25. The congress will include tracks for both adults and children (ages 6-17). Childcare also will be available on-site for children under age 6. Phase 2 will feature Pope Francis at a Saturday afternoon festival for families and will end with a Mass celebrated in downtown Philadelphia on Sunday, the 27th.

• Beginning on Jan. 15 of the coming year, the diocese will begin online reservations for the downtown Philadelphia Courtyard Marriott. The Courtyard is a three-minute walk from the congress

convention center. Rooms have been reserved for clergy, married couples and families consisting of at least one parent and one child. The cost of a room per night will be \$275, which includes taxes and room fees. Check-in at the hotel will be Monday, Sept. 21, and registrants can choose either four or five nights as their length of stay in Phase 1. Online registration will be first come, first served and will require a non-refundable deposit of \$275 that will cover the first night at the hotel. The reservation deadline for Phase 1 will be March 1, 2015.

• Those who have reservations during Phase 1 will be able to choose to stay for the events featuring Pope Francis on Sept. 26-27. Total room cost for Phase 2 at the Courtyard has not been published, but will likely be over



LOVE IS
OUR
MISSION

FRED AND LISA EVERETT

\$500 per night. We expect prices to be set in early 2015. If rooms are still available for those unable to attend the congress, they will be made available to any other individuals in the diocese who would be interested in reserving them.

• The diocese has also reserved rooms for Phase 2 at a Hampton Inn

FAMILY, PAGE 12

Are womb transplants immoral?

A recent news report described the unusual story of a baby's birth from his grandmother's womb. A 29-year-old woman from Sweden, born without a uterus, received a transplanted womb from her mother, the same womb that had brought her into the world a generation earlier. The woman then became pregnant through in vitro fertilization (IVF) and delivered a healthy baby boy.

The research had been dogged by controversy and questions: Could a transplanted womb from a post-menopausal woman be "triggered" back into action once it had been introduced into the body of a younger woman? Could a transplanted uterus effectively provide nourishment to a growing baby during all the gestational stages of a pregnancy? Would such a costly and risky surgery involving two people, mother and daughter, donor and recipient, be justifiable? Are such transplants ultimately ethical?

The specific circumstances involved are critical to determining whether this novel type of transplant is ethical.

Various medical anomalies can cause a woman to be missing a uterus. A congenital disease called Rokitansky syndrome can cause the uterus to develop anomalously, or not form at all. Uterine cancer or other serious gynecological issues may necessitate that a woman undergo a hysterectomy, resulting in permanent infertility.

The womb is a unique organ with a highly specific function, and the transplantation of a healthy womb into a woman who lacks one due to a birth defect or disease is loosely parallel, some would say, to a situation where a patient's kidney fails, and another person donates a healthy replacement organ.

Yet others would say that the womb is not a vital organ like a kidney, and while the transplantation of a womb is directed towards improving a patient's quality of life, it clearly does not constitute life-saving surgery like a kidney transplant.

Therefore, womb transplants require strong ethical justifications.

As we reflect on the ethics surrounding new medical treatments and technologies, it can help us to recall the general principle, enshrined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, that the morality of a human act depends on three factors: the object, the end, and the circumstances involved. An act is morally good only if all three of these factors are morally good. If any one of them is bad, we recognize that the overall act itself becomes morally bad.

For example, a diva using her voice to sing a passage from a famous opera has the morally good *object* of performing a beautiful and artistic musical composition. The *end* for which a diva might sing would be to perfect her singing skills — also morally good. But if she decides to do it at 3 a.m. in a dormitory, so that it disturbs the



MAKING
SENSE OF
BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

sleep of her neighbors, then the *circumstances* would not be good, and we would conclude that the action of singing in that way by the diva is, in fact, morally bad.

In the case of carrying out a womb transplant, the object of the act would be good, namely, to restore a woman's bodily wholeness by transplanting a healthy womb in situations where she lacks one. The end for which the womb transplant would be carried out would also be good, namely, to achieve a pregnancy.

But particular circumstances can easily render the womb transplant immoral. If the transplant were done for the purposes of pursuing a pregnancy through IVF, this circumstance would render the entire act of the womb transplant morally bad and disordered, given that IVF is invariably immoral as a means to engender new human life. All reported instances thus far of womb transplants followed by successful pregnancies have arisen because of the use of IVF.

A similar problem with the circumstances of the transplant could arise if the womb that was used for transplant had been donated by a healthy woman still in her reproductive years who harbored a contraceptive intention and no longer desired to have more children of her own with her husband. In such a situation, her uterine donation would cause her to become sterile, and would represent a seriously flawed moral circumstance that would likewise render the action of receiving the transplanted womb unethical on the part of the other woman.

When might a womb transplant be morally acceptable? If a uterus were transplanted from either a deceased or a freely-consenting, post-menopausal woman to another woman whose ovaries, fallopian tubes and other reproductive tissues were then able to function so she could conceive a child within the marital embrace, rather than through IVF (and assuming minimal medical risks to both donor and recipient), the womb transplant could represent an ethical means of resolving her uterine-factor infertility. In conclusion, the specific circumstances of both the donor and recipient are crucial in discerning the ethical appropriateness of this unusual procedure.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

The Church approaches Christmas with a message of love



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday of Advent Lk 1:26-38

The first reading for this weekend is from the Second Book of Samuel. The two Books of Samuel once were a single volume. Translations and editions over the centuries divided this one volume into two.

David is the principal figure in these books. The ancient Hebrews looked upon David much more than as a king. Beyond all else, he was God's chosen representative, given kingship so that his laws and directives might provide an atmosphere in which the people more fervently could follow God and be loyal to the covenant.

For this weekend's second reading, the Church offers us a reading from St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans.

Scholars unanimously say that Paul of Tarsus indeed authored this epistle, and that this epistle was his masterpiece. For this reason, it appears first in sequence among the 14 epistles attributed to Paul, placed in Bibles immediately following the Acts of the Apostles.

As indicated by its title, Paul sent this epistle, or letter, to the Christian population of Rome. In the first century AD, Rome was the center of the Mediterranean world in every respect — political, economic and cultural.

It also was the largest city in the Roman Empire. Not surprisingly, this great imperial capital had within its borders an array of ideas and religions, Christianity among them.

In this weekend's reading, as often elsewhere, Paul asserts his own vocation as an apostle, called by God so that "all the Gentiles" might believe in, and obey, God, "who alone is wise."

For the final reading this weekend, the Church proclaims a beautiful part of St. Luke's Gospel, of Luke's Infancy Narrative. It is the story of the Annunciation, the event when Gabriel, the angel, came into the presence of Mary, a young Jewish woman, in Nazareth in Galilee, to inform her that she would be the mother of the long-awaited Redeemer.

The reading abounds with meaning. Luke makes clear that Mary was a virgin, and that the conception of the Redeemer would not be the result of any human relationship. Behind this fact is the reality that God, as Creator and the provider of order to the universe, can do anything. He is almighty. The Redeemer will be the Son of God. Himself a king, he will be David's successor.

His coming will fulfill God's promises, spoken by the prophets all through the ages, to bring life and salvation to the people. His birth will be the ultimate fulfillment of the ancient covenant.

Vital to the message of the story is Mary's response. "I am the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." Only because of her faith and obedience was the Redeemer's birth enabled.

Reflection

In each of these readings, the Church makes a very important point. God reaches out to us. He is not impossible to see or to hear. He is in Jesus.

The outreach occurs in the face of our own inadequacy and limitations. Blindness and weakness are not the only problems. We are marred by sin, distancing us from God. God is almighty. God is love. These are the most consoling points here. God's great love for us prompts the dispatch of teachers such as David, Paul and indeed the Lord Jesus, to guide us to union with God and therefore to peace in our hearts now and life in eternity.

So, the Church closes Advent and approaches Christmas with a message of love. God loves us. He does not leave us helpless in our own powerlessness. He reaches to us to draw us to the divine presence itself. We are not doomed.

It is up to us to respond. Do we accept God? Or, do we turn God away? It is that simple.

READINGS

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8a-d Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5B, 8-10, 14 Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Christmas Day Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6-8b, 16bc, 17 Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6 11-12 Jn 20:2-8

FAMILY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

just off I-76 about 45 minutes from downtown Philadelphia. The total cost per night should be about \$175 for a three-night stay beginning on Friday, Sept. 25. Married couples and families attending the congress during Phase 1 will have the option of staying at this hotel instead of remaining at the downtown Courtyard. If rooms are still available for those unable to attend the congress, they will be made available to any other individuals in the diocese who would be interested in reserving them.

• Due to the length of time in the fall for all the events and the diversity of groups going — families, married couples, young adults — the diocese will not be renting buses for those from our diocese participating in the 2015 World Meeting of Families. For many families, especially, going by car will be a more economical and convenient method of transportation.

• Finally, through a grant from Our Sunday Visitor, the diocese will be providing full scholarships that will cover the basic packages for both the adult and child tracks for those attending the Theological Congress. The scholarships for adults will be \$125 and for children (ages 6-17), \$95. Married couples and families who will be staying at the Courtyard will have first priority for these funds. Scholarships per family are not limited. So, for example, a family of two parents and two children would be eligible for \$440 in scholarships. Couples or families will only need to produce their congress registration receipt and a form signed by their pastor that they are active members of the parish in order to be reimbursed for their registration. Again, this will be first come, first served. More registration information can be found at the World Meeting of Families website: www.worldmeeting2015.org.

• For more information about our diocesan plans, please feel free to contact us at fredeverett@sbcglobal.net.

Catechesis Part 3: The meaning of human sexuality

Sex is a uniquely powerful factor in human affairs — both for good and for ill. And so sexuality misused or disordered has always been a major source of confusion and sin. Sexual desire and self-understanding can be complex. Our identity is revealed in Jesus and in God's plan for our lives, and not in fallen self-assertions.

Marriage exists because procreation and communion, biology and God's covenant, nature and super-nature, together undergird what it means to be "human." Marriage exists because we discover and accept, rather than invent or renegotiate, the vocation to self-giving, which is intrinsic to being

created male and female under the covenant. Marriage is God's creation because we are God's creatures, and because God created male and female for fellowship with Him in His covenant.

Our origin as two different and complementary sexes, and our call to love, to communion and to life, are one and the same moment. In the words of Pope Francis: "This is the story of love. This is the story of the masterpiece of creation." This call to love, communion and life involves the entire being of man and woman, body and soul. The human person is simultaneously a physical and spiritual being. The body, in a sense, reveals the person. As a result, human sexuality is never merely functional. Sexual difference, visible in the body, contributes directly to the body's spousal character and the person's capacity to love. At the center of this call to love is God's summons to "be fruitful and multiply." (Gen 1: 28, NRSV). A couple's spousal union through the body is therefore, by its very nature, also a call to live as father and mother.

For good reason, we hear delight in Adam's words at his first sight of Eve: "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh." (Gen 2: 23, NRSV) The Catechism of the Catholic Church notes that, from the beginning, "man discovers woman as another 'I,' sharing the same humanity." Man and woman share an equal dignity that comes from God their Creator. In God's plan, both the similarity and otherness of man and woman coincide in their sexual complementarity as masculine and feminine. Created together (Gen 1: 26-27), man and woman are willed for each other. Sexual difference is a primordial reminder that we are made to give ourselves away to others guided by virtue and God's love.

St. John Paul II often spoke about the "nuptial or spousal meaning of the body." He echoed the teaching of Vatican II that the "partnership of man and woman constitutes the first form of communion between persons." But sexual difference marks all our relationships, even for the unmarried, since we each enter life as a son or a daughter. We are called to be a brother or sister not only to those in our families, but also to the needy in our neighborhoods, communities and churches. Our identity as men and women is the basis of our call to fatherhood or motherhood, natural or spiritual. In this way, sexual difference has universal significance.

Because it is a central component of our identity, sexuality cannot be isolated from the meaning of the human person. Sex is never simply a physical or emotional impulse. It always involves more. Sexual desire shows that we are never self-sufficient. We long for intimacy with another. Sexual intercourse, no matter how "casual," is never simply a biological act. In fact, sexual intimacy is always in some sense conjugal because it creates a human bond, no matter how unintended. A properly ordered conjugal act is never simply an inward-looking, autonomous erotic

act. Our sexuality is personal and intimate, but always with a social dimension and consequence. A sacramental marriage is never a private possession, but discovers itself in relation to God's wider covenant. We have sexual ethics because sex has spiritual significance.

Two different vocations do justice to the summons of being male and female in God's plan: marriage and celibacy. Both of these disciplines converge on the shared premise that sexual intimacy between a man and woman belongs and flourishes in the context of a covenant. Celibacy is the way that unmarried people confirm the truth and beauty of marriage. Celibacy and marriage both abstain from sexual acts that use others in conditional or temporary ways. Authentic celibate abstinence is certainly not a disdain for sex, but rather honors sex by insisting that sexual intimacy serves and is served by the covenant. By living in the light of the covenant, married couples and celibate persons alike offer their sexuality to the community, to the creation of a society, which is not premised on concupiscence and exploitation. ...

Our creation as men and women in the image of God is why we are all called to the virtue of chastity. Chastity is expressed in different ways, according to whether or not we are married. But for everyone, chastity involves refusing to use our own or other people's bodies as objects for consumption. Chastity is the habit, whether we are married or not, of living our sexuality with dignity and grace in the light of God's commandments. Lust is the opposite of chastity. Lust involves looking at others in utilitarian ways, as if the other's body existed merely to satisfy an appetite. True chastity "does not disdain the body" but sees the body in the full dimensions of personhood.

Chastity is a great "yes" to the truth of humanity created in the image of God and called to live in the covenant. Understood this way, chastity is something everyone is called to practice. ... As St. Ambrose wrote in the fourth century: "There are three forms of the virtue of chastity: the first is that of spouses, the second that of widows, and the third that of virgins. We do not praise any of them to the exclusion of others. ... This is what makes for the richness of the discipline of the Church."

Fred and Lisa Everett are co-directors of the Office of Family Life.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for December 21, 2014

Luke 1:26-38

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Cycle B: the Annunciation. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| ANGEL | GABRIEL | GALILEE |
| VIRGIN | JOSEPH | HOUSE |
| PONDERED | GREETING | JESUS |
| GREAT | MOST HIGH | FOREVER |
| KINGDOM | NO END | SPIRIT |
| POWER | BORN | ELIZABETH |
| OLD AGE | BARREN | IMPOSSIBLE |

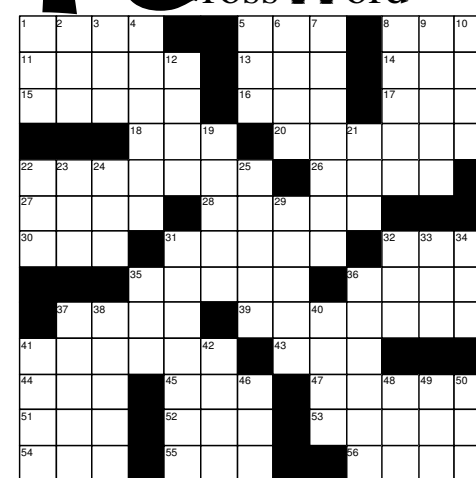
ANNUNCIATION

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

© 2014 Tri-C-A Publications www.tri-c-a-publications.com

The CrossWord

December 21
and 28, 2014



© 2014 www.tri-c-a-publications.com

Based on these readings: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:26-38 and Gn 15: 1-6; 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

- ACROSS**
- 1 Speechless
 - 5 ___ Lanka
 - 8 High naval rank (abbr.)
 - 11 Named for laughter
 - 13 Billion years
 - 14 Fixed charge
 - 15 Large
 - 16 Type of brake system
 - 17 We believe in ___ God
 - 18 Representative
 - 20 Rested on Simeon
 - 22 Black tie outfits
 - 26 Detail
 - 27 Rotate
 - 28 Abraham counted them
 - 30 Pounds per sq. inch
 - 31 Birds in a gaggle
 - 32 Buzz
 - 35 Abraham's wife
 - 36 Jacob has 12
 - 37 Jesus did with mud on blind man's eyes
 - 39 Rabble rouser
 - 41 Apostolic ___, Papal finance office
 - 43 Radioactivity unit
 - 44 "Hail Mary"
 - 45 Internal Revenue Service
 - 47 Sweet stuff
 - 51 Liberal (abbr.)
 - 52 Arrival abbr.
- DOWN**
- 1 Darken
 - 2 Land of red, white and blue
 - 3 Scottish "Son of"
 - 4 Elizabeth had been 5 ___ of Galilee
 - 6 Thief does
 - 7 Saints do
 - 8 Before
 - 9 Jean cloth
 - 10 It is not ___ to give children's food to dogs.
 - 12 Dorm dweller
 - 19 Pretender
 - 21 Belong to that (possessive)
 - 22 Teaspoon (abbr.)
 - 23 Not downs
 - 24 WWII Pope Pius ___
 - 25 One's place
 - 29 Anna's tribe
 - 31 Messenger archangel
 - 32 Unclean animal (Bible)
 - 33 Numero ___
 - 34 Chinese flavoring
 - 35 Take to court
 - 36 Israel's first prophet
 - 37 Israel's model king
 - 38 Very tiny animal
 - 40 Weave
 - 41 Baby cow
 - 42 Branch of learning
 - 46 Rested in chair
 - 48 African antelope
 - 49 Covenant vessel
 - 50 Biblical spelt

Answer Key can be found on page 15

Sports

PRIESTS VS. SEMINARIANS BASKETBALL GAME Priests will compete against diocesan seminarians in the Cupertino Classic — a basketball game slated Monday, Dec. 29, from 2:30-5 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne. All are welcome to come and watch. After a warm up at 2:30 p.m., the game is expected to begin at 3 p.m.

ICCL basketball teams square off

BY JOE KOZINSKI

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY — The Inter-City Catholic League basketball teams squared off last Sunday at Saint Joseph and Marian high schools to nudge their way towards the pinnacle of their divisions.

The Eagles of St. Joseph remained atop the St. John Bosco Division by extinguishing the Trojans of Holy Family, 49-26, behind the double-digit scoring duo of JP Raster and Chris Smith. West sider Riley Hesse knocked down 11 in a losing effort.

Holy Cross kept pace and pushed to the summit of the division by leaning on the trio of Jaden Ivy, Charles Black and Patrick Farrisee to drop the curtain on the upstart Cougars of Corpus Christi, despite

the 14 points of Austin Lee, 44-33. The three undefeated teams of the St. Martin De Porres Division — St. Pius X, Mishawaka Catholic and St. Thomas — made little work of their prospective opponents by winning by a combined score of 100-32.

Jacob Bishop and the Pumas of Queen of Peace gave Coley Quinn and the Blazers of St. Matthew everything they could handle before succumbing, 37-25.

Christ the King and the Panthers of St. Anthony endured a classic confrontation with the Kings and the dozen points of Sammy Clark were too much to overcome despite the 11 thrown in by Kyrion King.

Action resumes this weekend at the area Catholic high schools. A complete listing of scores and schedules can be found at www.icclsports.org.



CYO basketball action ramps up

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — After suffering a last second loss to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in their CYO opener, St. Vincent overcame early foul trouble to beat a much-improved, younger St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, team, 38-28, in a well-played matchup in Week 2.

Ellen O'Brien led all scorers with 23 points in the victory. Coach Dan O'Brien lists 10 on his roster, but has been playing with several missing due to injuries and other commitments. With non-conference games included, the Pioneers post an impressive 5-2 record early on.

"Our strengths this season include physical play, good transition offense, unselfish team play and speed," O'Brien explains.

Also, 1-1 so far this season in their league is St. Jude 7. The Eagles won their opener against St. John the Baptist, New Haven, but lost to St. Charles 7 by a

score of 28-21 in a hard-fought battle.

St. Charles jumped out to an early lead, but St. Jude climbed back to within four points in the third quarter only to have the Cardinals extend their lead to 10 again in the fourth. St. Jude's final run came up short.

In other girls' action, St. Charles 8 picked up another win when they downed St. Joseph, Decatur, 35-26. Jayda Smith had 15 points for the Cardinals, while Bridgette Black added 12. Finally, St. Rose/St. Louis improved to 2-0 in conference play with a win over St. Mary/St. Joseph. Nevaeh Feasby paced her team with eight points.

In boys' play, the Twins got a big Blue League victory over Huntington Catholic in a nail biter. St. Rose/St. Louis won, 30-29. August Hein was top scorer in the contest with 19 points.



Blessings of the season!

JOHN LEY
Monument Sales, Inc.
 Memorials of distinction
 and Custom Built Granite Counter Tops
 Anthony J. Ley • Regina Ley
 101 Progress Way, St. Rd. 8, Avilla, IN 46710

260-897-2333 • 260-897-3005 Fax

Best wishes for this holiday season and for a wonderful New Year.



John C. Reibold, MBA, CFP®
 Private Wealth Advisor
 Franchise Owner

Reibold & Anderson
 A financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

5750 Coventry Lane, Ste 110
 Fort Wayne, IN 46804
260-432-3235
john.c.reibold@ampf.com
reiboldandanderson.com

Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
 Member FINRA and SIPC
 © 2014 Ameriprise Financial, Inc.





THE GALLEY
 Famous Fish & Seafood
 Chicken & Steaks • Banquet Facilities
 Set Sail Soon!

We now have served over
3,000,000 lbs. of our FAMOUS FISH!

Celebrating our 36th Anniversary!

622 North 13th Street • Decatur • (260) 724-8181
www.thegalleydecat.com

Call me for the Open Enrollment Period and for guidance.

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency
 Health | Life | Medicare | Long-Term Care

Parishioner:
 Queen of Peace - Mishawaka

Ray A. Plagens, Jr.
 Licensed Insurance Agent

Phone:
866-494-7299

Cell:
574-210-7474

Ray.Plagens@healthmarkets.com
www.healthmarkets.com/Ray.Plagens
 HMIA000618

Phil DePauw named new girls' soccer coach

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph High School announced Phil DePauw as the new varsity girls' soccer coach.

DePauw graduated from Saint Joseph High School in 1988 and the University of Notre Dame in 1992. He has been a junior varsity soccer coach and teacher at Saint Joseph High School for the past 15 years. DePauw is an English teacher and chair of the English department.

"Phil, as head coach of our junior varsity program, has been very successful. He has worked closely with our varsity program over the last 15 years and we expect the transition to the varsity position to be a smooth one. Phil will in his own way continue the tradition of excellence for the Saint Joseph girls' soccer program," said Eric Gohlke, athletic director at the school.

CASA RISTORANTI ITALIANO
 Fort Wayne Tradition Since 1977


Casa! Ristorante
 (Southwest)
 7545 W. Jefferson Blvd.
 436-2272

Casa Grille Italiano
 (Northeast)
 6340 Stellhorn Road
 969-4700

Casa Ristorante Italiano
 (Next to the Coliseum)
 4111 Parnell Avenue
 483-0202

Casa Grille
 (Northwest)
 411 E. Dupont Road
 490-4745


VOTED #1 Italian Restaurant
casarestaurants.net
 Banquets & Catering
 399-2455



MERRY CHRISTMAS


From all of us at the
University of Saint Francis

"Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors."
-PROVERBS 8:34



UNIVERSITY of SAINT FRANCIS™
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

2701 Spring Street • Fort Wayne, IN 46808 • 260-399-8000 • sf.edu




The Papers
INCORPORATED

Happy Holidays!

Printers of
Today's Catholic Newspaper

P.O. Box 188 • 206 South Main St. • Milford, IN 46542
www.the-papers.com **1-800-733-4111**

Christmas TV Mass Specials



FORT WAYNE
Christmas Morning
10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
WFFT-TV 55
Live from the
University of Saint Francis Chapel
Celebrant: Rev. Jacob Meyer
St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne

SOUTH BEND
Christmas Day - Noon - 12:30
WNDU-TV 16
Rebroadcast from Fort Wayne



Merry Christmas from all of us

MORKEN, inc.
Commercial & Industrial
ROOFING




3303 Freeman Street • Fort Wayne
432-2885

All your legal needs, we can help!
ALL INDIANA COUNTIES...
OFFICE APPOINTMENT OR WE WILL MEET YOU.
Attorney Richard J. Thonert: 260-637-4040

810 Mill Lake Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46845
One traffic light north of Dupont Road on Coldwater Road in Lake Pointe Office Park
7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays
After Hours & Weekend Hotline: 260-413-7449

"Protecting families with wills and estates, healthcare power of attorney, general POA, living wills, and advance directives. DON'T LET THE GOV'T DECIDE WHO GETS YOUR CHILDREN AND ASSETS"



- Plumbing
- Heating
- Air Conditioning
- Electrical
- Humidification

6332 Maplecrest Road Fort Wayne 485-3412

CHUCK'S FOOT SUPPORT
Shoes - Pedorthics - Repair



Chuck is the only Silver Cup Award winning, shoe repairman and Silver Cup Judge in the Fort Wayne area. Let a **Master Craftsman** repair your shoes and boots.
4546 Maplecrest Road • 492-1752
Tuesday-Friday 8-6. Saturday 8-2
CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

THINK GREEN Repair it!

www.chucksfootsupport.com

Park Lake Medical Building
LEONARD J. Andorfer
& Co., LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

2410 Lake Avenue
P.O. Box 5486
Fort Wayne 46895-5486
(260) 423-9405
Fax: (260) 422-9206

- Tax Planning and preparation corporations, individuals and partnerships
- Estates and Trusts • Auditing Services

Visit us at www.ljandorfer.com

The Kendzicky & Lothary Group
Michael Kendzicky James Lothary Glen Lothary
4220 Edison Lakes Parkway, Suite 100
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-247-6830 • 800-866-9022
Fax 574-247-6855



Great outcomes. Done well.

Private Wealth Management | www.rwbaird.com
Capital Markets • Investment Banking
Private Equity • Asset Management



SHAWNEE
Construction & Engineering

COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL
7701 Opportunity Drive, Fort Wayne 46825
489-1234

\$50 OFF Carpet Cleaning!
\$150.00 Minimum Cleaning Charge Minus \$50 Coupon.
Call for details on your next carpet cleaning
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. CHRISTOPHER M. CIOCCA, (PARISHIONER, ST. CHARLES PARISH)

JANITORIAL SERVICES

- 24 Hour Emergency Restoration



(260) 483-2112 www.cioccas.com

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.

Bazaar and bake sale planned

South Bend — St. Augustine Parish, 1501 W. Washington St., will have a bazaar and bake sale Saturday, Dec. 20, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 21, after Mass from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Christmas Eve celebrations include a children's play at 3:30 p.m. followed by children's Mass and the adult choir singing at 10:30 p.m. before the 11 p.m. Mass.

Christmas concert at St. Pius X

Granger — St. Pius X, under the direction of Jeremy Hoy, Carol Flora and Melissa Butner, will close the Christmas season with a Christmas concert on Sunday, Jan. 11, at 2:30 p.m. in the church, 52553 Fir Rd. Featured choirs include: children's choir, middle school choir, Sunday morning and evening adult choirs, adult and youth handbell choirs and instrumentalists. The concert is free.

Presentation on annulments planned

Fort Wayne — A presentation on annulments will be given by Father Mark Gurtner, judicial

vicar for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 1502 East Wallen Rd. No RSVP required. For more information contact Julia Thill at jthill@saintv.org or 260-489-3537 ext. 208.

Bishop Dwenger High School plans trivia night

Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School will host a trivia night on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person in advance or \$15 per person at the door. A team of 10 or join a team. Carry in food, cash bar available. For information, visit www.bishopdwenger.com or contact 260-496-4775.

Cookie and candy sale

Monroeville — St. Rose Parish will have a cookie and candy sale Saturday, Dec. 20, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the former school basement, 209 Mulberry St. Goodies will be sold by the pound. Call 260-623-3354 for information.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Dec. 19, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8.50, children 5-12 \$3.50. Carryout available.

The CrossWord
December 21 and 28, 2014



© 2014 Tri-C-A Publications



ST. MONICA PARISH
Building on Faith

CHRISTMAS
at
St. Monica Church
222 W. Mishawaka Ave., Mishawaka, IN 46544
*Experience the beauty of the Liturgy
and the music of this Holy Night*

December 24 Christmas Eve Mass. 10:00 pm
Music Prelude at 9:30 pm
Vigil (Children's Mass) 4:30 pm
December 25 Christmas Day Mass 10:00 am

"Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy..."
Luke 2:10

JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!
www.stmonicamish.org

REST IN PEACE

Donaldson

Sister Aline Clesen, PHJC, 98, Catherine Kasper Home

Fort Wayne

Father Paul R. Bueter, 81, St. Jude

Walter A. Stronczek, 70, St. Vincent de Paul

Judy A. Pitzen Bryan, 55, St. Jude

Carol Ann Tobin, 74, Most Precious Blood

Alice Louise Parrot, 101, St. Charles Borromeo

Margaret A. Richardson, 92, St. Vincent de Paul

Father Robert L. Traub, 101, St. Jude

Granger

Leo C. Loemaugh, 87, St. Pius X

Bruce L. Coates, 60, St. Pius X

Huntington

Sister Dorothy Anne Lengerich, OLVM, 99, Victory Noll

Mishawaka

Georgene Bieganski, 84, St. Bavo

Wayne A. Fassett, 66, St. Joseph

Joyce E. Roberts, 77, St. Monica

Monroeville

Richard D. Girardot, 90, St. Rose

New Haven

Marian Irene Comito, 87, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Sister M. Joyce Troyer, CSC, 76, Our Lady of Loretto

South Bend

Walter F. Kasznia, 95, Holy Family

Gerard Szymczak, 73, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Essie Fay Lies, 90, Holy Family

Arthur J. Singleton Sr., 77, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Mary Dooley Houck, 82, St. Augustine

Margaret Theresa Houghton, 93, St. Anthony de Padua

James P. Panowicz, 84, Holy Cross

Willie C. Winston Jr., 63, St. Augustine

Virginia H. Wesolowski, 84, St. John the Baptist

Irene M. Nagy, 84, Our Lady of Hungary

Joseph R. Guzzi, 78, St. Therese Little Flower

Henrietta L. Elias, 89, Corpus Christi

Denny Walz, 65, St. Matthew Cathedral

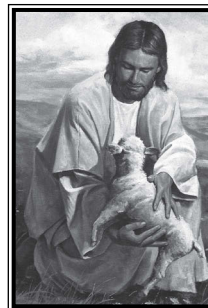
Wabash

Rosalia L. (Rosie) Dluzak, 91, St. Bernard

Waterloo

Jacqueline Riddle, 90, St. Michael

"Restoring My Soul, The Psalm 23 Guide for the Farmer's Imagination"



Call Toll Free 888-882-1391

Retreat for Farmers & Spouses
Farmers without spouses welcome also!

Featuring: Pastor Jeffery Hawkins
January 9-11, 2015

Friday, 6:30 pm - Sunday, 1:00 pm
Deadline for registration: January 5, 2015

Email: john23rd@sbcglobal.net

John XXIII Retreat Center

407 West McDonald Street
Hartford City, IN 47348

<http://www.john23rdretreatcenter.com/>



MATTHEW T. BRADY
PARISHIONERS
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
FORT WAYNE



SHANNON BRADY

BRADY BENEFITS & ASSOCIATES, LLC
YOUR TRUSTED ADVISORS

- Group Health Insurance
- Individual Health Insurance
- Obamacare • Medicare-Supplements
- Retirement Income Planning • Annuities • 401K

Office: 260-220-8800
Marketplace: 260-220-8001
www.bradybenefitsusa.com

TODAY'S CATHOLIC Travel

proudly presents ... **The Shrines of Italy tours**

with your travel hosts:



Father Andrew Budzinski
Director of Vocations
Parochial Vicar St. Vincent de Paul
Travel host for Fort Wayne departure

November 10-20, 2015



Father Terry Coonan
Parochial Vicar, St. Pius X
Travel Host for South Bend departure

November 3-13, 2015

Connect with the roots of our faith for 11 days exploring the Shrines of Italy!

Visit Rome, Vatican City and be part of a Papal Audience, Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, Tomb of Padre Pio, Abbey of Santissima Trinita, Madonna del Rosario, St. Peter's Basilica, Christian Rome City Tour, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. John in Lateran, St. Mary Major, Pompeii and so much more.

Visit www.todayscatholicnews.org/TCT or call Bethany or Tina at 260-456-2900 for more details.

Limited Availability — Call today



McElhaney-Hart FUNERAL HOME

715 North Jefferson
Huntington

(260) 356-3320

www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com



Two Christmas Stories

112 Years Apart

Dr. Anthony F. Laviano



He rang the doorbell. It sounded his last stop. He arrived. It had been a long, cold, lonely, exhausting trip. When he started out a winter snowstorm was on the horizon and approaching at full force. Not deterred, he was determined to begin his journey. He needed to fulfill Her request.



On Dec. 20 1896, with luggage in hand at the Superior, Wis., depot he boarded the 11 p.m. train heading Southwest to St. Paul then taking him Eastward across Wisconsin to Milwaukee. The snowstorm was intense. The train slowed to a crawl having to plow its way through snowdrifts. Arriving in Milwaukee he stopped to visit the Capuchin seminary of St. Francis two miles from the depot. The following day he boarded the train to Chicago and upon arrival changed trains to Detroit. Heavy snow slowed the last leg of the train trip to 12 miles an hour. From the Detroit station he took the street car to 1740 Mt. Elliot Ave., St. Bonaventure Monastery. He arrived well after dusk and rang the door bell. It was now Dec. 24, Christmas Eve. - With anticipation he waited for the door to open. He knew that when he stepped through the doorway he would have completed Our Lady's desire. She related it to him on Dec. 8, 1896, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, the last day of his novena asking guidance of the Blessed Mother. "Go to Detroit," She impressed upon him. Bernard Francis Casey had completed his initial step to becoming a Capuchin Friar. - The Capuchins at St. Bonaventure were expecting him. He was warmly welcomed by the porter who led him to a chair within the entrance. Unknown to him, such a station in life would be his and such entrances would one day become his office. The porter soon reappeared with Father Casimir, the superior, and Father Gabriel Messmer, his future novice master. They suggested that he have something to eat but his exhaustion satisfied his appetite. He wanted to sleep. - They led him up the stairs to his room behind a wood latch door. Soon he was fast asleep on the narrow iron bed. A one-drawer wooden desk with a strait back wooden chair, the only furnishings, kept watch. Light from the Christmas Eve sky coming through the one window blanketed the ascetic 9x12 room with restful comfort. - He had only been asleep an hour when the traditional procession before Midnight Mass began along the monastery corridors. He was awakened by bells and acapella singing scented with incense. The voices were singing Christmas carols in Latin and German. These languages would later confront him in his studies. Listening, he could hear Friars joining the carolers. Approaching his door he joined them. The procession moved into the chapel. His heart was uplifted and "Silent Night" echoed in his ears. - Father Solanus often told the story of his first Capuchin Christmas and how he felt a flood of happiness during the Midnight Mass. - The words in the Last Gospel of the Latin Mass that Christmas remained a Christmas crèche etched in the soul of Father Solanus Casey.

"The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

*Et Verbum Caro Factum
Est,
et habitavit in nobis.*

*Deo gratias!
Merry Christmas
and a
Joyous New Year*

Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!

Alles schläft; eisam wacht

Nur das traute heilige Paar.

Holder Knab im lockigten Haar,

Schlafe in himmlischer Ruh!

Schlafe in himmlischer Ruh!



Venerable Solanus Casey, OFM, Capuchin
Christmas at the Manger

**My Christmas story is a
simpler one but heartfelt.
It took place 112 years later.
It is told in an unnoted footnote
in the unpublished portfolio of
Solanus miracles.**



**"Anthony F. Laviano was cured of
prostate cancer
during the 2008 Christmas season
through the intercession of
Father Solanus Casey.
Deo Gratias!"**

**A Feriverino for the Beatification of Solanus Casey
Mary, our mother, we ask you to intercede for us before your son,
as you did at the wedding at Cana, that the beatification
of the Venerable Solanus Casey may be brought about.
We pray that through your intercession the Holy Spirit will bring
his beatification about at this time so that we may be strengthened
in our faith and filled with gratitude to God. Hail Mary... Glory be...**

*To report favors received through the intercession
of Father Solanus, please direct correspondence to
the official office in Detroit; The Father Solanus Guild.*

www.solanuscasy.org

Dr. Anthony F. Laviano, Chairman and Founder, NANOWorld®
• Pacific Palisades, California
a.f.laviano@nanoworldusa.com