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Pope Francis in Asia to promote reconciliation, recovery

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (CNS) — Arriving in Sri Lanka, a country recovering from two-and-a-half decades of ethnic and religious civil war, Pope Francis said reconciliation would require its people to explore their painful recent history and accept persistent differences within their multicultural society.

"The process of healing also needs to include the pursuit of truth, not for the sake of opening old wounds, but rather as a necessary means of promoting justice, healing and unity," the pope said Jan. 13 at an arrival ceremony at Colombo's international airport.

Pope Francis addressed his words to Sri Lanka's new president, Maithripala Sirisena, who was elected Jan. 8 and sworn in the next day. During his campaign, Sirisena promised an independent investigation into war crimes allegedly committed during the 26-year struggle between government forces and rebels belonging to the country's Tamil minority.

In his remarks to the pope, Sirisena noted that during the last papal visit, by St. John Paul II in 1995, "Sri Lanka was embroiled in annihilating terrorism, following the mayhem caused by the terrorists in the daily lives of the people" — a reference to the Tamil Tigers, finally defeated in 2009 by the military under Sirisena's predecessor, President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

POPE, PAGE 3



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis arrives at international airport in Colombo, Sri Lanka to the sounds of traditional dancers and drummers Jan. 13.

Priests win first Cupertino Classic basketball game

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Diocesan priests and seminarians hit the hardwood courts to make the first Cupertino Classic a "spirited" success. The priests defeated the seminarians, 41-26, on Monday afternoon, Dec. 29, at St. Vincent de Paul gymnasium in Fort Wayne.

With an estimated 400-500 in attendance, spectators filled the gymnasium's bleachers and many more watched from the floor surrounding the court.

Donations from the classic amounted to \$1,000, which will go to the diocesan Vocation Office for seminarian tuition, according to Father Andrew Curry, pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in North Manchester, and organizer of the Cupertino Classic.

"The event was marked with a spirit of joy and sportsmanship," said Father Curry. "The priests were happy to be able to play basketball together, which hasn't happened in a while."

The Cupertino Classic was inspired by St.

Joseph of Cupertino, a prayerful, simple priest from the 1600s renowned for having visions from God. While sometimes in prayer, people saw the saint float off the ground.

Father Curry recalled a painting capturing one of those moments where it looked as if St. Joseph of Cupertino is going up for a "slam-dunk."

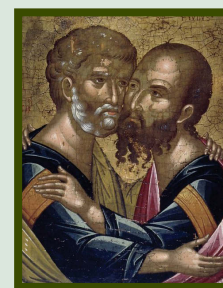
"So we had Nate Proulx (from the Special Ministries Office of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend) design a basketball in his hands and a rim above his head for our poster and T-shirts," Father Curry said.

He noted, "Not only do we want to see some good moves on the court at the game but we also thought that the humble and prayerful St. Joseph of Cupertino would give the right spirit for the game. Not only that, he is one of the patron saints of students."

Highlighting the game was Father Terry Coonan's overall movement with the ball. Father Coonan, parochial vicar at St. Pius X, Granger, sported behind-the-back passes and

CUPERTINO, PAGE 20

DIOCESE TO HOST ECUMENICAL VESPERS



Ecumenical Vespers during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2015 will be hosted Sunday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral, 1701 Miami St., South Bend.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will be the celebrant, and Bishop Edward S. Little II, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana, will be the homilist.

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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: 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

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

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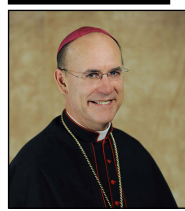
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Christian unity: A "pipe dream?"



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

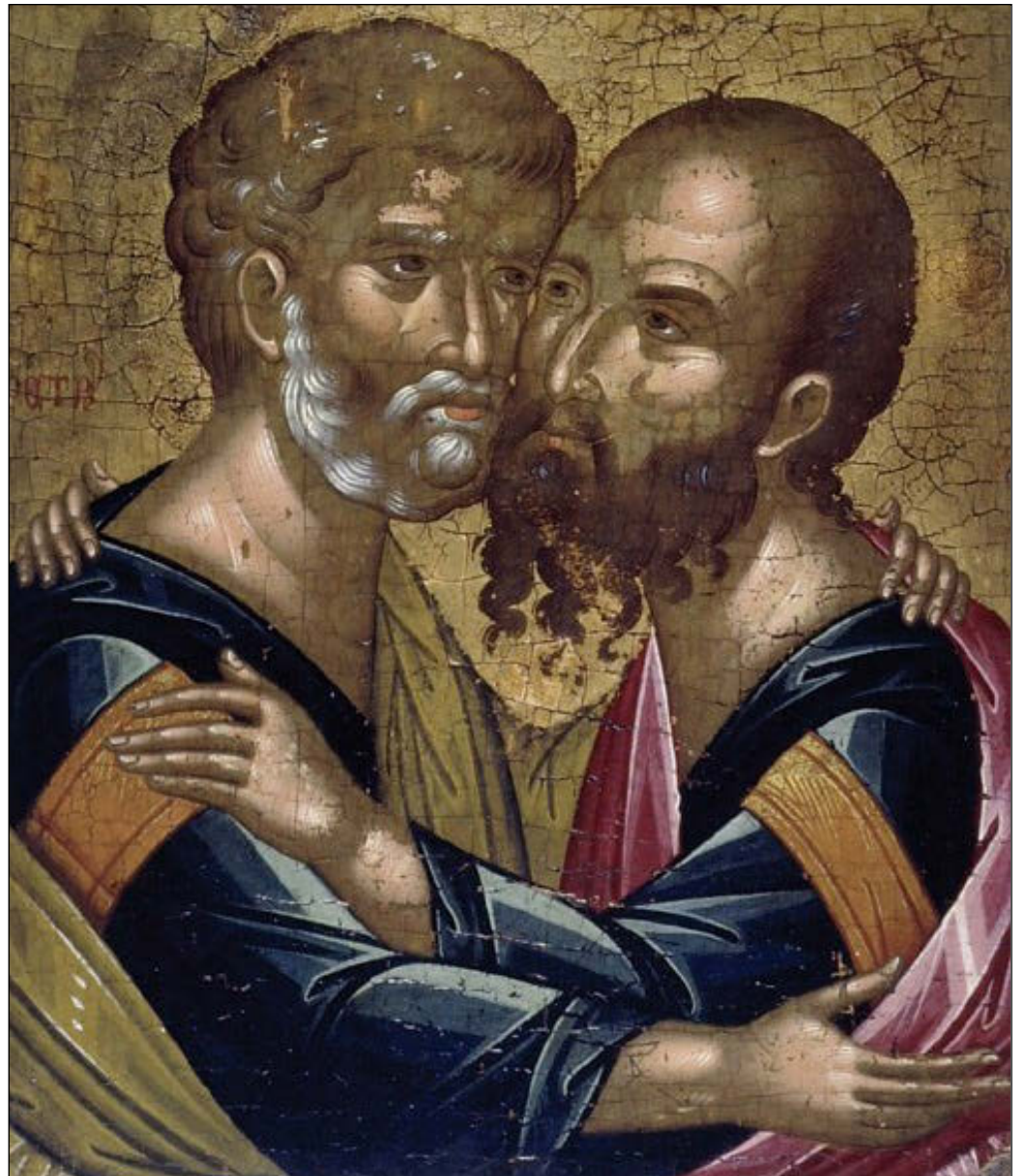
In a recent discussion about ecumenism and the quest for Christian unity, someone said to me that he thought it was a "pipe dream," in other words, an illusory hope, a fantasy, a dream that is impossible to achieve. I responded that Christian unity is an illusory hope if we think that it can be achieved by our own human efforts, but that with the help of God's grace, it is not a "pipe dream." Christian unity is first and foremost a gift of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. And we are called to cooperate with His grace. That is why we celebrate each year the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year it begins on Sunday, January 18th, and ends on Sunday, January 25th.

This past November marked the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of the Decree on Ecumenism of the Second Vatican Council. We can rejoice and give thanks that the Council's teaching on ecumenism has been broadly received. Much healing has occurred in the relations between Catholics and other Christians. There has been much greater acceptance of one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, recognizing the profound unity we share that comes from Baptism. There has certainly been a very positive change in mentality, along with a growing commitment to fulfill the will of Jesus expressed in His prayer to the Father on the eve of His Passion "that they may all be one."

There have been many positive fruits in our ecumenical endeavors the past 50 years. Christians of different churches and communities often pray together and also work together in the service of the needy. Pope Francis has also spoken about "the ecumenism of blood," Christians of different churches and communities who have been persecuted and martyred for their faith. As the Holy Father has said: "Those who persecute Christ in His faithful make no differentiation between confessions: they persecute them simply because they are Christians."

Though there has been much progress towards Christian unity in the past 50 years, the journey toward full unity is not easy. There is still significant disagreement among Christians on various doctrinal matters. One great achievement has been the Joint Declaration on Justification between the Catholic Church and the Lutheran World Federation. Yet, there is still disagreement on many doctrinal matters between Catholics and Protestants of various denominations. I serve as the Catholic Co-Chair of the International Reformed-Catholic Theological Dialogue and can testify to the great challenges we face in our search for convergence on various matters. I think especially of new disagreements in moral teachings that I find especially painful and which make our journey toward unity more complicated.

The theological dialogues between the Catholic Church and various other Christian Churches and Communions have been fruitful, yet also frustrating at times. Pope Francis says that "we must not surrender to discouragement and resignation, but continue to trust in



SISTER MARIE-PAUL

The octave of prayer for Christian Unity falls between the feast of St. Peter's Chair on Jan. 18 and the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul on Jan. 25. The icon of Sts. Peter and Paul is shown above.

God who plants in the hearts of Christians the seeds of love and of unity, in order to confront with renewed momentum today's ecumenical challenges: to cultivate spiritual ecumenism, to turn to advantage the ecumenism of blood, to walk together on the path of the Gospel." The Holy Father's words remind me that we must constantly implore the help of God's grace and the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. That is why the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is so important. I encourage all to remember this important intention in your prayers during the coming week.

Spiritual ecumenism is of the utmost importance. In its Decree on Ecumenism, the Second Vatican Council taught: "Change of heart and holiness of life, along with public and private prayer for the unity of Christians, should be regarded as the soul of the whole ecumenical movement, and can rightly be called spiritual ecumenism." "Ecumenism," Pope Francis says, "is a spiritual process, one which takes place in faithful obedience to the Father, in fulfillment of the will of Christ and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

I am glad to see ecumenical initiatives in parishes and other groups throughout our diocese. It is a joy to see Catholics and other Christians working together in so many works of charity and also in prayer and discussion groups. An authentic ecumenical spirit is part of being Catholic. We desire to grow with our separated brothers and sisters in the communion which already unites us. Though that

communion is imperfect, it is nonetheless real.

In a society and culture that is increasingly less concerned about God, increasingly secularized, the pursuit of full Christian unity must be a priority. The Church's work of evangelization is hindered by the division among Christians. When Jesus prayed to the Father "that they all may be one," He said "so that the world may believe that You have sent me." The Second Vatican Council said that the division among Christians "openly contradicts the will of Christ, scandalizes the world, and damages that most holy cause, the preaching of the Gospel to every creature." That is why the Catholic Church's commitment to ecumenism remains a priority.

Again, I encourage you to offer prayers for Christian unity this coming week. I also recommend to our priests the celebration of one of the Masses for the Unity of Christians contained in the Roman Missal during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The following prayer is one of the Collects of the Mass for the Unity of Christians:

Almighty ever-living God, who gather what is scattered and keep together what you gathered, look kindly on the flock of your Son, that those whom one Baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Bishop Hying installed as fourth bishop of Diocese of Gary

BY STEVE EUVINO

GARY (CNS) — Before a packed Holy Angels Cathedral and a television and online audience, Bishop Donald J. Hying was installed as the Diocese of Gary's fourth bishop.

In what Bishop Hying called "a glorious adventure in faith together," the 51-year-old bishop formally accepted the apostolic mandate from Pope Francis naming the former auxiliary bishop of Milwaukee as the new spiritual shepherd for 185,000 Roman Catholics in Northwest Indiana.

Msr. Richard Zollinger, who witnessed the erection of the Gary diocese in 1957 and the consecration of its three previous bishops, said the installation of Bishop Hying Jan. 6 represents "new life, new hope — that's what it's all about."

For Father Christopher Stanish, ordained a priest in 2014, the installation of a new bishop marks "a first step in an amazing journey of discipleship, as the bishop moves us into the vision the Lord has called us to. As a disciple of Jesus Christ, the new bishop will carry the joy of the Gospel to the Diocese of Gary."

Looking over the audience witnessing the ceremony, Bishop Hying said, "The memory of this moment will always carry me forward."

In his homily, Bishop Hying extended an invitation to local Catholics to "never be afraid to approach me, challenge me, tell me hard truths or ask me to do things for you. I am here to serve with all of you."

"We renew our dedication to Jesus and His Church, to the proclamation of the Good News and the service of the poor, to lives of prayer and service, to help heal this world that often seems so old and broken," he said.

Filling in for Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, the apostolic nuncio to the U.S. who could not attend because of a snowstorm, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin of Indianapolis read the apostolic mandate, which was presented to the acting chancellor and the consultants before being shown to the entire assembly.

Bishop Hying addressed different segments of the diocese in his homily, starting with his brother priests. "I look forward to coming to know, love and support you as you lead and serve this local Church,"



CNS PHOTO / KAREN CALLAWAY, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

Bishop Donald J. Hying delivers the homily during his Jan. 6 installation Mass at Holy Angels Cathedral as the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Gary. He succeeds Bishop Dale J. Melczek who has been the Bishop of Gary for the last 22 years.

the bishop said, adding his support to the religious of the diocese. "May you know how deeply you are valued and loved."

Turning to deacons and their wives, Bishop Hying said, "The power and fruit of your service and love richly nourish our people. Your commitment to social ministry extends the good news of the Gospel beyond the formal borders of the Church into the hospitals, prisons, homes and hearts of so many."

To lay ecclesial ministers, parish council leaders, volunteers and other lay faithful from the 68 parishes in the diocese, Bishop Hying extended his greetings and love.

"Your prayer, your marriages

and families, the work you do, the time and treasure you give are the fire and energy that make the Church run forward in the sacred mission of Christ Jesus," he said. "You are the presence of the Lord in the world, and the world has never needed your faith and love more than it does right now."

Addressing the Hispanic population in their native tongue, Bishop Hying said, "Your spirituality, love for Christ and His holy mother and your devotion to family life are aspects of the gifts you offer us. I am your brother and a disciple together with you in the pilgrimage of our faith."

The new bishop also addressed the diocese's African-American community, Asians, the deaf and those with other challenges and abilities. "All of you are close to the heart of Christ and an integral part of our local Church," Bishop Hying said.

Born in West Allis, Wisconsin, Bishop Hying was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee May 20, 1989. He was ordained as Milwaukee's seventh auxiliary bishop July 20, 2011.



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Jan. 18, 11:15 a.m. — Mass, Church of Our Lady of Loretto, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame
- Sunday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. — Ecumenical Vespers Service, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Monday, Jan. 19 — Meeting of Our Sunday Institute Advisory Board, Detroit, Michigan
- Thursday, Jan. 22, 9:30 a.m. — Mass — March for Life, Washington, D.C.
- Friday, Jan. 23, 9:30 a.m. — Mass for Diocesan Participants at March for Life, Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

POPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The war divided Sri Lanka along religious as well as ethnic lines, since members of the Sinhalese majority are typically Buddhist, and Tamils for the most part Hindu. Catholics, who make up 7 percent of the country's population, include members of both ethnic groups. Rajapaksa, who sought re-election Jan. 8, had his political base in the country's Sinhalese-Buddhist majority. Sirisena enjoys more support among minorities.

"Sri Lanka for many years knew the horrors of civil strife and is now seeking to consolidate peace and to heal the scars of those years," Pope Francis said, his voice hoarse and weary-sounding after the 10-hour flight from Rome. "I am convinced that the followers of the various religious traditions have an essential role to play in the delicate process of reconciliation and rebuilding which is taking place in this country."

That afternoon, the pope met with local Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim and other Christian leaders, telling them that efforts at "inter-religious and ecumenical relations take on a particular significance and urgency in Sri Lanka," as sources of "healing and unity" after years of "civil strife and violence."

Again, he sounded a note of realism, stressing that dialogue could not eliminate cultural differences but would emphasize the need for their acceptance.

"For such dialogue and encounter to be effective, it must be grounded in a full and forthright presentation of our respective convictions. Certainly, such dialogue will accentuate how varied our beliefs, traditions and practices are. But if we are honest in presenting our convictions, we will be able to see more clearly what we hold in common," the pope said. "Men and women do not have to forsake their identity, whether ethnic or religious, in order to live in harmony."

The pope urged followers of different religions to cooperate in social service, providing for the "material and spiritual needs of the poor, the destitute" and thus "rebuild the moral foundations of society as a whole."

At the interreligious meeting,

held at a Colombo conference centers, a Hindu leader, speaking the Tamil language, voiced hopes for lasting peace and draped a saffron silk shawl over Pope Francis' shoulders.

A representative of the local Muslim community condemned "terrorism, racism, extremism," including recent killings by Islamist militants at a Paris newspaper and a military-run school in Pakistan.

A Buddhist monk, representing the faith of 70 percent of Sri Lanka's population, noted the common dedication of great religions to the values of love, self-sacrifice and peace, as well as the common susceptibility of humanity to hatred and violence.

Pope Francis' first day in Sri Lanka started when his plane from Rome landed at 9 a.m. He was greeted by traditional dancers and drummers, a 21-gun salute and a choir of teenagers who sang a song of welcome in English, the same language the pope and Sirisena used for their remarks. Girls in white dresses and boys in neckties and shorts waved gold-and-white Vatican flags. Nearby stood 40 elephants draped in colorful fabrics, a traditional gesture of honor for distinguished guests.

The pope's entourage, led by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, wore white cassocks, keeping with the ecclesiastical custom in tropical climates. Temperatures were in the 80s in the bright sunshine.

The pope rode the 17-mile distance to the nuncio's residence in an open-sided popemobile past crowds waving Vatican flags. A persistent breeze made it impossible for him to keep his zucchetto on for much of the ride. Because the pope made frequent stops to greet and bless individuals along the way, his ride took twice as long as expected, leading him to cancel a meeting with Sri Lanka's bishops planned for early afternoon.

The day marked the start of Pope Francis' second trip to Asia, following a visit to South Korea in August. He was scheduled to spend two full days in Sri Lanka, before flying to the Philippines Jan. 15. The highlights of the Sri Lanka leg were expected to be the Jan. 14 canonization of Blessed Joseph Vaz as the country's first saint and, later the same day, a pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Madhu, which served as a sanctuary for refugees during the civil war.

Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference set Feb. 7

SOUTH BEND — The Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Century Center in South Bend. New this year will be a young adult session.

With the theme, "Encouragement, Strength, Fellowship," this year's conference will include international Catholic speakers, Confession and conclude with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

The day begins at 9 a.m. with a welcome. At 9:30 a.m., Franciscan Father David Mary Engo, the founder and superior of the Franciscan Brothers Minor in Fort Wayne, will speak.

Steve Ray, a traveler, expert on the Holy Land, popular Catholic apologist, film producer, Bible teacher and author, will speak at 9:45 a.m. Ray's enthusiasm for Catholicism has inspired and enriched the faith of thousands around the world. Ray will offer an afternoon session at 2:45 p.m.

Dr. John Wood will speak at 11:15 a.m. He is the author of "Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission: 5 Steps to Winning the War Within." His message inspires all to embrace the universal call to holiness.

Ruben Quezada will speak at 2 p.m. Quezada is an international speaker and director for

the Catholic Resource Center and St. Joseph Communications in southern California. Quezada is considered an expert on the persecution of the Catholic Church, specifically in Mexico in the 1920s, and is the author of "For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada — The Cristero War and Mexico's Struggle for Religious Freedom."

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will conclude the conference with the celebration of Mass at 4 p.m.

Young adults between the ages of 18-39 are invited to a special breakout session with lunch, relevant presenters and open discussion with other young adult men seeking answers and strength.

A Hispanic Men's Evening Session will be held Friday, Feb. 6, in Elkhart. For information, contact Tino Garcia at 574-389-6671.

Cost for the Saturday men's conference is \$35 and includes lunch. Registration is available online at rekindlethefire.net. A registration form may be downloaded as well.

Bus transportation from St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, is available at \$20 per person. The bus leaves at 6:30 a.m.

Visit the website rekindlethefire.net for information or call Joe Witulski at 260-452-6875.

Pope names 15 new cardinal electors, most from global south

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Underscoring the geographical diversity of his selections, Pope Francis named 15 cardinal electors "from 14 nations of every continent, showing the inseparable link between the Church of Rome and the particular churches present in the world."

In addition to 15 new electors, Pope Francis named five new cardinals who are over the age of 80 and, therefore, ineligible to vote in a conclave. Popes have used such nominations to honor Churchmen for their scholarship or other contributions.

The pope announced the names Jan. 4, after praying the Angelus with a crowd in St. Peter's Square, and said he would formally induct the men into the College of Cardinals Feb. 14.

With the list, the pope continues a movement he started with his first batch of appointments a year ago, giving gradually more representation at the highest levels of the Church to poorer countries in the global South. According to the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the new cardinals will include the first in history from Cape Verde, Tonga and Myanmar.

The Feb. 14 consistory will bring the total number of cardinals under the age of 80 to 125. Until they reach their 80th birthdays, cardinals are eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope. Blessed Paul VI limited the number of electors to 120, but later popes have occasionally exceeded that limit.

Three of the new cardinal electors hail from Asia, three from Latin America, two from Africa and two from Oceania.

Of the five Europeans on the list, three lead dioceses in Italy and Spain that have not traditionally had cardinals as bishops — another sign of Pope Francis' willingness to break precedent. While giving red hats to the archbishops of Ancona-Osimo and Agrigento, Italy, the pope will once again pass over the leaders of Venice and Turin, both historically more prestigious dioceses.

None of the new cardinals hails from the U.S. or Canada. Father Lombardi noted that the numbers of cardinals from those countries have remained stable since February 2014, when Pope Francis elevated the archbishop of Quebec. The U.S. currently has 11 cardinal electors and Canada 3.

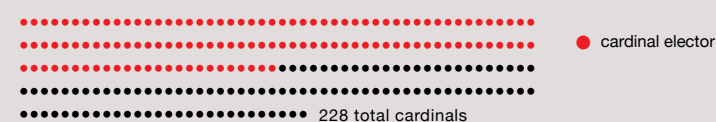
The continuing geographic shift is incremental in nature. With the new appointments, cardinals from Europe and North America will make up 56.8 percent of those eligible to elect the next pope, down from 60 percent on Jan. 4.

The shift reflects the pope's emphasis on Africa and Asia, where the Church is growing fastest, and on his native region of Latin

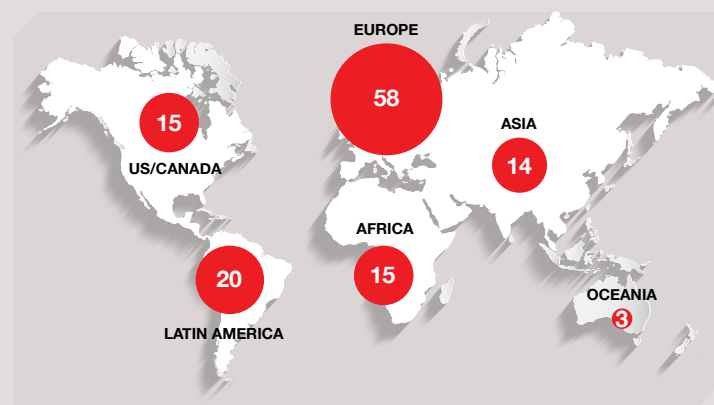
Counting Cardinals

How the College of Cardinals will look after the Feb. 14 consistory

Cardinals under the age of 80 can be electors



Electors by region



Countries with the most electors

ITALY.....27	INDIA.....5	SPAIN.....5	GERMANY.....4
US.....11	FRANCE.....5	BRAZIL.....4	POLAND.....4

America, home to about 40 percent of the world's Catholics.

A number of the selections also reflect Pope Francis' emphasis on social justice. The new Mexican cardinal leads a diocese that has been hard hit by the current wave of drug-related violence in his country.

And one of the Italian cardinals-designate, the archbishop of Agrigento in Sicily, leads the Italian bishops' commission on migration, an issue on which Pope Francis has placed particular importance. In July 2013, the pope visited the southern Mediterranean island of Lampedusa, a major entry point for undocumented immigrants to Europe, and mourned the many who had died attempting to cross the sea.

Announcing the appointments, Pope Francis noted that the ceremony to induct the new cardinals will follow a two-day meeting of the entire college, Feb. 12 and 13, "to reflect on guidelines and proposals for reform of the Roman Curia."

The pope's nine-member Council of Cardinals is currently working on a major reform of the Vatican bureaucracy, including a new apostolic constitution for the curia.

Pope Francis said he had chosen to honor five retired bishops "distinguished for their pastoral charity in service to the Holy See and the Church," representing "so many bishops who, with the same pastoral solicitude, have given testimony of love for Christ and the people of God, whether in particular churches, the Roman Curia or the diplomatic service of the Holy See."

The five new honorary cardinals hail from Argentina, Colombia, Germany, Italy and Mozambique.

Here is the list of the new cardinals:

- French Archbishop Dominique

Mamberti, prefect of the Apostolic Signature, 62.

- Portuguese Patriarch Manuel Jose Macario do Nascimento Clemente of Lisbon, 66.

- Ethiopian Archbishop Berhaneyesus Demerew Souraphiel of Addis Ababa, 66.

- New Zealand Archbishop John Dew of Wellington, 66.

- Italian Archbishop Edoardo Menichelli of Ancona-Osimo, 75.

- Vietnamese Archbishop Pierre Nguyen Van Nhon of Hanoi, 76.

- Mexican Archbishop Alberto Suarez Inda of Morelia, who turns 76 Jan. 30.

- Myanmar Archbishop Charles Bo of Yangon, 66.

- Thai Archbishop Francis Xavier Kriengsak Kovithavanij of Bangkok, 65.

- Italian Archbishop Francesco Montenegro of Agrigento, 68.

- Uruguayan Archbishop Daniel Fernando Sturla Berhouet of Montevideo, 55.

- Spanish Archbishop Ricardo Blazquez Perez of Valladolid, 72.

- Spanish-born Panamanian Bishop Jose Luis Lacunza Maestrojuan of David, 70.

- Cape Verdean Bishop Arlindo Gomes Furtado of Santiago de Cabo Verde, 65.

- Tongan Bishop Soane Mafi, 53.

- Colombian Archbishop Jose de Jesus Pimiento Rodriguez, retired, of Manizales, who turns 96 Feb. 18.

- Italian Archbishop Luigi De Magistris, 88, retired pro-major penitentiary at the Vatican.

- German Archbishop Karl-Joseph Rauber, 80, a former nuncio.

- Argentine Archbishop Luis Hector Villalba, retired, of Tucuman, 80.

- Mozambican Bishop Julio Duarte Langa, retired, of Xai-Xai, 87.

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Indiana Catholic Conference to engage state lawmakers at Capitol in 2015: What's ahead at the Legislature

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), the Indiana bishops' official watchdog organization for public policy matters in Indiana, returns to the capitol dome to advocate for the common good of all Hoosiers and a wide range of consistent life ethic issues.

January 6 marked the opening day for the 150 state lawmakers to begin their legislative business for 2015. State lawmakers have only one absolute goal — they must pass a two-year budget by the April 29 adjournment deadline. Many other issues will be addressed by this body where Republicans hold a supermajority in both the House and Senate.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the ICC, who serves as the chief lobbyist and spokesperson for the Catholic Church in Indiana, discussed what's ahead for the 2015 legislative session.

The ICC has marked several issues this year as priorities. Topping the list includes support for legislation granting conscience protection and religious freedom. "Conscience and religious freedom legislation aims to allow Hoosiers the freedom to follow their conscience or religious beliefs as it

relates to issues that violate a person's moral beliefs," said Tebbe.

The ICC will work on several issues to further protect the unborn. "Following last year's legislative success providing the option for burials of a miscarried child's remains, there will be an effort to address how remains from abortions are treated," said Tebbe. "Also, in the aftermath of a lawsuit which struck down limiting distribution of the abortion-inducing drug, RU 486, the ICC will work to clarify the law to regulate the drug," said Tebbe. Other pro-life bills include supporting a new proposal to help abandoned infants; and legislation to ban the death penalty will be supported by the ICC.

Protecting parental rights to choose the educational setting for their children remains a priority for the ICC. Efforts will be made by the ICC to enhance opportunities for families to have educational choice. Tebbe said that legislation supported by the ICC would increase the state's support for choice via the scholarship tax credit program. "Working to improve access to quality early childhood education programs will also be a priority this year," said Tebbe.

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

Social justice concerns the ICC supports this year include efforts to assist moderate to lower income families by expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and seeking increased support for pregnant mothers and their infants.

According to Tebbe, charitable gaming laws and an expansion of the gaming industry as a whole are expected to be addressed this year, which may have an impact on how nonprofits and churches engage in festivals or church raffles. The ICC will be engaged in the legislative discussion on these changes.

Currently, legislation to legalize euthanasia has not surfaced in Indiana this year, yet nationally other states have legalized it. As national lobbying efforts to impose legalized euthanasia in Indiana occur, the ICC will oppose this

effort and any bills that pave the way for legalized euthanasia.

Lawmakers must draft and file bills with the assistance of Legislative Services Agency, a non-partisan staff of state attorneys, to ensure proper language. Once a bill is filed, it is assigned to a committee. Tebbe explained that only about a third of the bills filed each will receive a hearing, and still fewer pass. Bills can originate in the House or the Senate, and must pass both houses to become law. Under Indiana law, the governor's signature is not necessary for a bill to become a law, however, the governor does have veto power.

Tebbe expects close to 2,000 bills to be filed this year. "The ICC monitors over a 100 of those bills, maybe more, and we will take a position on as many as 30 of them, providing written and oral testimony on various issues," said Tebbe. "A lot of times, whether legislation addresses education, hospitals and

health care, family life and children, or delivering services to the poor, the Church has been intimately involved in these endeavors for centuries. We try to serve as a resource from both a secular, research perspective and from a sacred, Scriptural perspective to assist lawmakers as they discern how to best meet the needs of all Hoosiers," said Tebbe. "Sometimes they listen, sometimes they don't, but what is important is the Church has a moral obligation to offer our resources to benefit the common good of all people in Indiana."

Once bills are filed, they receive a bill number and the details will be available to the public. As the ICC tracks bills, the ICC posts legislative update on its web page. To receive legislative updates via email pushes, join the Indiana Catholic Action Network (ICAN). These and other public policy resources are available at www.indianacc.org.

Reflection on U.S. 'racial divide' is personal for Illinois bishop

BELLEVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — In a 19-page reflection on the "racial divide" in the United States, Bishop Edward K. Braxton of Belleville, who is African-American, said he twice had been the victim of what he considered to be unjust police attitudes.

The episodes "made me very conscious of the fact that simply by being me, I could be the cause of suspicion and concern without doing anything wrong," wrote Bishop Braxton in "The Racial Divide in the United States: A Reflection for the World Day of Peace 2015," issued Jan. 1.

In the first episode, when Bishop Braxton was a priest, "I was simply walking down a street in an apparently all-white neighborhood. A police car drove up beside me and the officer asked, 'What are you doing in this area? Do you live around here? Where is your car? You should not be wandering about neighborhoods where you do not live.' I never told him I was a Catholic priest, but I wondered what it was I was doing to attract the attention of the officer," he said. "This was long before I heard the expression, 'walking while black.'"

The second episode, Bishop Braxton, by this time a cleric, was "driving in my car in an apparently all-white neighborhood with two small chairs in the back seat and a table in the partially open trunk tied with a rope. A police car with flashing lights pulled me over. The officer

asked, 'Where are you going with that table and those chairs?' Before I could answer, he asked, 'Where did you get them?' Then he said, 'We had a call about a suspicious person driving through the area with possibly stolen furniture in his trunk.' I wondered what I was doing to make someone suspicious. Many years would pass before I would hear the expression 'racial profiling.'"

In neither case was Bishop Braxton wearing clerical garb. Even so, "I am not a completely impartial outside observer in the face of these events."

In his "call to Christian dialogue," Bishop Braxton alluded to Pope Francis' choice of theme for the 2015 World Day of Peace: "No Longer Slaves, but Brothers and Sisters." In addition to physical bondage, the bishop said, "there are also forms of social, emotional and psychological slavery: slavery to prejudice, racism, bias, anger, frustration, rage, violence and bitterness in the face of systemic injustices. Regrettably, these forms of slavery endure in the United States and they are born from the tragedy of the European 'slave trade.'"

Bishop Braxton wrote, "Many young students of history are surprised, even shocked, to learn that Catholic institutions and religious communities 'owned' human beings from West Africa as enslaved workers on their plantations."

He quoted a now-deceased auxiliary bishop of Newark, New Jersey, Joseph A. Francis, who, when asked

why there were so few African-American Catholics, replied, "If you had seen and heard what I have seen and heard, you would not be amazed that there are so few, you would be amazed that there are so many."

The Belleville Diocese, headed by Bishop Braxton, is directly east of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, scene of near-constant protests over the police killing in August of unarmed African-American teenager Michael Brown in suburban Ferguson, Missouri.


The bishop concluded his reflection with 14 things Catholics could do on race matters. Among them were going to Mass at least one weekday a week to pray for guidance on ways to bridge the racial divide; praying the rosary weekly with one's family for the intention of ending racial conflict and prejudice; examining one's conscience monthly to acknowledge acts that reinforce racial division; initiating an effort to get to know police officers, thanking them for their service and helping young people get to know the police and vice versa; "break the ice, start the conversation" with someone of a different racial background; and watching movies that explore racial issues. On the topic of slavery, Bishop Braxton recommended "Twelve Years a Slave" over "Gone With the Wind," which, he said, offered "a completely romanticized presentation of what the evil of slavery was actually like."

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21 LIVE

Possible acceleration of Romero sainthood creates mixed emotions

BY CHAZ MUTH

NOTRE DAME (CNS) — Scholars who have studied the life of murdered Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero say a reading of the tea leaves suggest advancement of his sainthood cause is imminent.

The news is being met with jubilation by many Romero researchers and with mixed emotions by Salvadorans.

Supporters of the cause for Romero's canonization have been frustrated for years by what they view as a stalled effort.

However, the cause now appears to have momentum, and a soon-to-come beatification or sainthood announcement "would be a great day for us," said Damian Zynda, an Archbishop Romero researcher who is a faculty member with Christian Spirituality Program at Creighton University.

Zynda was among several scholars Catholic News Service interviewed during the annual International Conference on Archbishop Oscar Romero at the University of Notre Dame in September.

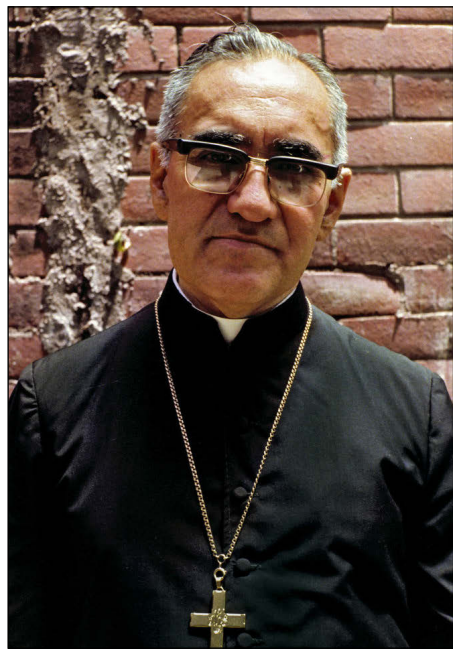
The most promising movement of the cause came Jan. 8, when the newspaper of the Italian bishops' conference announced that a panel of theologians advising the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes unanimously voted to recognize the archbishop as a martyr, and declared that the archbishop had been killed "in hatred for the faith."

Archbishop Romero, an outspoken advocate for the poor and an uncompromising critic of a Salvadoran government he said legitimized terror and assassinations, was shot and killed March 24, 1980, as he celebrated Mass in a San Salvador hospital chapel during his country's 12-year civil war that ended in 1992.

The next step in the process lies with the cardinals and bishops who sit on the Congregation for Saints' Causes, who will vote on whether to advise the pope to issue a decree of beatification. A miracle is not needed for beatification of a martyr, though a miracle is ordinarily needed for his or her canonization as saint.

Some scholars say it is possible Pope Francis will not adhere to convention and fast-track the canonization process without a miracle.

"I'm not naive, because I've walked through a lot of trenches, but I'm hopeful," said Holy Cross Father Robert S. Pelton, director of Latin American/North American Church Concerns for the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Father Pelton also organizes an annual international conference on Archbishop Romero at the university.



CNS PHOTO/OCTAVIO DURAN

"It's so long overdue," said Julian Filochowski, chairman of the Archbishop Romero Trust in London, which was launched in 2007 to raise awareness about the murdered justice advocate's life and work. "I think it will give great encouragement to the Church and to those who are bread-breaking-justice-seeking Christians and Catholics around the world."

Archbishop Romero's sainthood cause was opened at the Vatican in 1993, but was delayed for years as the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith studied his writings, amid wider debate over whether he had been killed for his faith or for political reasons. And there has been concern that he has been used as a political symbol rather than a religious symbol in El Salvador.

The martyrdom of Archbishop Romero is different than how most people traditionally see martyrs, said Michael E. Lee, associate professor of theology at Jesuit-run Fordham University.

"Many of us have notions of ancient Christian martyrs before a Roman emperor, but here is Romero, and so many others, who have given their lives for the struggle for justice and human rights, which was inspired by the Gospels' teachings," Lee told CNS. "These truly are martyrs and we need to understand martyrdom in a new light because of their example."

Pope Francis has been an outspoken admirer of Archbishop Romero. He quoted him during a recent general audience at the Vatican, and when he was Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, archbishop of Buenos Aires, he reportedly said he already considered Archbishop Romero to be a saint.

Beatification and canonization of the murdered Salvadoran archbishop would provide the Church and people of Latin America a role model for peace and social justice, said Thomas M. Kelly, professor of systematic theology at Creighton University.

"It would definitely give people

Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero is pictured in a 1979 photo in San Salvador. A panel of theologians advising the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes voted unanimously Jan. 8 to recognize the late Salvadoran archbishop as a martyr, according to the newspaper of the Italian bishops' conference.

who take the social justice teaching of Vatican II very seriously as a model and exemplar who is now a saint in a way that we do not have and have not had before," Kelly told CNS. "It would definitely, I think, propel the agenda of Francis in many ways."

Similarities between Pope Francis and Archbishop Romero include a deep concern for the poor, efforts to minimize the power of the very wealthy and use of the pulpit to advocate for the poor and victims of societal abuses, he said.

While many Salvadorans already consider Archbishop Romero to be a saint, not everyone is convinced an official sanction from the Church is necessary or positive, said Claudia Bernardi, professor of community arts at California College of the Arts in Oakland, California. She has been involved in community building through art in Perquin, El Salvador.

Bernardi explained that while many of the people she works with in El Salvador honor and revere Archbishop Romero, they are concerned that his canonization would move him further from average people.

"We like to think that he was a good man and that he had the same opportunities to be courageous and not be courageous, and he fought for us, and we like to think that he is a man," and not an unreachable saint, she said.

Though Zynda said she understands that sentiment, she told CNS that she does not believe the spirit of Archbishop Romero would allow his canonization to disconnect his existence from the people of El Salvador.

It rests with the ecclesial leaders "to not create that culture," Zynda said. "Because that's exactly what these icons of discipleship ought to be for us, someone who is not removed, but someone like Jesus with his feet on the ground, who knows God and knows humanity. So did Romero."

At Baptisms, pope urges prayers for moms who can't feed their kids

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis reminded people to pray for the world's mothers whose poverty means they are unable to provide enough food for their children.

"Let us pray and try to help these mothers," he said during a Mass in the Sistine Chapel in which he baptized 33 babies on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 11.

The pope's homily focused on the meaning of Baptism and the reading from the Book of Isaiah about how, like a good mother and father, God wants to give His children nourishment that truly satisfies.

God did that by offering the nourishing word of Christ, the pope said.

Parents and relatives should offer their children the word of God by always carrying with them a pocket-sized copy of the Gospel and reading a short verse from it every day, he said.

"This will be an example for the children to see daddy, mommy, godparents, grandpa, grandma, aunts and uncles reading the word of God," he said.

Amid the cries and squeals of infants, the pope repeated the same advice he gave the previous year, telling the mothers present that if their babies "are crying because of hunger, breast-feed them, don't worry."

"Let us thank the Lord for the gift of milk and let us pray for those moms — and there are many unfortunately — who are in no condition to feed their own children," he said.

The pope asked that children be raised to understand "one cannot be Christian outside the Church, one cannot follow Christ without the Church because the Church is mother and she lets us grow in Jesus

Christ's love."

He also told everyone not to forget to pray to the Holy Spirit, who supplies the strength to keep going in life's journey.

"Usually we pray to Jesus. When we pray the 'Our Father' we pray to the Father. But we don't pray to the Holy Spirit too much," he said.

Children need to grow in the midst of the Holy Trinity, and it is the Holy Spirit who "teaches us to keep the family going."

Later, before praying the Angelus with those gathered in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis said the Baptism of the Lord opened up the heavens to reunite people with God.

"Sin distances us from God and breaks the bond between heaven and earth," he said.

But when Christ was baptized, the heavens were "torn open" and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, giving everyone "the possibility of encountering the Son of God and experiencing all His love and infinite mercy," he said.

Christ is truly present and can be encountered in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, and His face can be seen in the poor, the sick, the imprisoned and the refugee, Pope Francis said.

"There is so much need today for mercy," he said, urging Catholics to be merciful and bring mercy to others. "Come on! We are living a time of mercy; this is a time of mercy."

He also asked that people pay greater attention and listen to the Holy Spirit.

Otherwise, a Christian community that is "deaf to the voice of the Holy Spirit, who is urging people to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth and society, will also become a Christian and a community that is 'mute' and cannot speak and evangelize" about Christ, he said.



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Francis baptizes a newborn during a Mass in the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican Jan. 11. Pope Francis baptized 33 infants during the Mass and told the mothers to feel free to breast-feed them if they cried or were hungry.

Annulment presentations to be held in Granger, Fort Wayne

GRANGER — Father Mark Gurtner, judicial vicar of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, will make a presentation on annulments on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. at St. Pius X Church in Granger, and on Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne.

The presentation, which will be held in the church at each location, will offer an explanation of what makes marriage null and the annulment process.

Father Gurtner is the pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, and an adjunct assistant professional specialist in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame.

St. Pius X Church is located at 52553 Fir Rd., Granger.

St. Vincent de Paul Church is located at 1502 E. Wallen Rd., Fort Wayne.

No reservations are needed for the presentation.

For additional information contact Cindy Black at cblack@diocesefwsb.org or 260-399-1436, or Julia Thill at jthill@saintv.org or at 260-489-3537 ext. 208.

Office of Worship posts liturgical trainings

FORT WAYNE — The Office of Worship has organized diocesan liturgical trainings in the spring for lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. There is no charge to attend a training, but advance registration is required by mail or email.

Lector trainings will be on Jan. 31 at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne, and on Feb. 14 at St. Pius X Church in Granger. Extraordinary minister trainings will be on Feb. 21 at St. Charles Church in Fort Wayne, and on March 28 at St. Pius X Church in Granger. All trainings are scheduled to start at 9 a.m., and end by 1 p.m. More specific information, as well as the full registration form, can be found online at www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats.

Ancilla announces certified nursing assistant class

DONALDSON — Ancilla College is offering a Certified Nursing Assistant course in its health sciences department beginning this spring. After passing the Indiana State Health Department CNA test, Certified Nursing Assistants are state certified to become a nurse's aid in long-term care facilities, home health and hospice groups and assisted living facilities. To qualify, one must pass a physical, a drug screen and a background check. A high school diploma is not required. The program consists of 32 hours of classroom work and 75 hours of clinical work. The course will meet Monday and Wednesday nights from 6-10 p.m. starting Feb. 2. Clinical hours take place on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3

AROUND THE DIOCESE

NOTRE DAME DEFEATS LSU, WINS MUSIC CITY BOWL



CNS PHOTO/RICK MUSACCHIO, TENNESSEE REGISTER

University of Notre Dame quarterback Malik Zaire breaks free of LSU defender Kwon Alexander in the first half of the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 30, 2014. Notre Dame scored a last-second field goal to win 31-28. Zaire made his first start of the season during the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl and was named MVP of the game.

p.m. After completing the required coursework and clinical hours, students will take the state certification exam.

Beth Bailey, instructor of nursing, will teach the class.

Those interested should contact Rhonda Arvesen, at 574-936-8898, ext. 327 by Monday, Jan. 26. The class fee is \$800. The state certification exam fee is \$75, after completion of the program.

Father Brian Davies announced as Aquinas Symposium speaker

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College has announced that Dominican Father Brian Davies, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Fordham University, is the speaker for the 2015 Symposium on St. Thomas Aquinas. The hour-long talk will be held at 7 p.m. on the saint's feast day, Wednesday, Jan. 28, in Rice Commons of the Student Center. A brief discussion and reception will follow the talk. The event is free and open to the public.

Davies's lecture is titled "Thomas Aquinas on God and

Evil." He will explain what Aquinas thought about God and evil, while not supposing that God is a morally good agent, as many people do when discussing the topic.

"Father Brian Davies is a pre-eminent philosopher of religion and one of the foremost interpreters and expositors in the English-speaking world of the richness of St. Thomas Aquinas's thought," said Religious Studies Professor Joseph Incandela, the Joyce McMahon Hank Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology at Saint Mary's College.

The Aquinas Symposium is sponsored by the Joyce McMahon Hank Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology. For more information on this year's event, call Barb Westra, administrative assistant in religious studies, at 574-284-4534.

USF lecture will explore Venerable Bede

FORT WAYNE — The Department of Philosophy and Theology at the University of Saint Francis will offer a free lecture titled, "The Venerable Bede: What Can He

Teach Us Today?" on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 3 p.m. at the North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring St.

The Venerable Bede (673-735) was the most important Christian thinker in the so-called "Dark Ages." He was a monk, a teacher and a theologian who helped to solidify the life of the Church in Anglo-Saxon England. Dr. John Bequette, associate professor of theology, will discuss some of Bede's important writings, their impact on Bede's own world, and what we can learn from them today.

For more information, contact Angie Springer at 260-399-8066 or aspringer@sf.edu.

MLK day activities offered

FORT WAYNE — University of Saint Francis students, faculty and staff will take a different approach to Dr. Martin Luther King through "A Day On, Not a Day Off." A roundtable conversation later in the week will provide opportunities for all to learn more about this great man's life and times. The community is invited to the following events:

Monday, Jan. 19

9:30-10 a.m. — Hot beverages in

North Campus foyer

10-10:30 a.m. — "Connecting With the Dream: Call to Service" (North Campus Auditorium)

10:30-11:45 a.m. — "Everyone Has a Story — A Campus Conversation on the Life of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr." (North Campus Auditorium)

11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. — Lunch at North Campus (registration required by Jan. 14)

1-4 p.m. — Service Projects on and off campus (registration required):

Linus Blanket Making — (USF North Campus Gym)

Laundry Soap Making for Community Harvest Food Bank (USF Campus Ministry building)

Warm Fuzzies — learning to crochet or knit warm outdoor for children in need (USF North Campus Gym)

Local volunteer opportunities: Mustard Seed Furniture Bank, Associated Churches Food Bank, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, Science Central, YWCA of Northeast Indiana, The Community Center

Thursday, Jan. 22

12-12:50 p.m. — Roundtable Presentation "Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Man of Faith and Action" (Brookside Ballroom)

Feb. 19-22

"The Mountaintop" — The School of Creative Arts presents "The Mountaintop," a gripping reimagining of events the night before the assassination of the civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (North Campus; tickets required)

For more information and links to register and buy tickets, visit sf.edu/mlkday.

Bishop Luers High School announces scholarship

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School is offering a scholarship in memory of Julie Edwards Baker, who graduated from Bishop Luers in 1978 and died of colon cancer in August of 2013.

While at Bishop Luers, Baker was involved in sports and a member of the Girls Athletic Association. She loved the years she spent at Bishop Luers High School and wanted her memorials to be used to support a student attending Bishop Luers. During her battle with colon cancer, Baker was hopeful that knowledge of her situation might make a positive impact on someone's life by encouraging colon screening.

Bishop Luers High School announced freshman Casey Woodfill of St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, as the first recipient of the Julie Edwards Baker Memorial Scholarship. Woodfill was selected by the Bishop Luers faculty and staff and was awarded \$1,000 for tuition assistance. Woodfill is the daughter of Amy Woodfill, Bishop Luers class of 1986 and the late Brian Woodfill, Bishop Luers class of 1986.

Individuals and organizations interested in setting up a scholarship at Bishop Luers or donating to the Julie Edwards Baker Memorial Scholarship can do so by contacting Kathy Skelly, Bishop Luers Development Director, at 260-456-1261, ext. 3142.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE IN 2015: WHERE DO WE STAND?

Abortion support, availability and numbers continue downward slide

BY FREDERICK EVERETT

Sometimes it can be easy to think that things are all going in the wrong direction. From judicial impositions of same-sex marriage spreading throughout the country to the recent announcement of a new campaign to establish a right to die in 10 different states, pro-life and pro-family efforts seem to be in retreat across the board. On the abortion front, however, things keep moving in a pro-life direction.

Let's start with the numbers. Based on numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and the Guttmacher Institute, the total number of abortions is at an historic low. The latest figures are from 2011 and show that the number of abortions that year were about 1.05 million. Compare this to the annual abortion high in 1990 that stood at about 1.6 million abortions. In other words, in the past 25 years, the number of annual abortions has decreased by more than a third.

The good news on the numbers doesn't end there. The reduction in the number of abortions is not the result of fewer pregnancies, but primarily the result of a lower rate of abortion. In the 30 years between 1981 and 2011, the abortion rate

went from a high of 29.3 percent of pregnancies to just 16.9 percent — which marks a new low since Roe v Wade went fully into effect in the 1970s.

Interestingly, the Guttmacher Institute has reported that the percentage of unintended pregnancies has actually increased over the years — not decreased. This means that while more pregnancies today are unintended than they were a generation ago, still fewer women are choosing to terminate the lives of their unborn children.

Without question, these steady decreases in both the numbers and rates of abortion are the result of an increasing cultural rejection of this procedure. From crisis pregnancy centers to pro-life legislation, abortion has not been broadly accepted by the American people. Due to this lack of acceptance and the decreasing number of abortions, the availability of abortion has been falling sharply. According to Operation Rescue, 73 abortion facilities closed down in 2014 alone. This followed the record year of 2013, which saw 93 closings. In fact, in the past 25 years, about three-quarters of the nation's abortion clinics have shut down. Today, across the country, 739 remain.

The past four years have also

historically been the most active ones on the legislative front. Since 2011, states across the country have passed 231 pro-life laws regulating and limiting the availability of abortions. Interestingly, the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute issued a report expressing concern over the deteriorating legislative situation. Here is an excerpt from that report:

"During the 2014 state legislative session, lawmakers introduced 335 provisions aimed at restricting access to abortion. By the end of the year, 15 states had enacted 26 new abortion restrictions. ... Bucking this tide, legislators in 17 states introduced 95 measures designed to expand access to abortion, more positive measures than in any year since 1990. Of these, (only) four were signed into law. ...

"In 2000, 13 states had four or

five types of abortion restrictions in effect and so were considered hostile to abortion rights. In that year, no state had more than five types of abortion restrictions in effect. By 2010, 22 states were considered hostile to abortion rights; five of these had six or more restric-

Without question, these steady decreases in both the numbers and rates of abortion are the result of an increasing cultural rejection of this procedure.

tions, enough to be considered extremely hostile to abortion rights. By 2014, 27 states had enough restrictions to be considered hostile; 18 of these can now be considered extremely hostile. ...

"The midterm election results provide good reason to be concerned about a renewed focus on restricting abortion in the upcoming 2015 legislative ses-

sions. Republican legislators, who overwhelmingly oppose abortion rights, solidified their dominance in the states. Republicans will now control both legislative chambers in

30 states, three more than in 2014; in 23 of those states, the governor will also be Republican. Democrats will control both legislative chambers and the governor's mansion in only seven states."

As another anniversary of Roe v Wade approaches and we recall the staggering loss of innocent unborn human lives over the past four decades, it is hopeful to realize that, however slowly, things are moving in the right direction on the issue of abortion. Whether on the front lines in crisis pregnancy centers or on the floors of legislative assemblies, the hard work of countless, committed people continues to advance the culture of life in our country.

Looking towards the future, the same will hopefully be said of other pro-life and pro-family issues that look like they may be lost. In the end, a culture that does not support life, marriage and the family may not survive and, certainly, will not thrive. The sooner we remember this stark reality, the sooner we will commit ourselves to redoubling our efforts in building a civilization of love.

Frederick Everett is the co-director of the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Pro-Life Calendar of Events ...

Fort Wayne March for Life planned for Jan. 17

FORT WAYNE — Organizers of the Fort Wayne March for Life share that the 41st annual march will be Saturday, Jan. 17. Sponsored annually by Allen County Right to Life, the March for Life is a peaceful protest to the 1973 Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion across the country through all nine months of pregnancy.

The march will begin at noon on Jan. 17 with a rally at the University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, at 431 W. Berry St.

Mike Spencer, Midwest director of training for Life Training Institute, will headline the rally. Spencer lived in Fort Wayne for many years where he served as a pastor and was a leader in the pro-life movement. He then moved to Ohio and pastored two churches prior to joining the staff of Life Training Institute. He is a gifted communicator who brings a pastor's heart to the often emotional and divisive issue of abortion in a way that is both gracious and compelling.

Dr. Donna Harrison, executive director of the American Association of Pro-Life OB-GYNs (AAPLOG), will also speak, addressing "The Real War on Women." Harrison is board

certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is the author of published research articles on medical abortion including adverse events associated with RU-486. Harrison also teaches continuing education for physicians on complications of abortion and she has testified before numerous governmental bodies.

Following the rally, attendees will march through downtown, ending at the E. Ross Adair Federal Building.

"We invite all individuals willing to stand for life to stand with us at the 41st annual March for Life," said Cathie Humbarger, executive director of Allen County Right to Life. "Last year's march was attended by 1,300 pro-life advocates and we expect an equally impressive crowd. This is our opportunity to draw attention to the plight of the unborn and the sad reality of 42 years of legalized death in our country."

Rally and March for Life scheduled Jan. 22 in South Bend

SOUTH BEND — The annual March for Life, sponsored by St. Joseph County Right to Life, will take place on Thursday, Jan. 22, the anniversary of Roe v Wade, in

downtown South Bend. A brief pro-life rally will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the downtown public library (corner of Wayne and Main), featuring Sally Williams, who will give her post-abortion testimony, along with prominent prayer leaders. The march will follow from 12-1 p.m. at the federal courthouse (corner of Jefferson and Main). The prayerful witness of participants in the cold for the innocent lives lost to abortion is powerful and necessary. Participants are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch to the rally and join the pro-life community during the lunch hour to stand against legalized abortion and stand up for the unborn.

Knights to sponsor 'Walk the Talk for Life'

SOUTH BEND — The Knights of Columbus Annual "Walk the Talk for Life" will be Sunday, Jan. 25, beginning at 2 p.m. at 553 Washington St., at the corner of Washington and Hill in downtown South Bend.

The event begins at 2 p.m. with a prayerful walk from Council 553 to St. Joseph Church on Hill Street, where a short prayer service will be held around 2:20. All return to the hall at Washington

and Hill for a panel featuring local leaders in the pro-life movement, followed by fellowship, refreshments and more information.

Speakers will include Father Tom Shoemaker as well as Jeanette Burdell of Saint Joseph County Right to Life. Contact Bill Schmitt at 574-232-6777 for more details on this approximately two-hour event.

'9 Days for Life' unites faithful in prayer, action around anniversary of Roe v Wade

WASHINGTON — A period of prayer, penance and pilgrimage, Jan. 17-25, will mark the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Roe v Wade, which legalized abortion throughout pregnancy. The "9 Days for Life" novena encourages nationwide solidarity in prayer for daily intentions, including for couples experiencing infertility, those mourning the loss of a child through abortion, children in need of adoptive homes, and for an end to abortion and use of the death penalty. Resources for the novena are available in many ways, including an app. The initiative is part of the 2014-

15 Respect Life Program of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) with the theme "Each of Us is a Masterpiece of God's Creation," which is adapted from the words of Pope Francis' 2013 Day for Life greeting. In addition to the prayer intentions, each day of the program raises awareness on issues such as domestic violence, post-abortion healing, pornography addiction and end-of-life matters.

There are four ways to participate in the program for both English and Spanish speakers: subscriptions to daily content through email or text messages; the 9 Days for Life app; and downloadable print materials. Content will also be shared via a Facebook event (accessible from www.facebook.com/peopleoflife) and other social media with the hashtags #9daysforlife and #9diasporlavidada.

Catholics are also encouraged to participate in local events such as Masses, blessings for pro-life pilgrims or a parish holy hour for reparation and healing for all affected by abortion.

More information is available at www.9daysforlife.com and www.usccb.org/respectlife.

Be not afraid!

BY LISA EVERETT

Years ago in *Magnificat* magazine, a lovely line appeared that was not attributed to anyone: "I love you, O my God, who has become an Infant for me."

During a Christmas homily Pope Benedict once made the point that God came to us small and humble as a child, so that we would not be afraid of Him. Jean Vanier, founder of L'Arche, an international network of communities for the disabled, made a similar point with these poignant words: "When you love someone, you use her language to be close to her. When you love a child, you speak and play with him as a child. That is how God relates to us. God becomes little, so that we will not be frightened of Him, so that we can enter into a heart-to-heart relationship of love and communion."

Several years ago on the eve of the feast of the Holy Family, as I was stirring the beef burgundy on the stove, for some reason it struck me in a new and powerful way how incredibly humble and gentle God was in coming to us as a child, for who could be afraid of a child?

No sooner had this question crossed my mind when it hit me how many people *are*, in fact, afraid of a child. It was the motive behind King Herod's murderous rampage — the slaughter of the Holy Innocents — and it is the reason for the modern holocaust of legal abortion, another anniversary of which we are about to observe.

This fear is also the driving force behind the whole "reproductive rights" agenda of contraception and sterilization and even the motivation of some couples who want to learn natural family planning: this palpable fear of a child and what he or she will be, will demand, will change. How cunning and successful Satan seems to have been in taking God's magnanimous humility in becom-

ing a little child, His gracious lowering of Himself so that we would not be afraid of Him — and then to twist it and tempt us to fear the arrival of a child in our own life!

It is striking that in all the Gospel accounts surrounding the conception and birth of a child, the angel's announcement begins with the words: "Be not afraid!" These words addressed to Zechariah, to Mary, to Joseph and to the shepherds serve not only as an antidote to the fear that might naturally enough arise in the presence of God's majestic messenger. At a deeper level, these words seem to be an assurance addressed to them — and to all of us — in response to the fear that often arises at the prospect of the arrival of a child. Be not afraid!

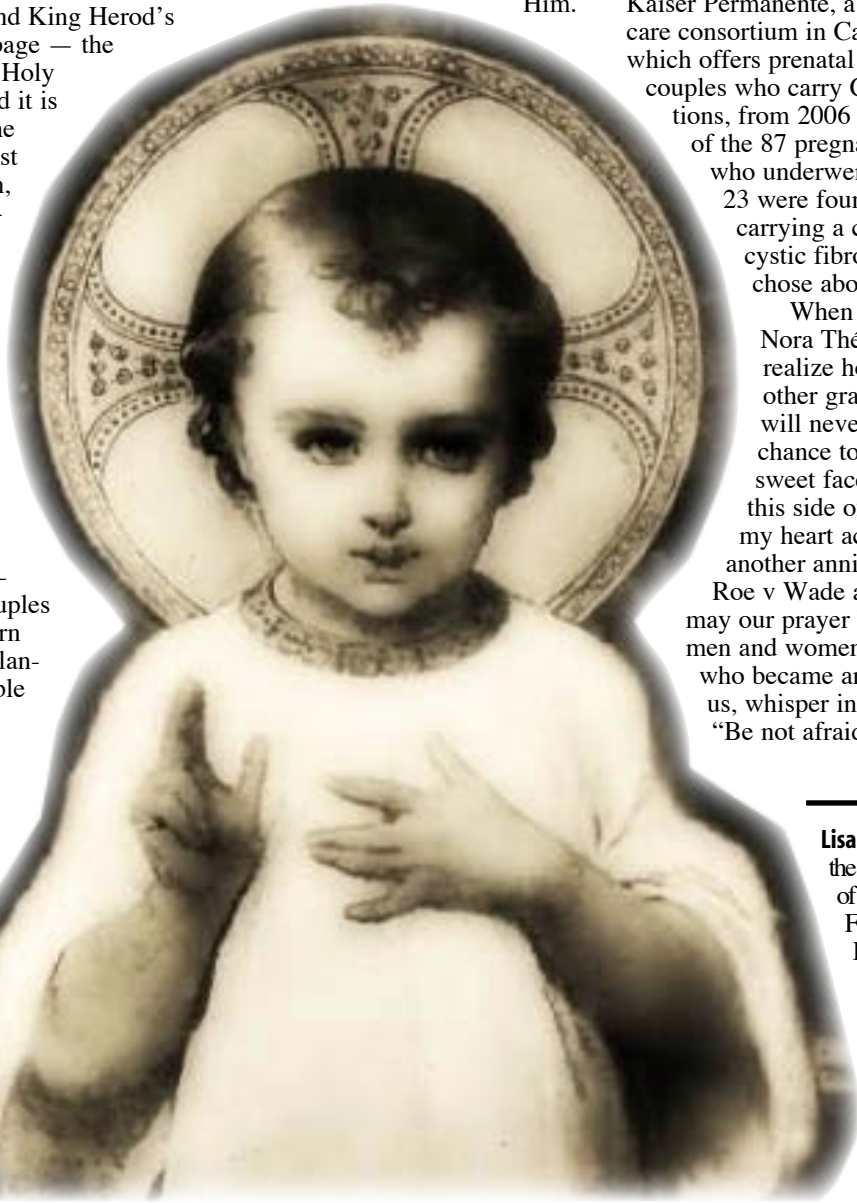
And going deeper still, doesn't this assurance address our deepest fear of becoming like children ourselves, letting go of our lives and trusting our heavenly Father to take care of us? Unless you become like little children, you shall not enter the Kingdom of heaven, Christ told his disciples, and He never asks anything of us that He has not already undertaken Himself. Christ can tell us to become like little children because He already became a child — helpless, humble and dependent, trusting in someone else to take care of Him.

Remember the touching scene in Scripture where Jesus walks on water across the Sea of Galilee, and His disciples in the boat see Him approach and become terrified? "But at once He spoke with them — 'Take heart, it is I, be not afraid!'" These are reassuring words not only for those men huddled in a boat long ago battered by the wind and the waves. They are words which echo down through the ages with the power to reassure us and all those men and women today who contemplate with fear the arrival — actual or possible — of a child: Take heart, it is I, be not afraid! Whoever welcomes one such child for My sake, welcomes Me. I became an Infant out of love for you, and I identify Myself with every infant — be not afraid! In the arrival of a child I make a divine visitation, and if you welcome him or her, you welcome Me. Trust that your heavenly Father will take care of you, will take care of this little one, will take care of everything.

How grateful I am that words like these must have echoed in the hearts of our son, Tom, and daughter-in-law, Julia, when they discovered this past summer that their unborn daughter almost certainly had cystic fibrosis. Tragically, a staggeringly high percentage of babies diagnosed with CF in utero are aborted. To take one example, according to Kaiser Permanente, a managed care consortium in California, which offers prenatal testing for couples who carry CF mutations, from 2006 to 2008, of the 87 pregnant women who underwent testing, 23 were found to be carrying a child with cystic fibrosis, and 20 chose abortion.

When I hold little Nora Thérèse and realize how many other grandmothers will never have the chance to behold a sweet face like hers this side of eternity, my heart aches. As yet another anniversary of Roe v Wade approaches, may our prayer be that more men and women hear God, who became an Infant for us, whisper in their hearts, "Be not afraid!"

Lisa Everett is the co-director of the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.



"THE COMMANDMENT 'You shall not kill!'"

always requires respecting and promoting human life, from its beginning to its natural end."



John Paul II

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH
FORT WAYNE



**Take my hand...
not my life!**

St. Stanislaus Kostka
55756 Tulip Road
New Carlisle, Indiana

Love **LIFE**
as a heavenly gift!

SS. PETER AND PAUL
HUNTINGTON

 **RIGHT TO LIFE**
SAINT JOSEPH COUNTY

"All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in the world is for enough good men to do nothing." - Edmund Burke

**2015 South Bend
March For Life**

January 22, 2015
Rally at 11:30am
SB Main Public Library
March at Noon
Jefferson & Main St.



2004 Ironwood Circle, Suite 130
South Bend, IN 46635
(574) 232-LIFE (5433)
www.prolifemichiana.org
life@prolifemichiana.org

St. John the Evangelist begins 175th anniversary year

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — On the feast day of its patron saint, St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen kicked off its celebration of the parish's 175th anniversary with a special bi-lingual Mass and brunch on Dec. 27.

Father Anthony Steinacker welcomed the congregation and visitors with these words: "With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God we have now begun our year of celebration of our 175th jubilee. From the earliest years of this great city, St. John has been a beacon of Christ's light and has had a deep impact on the formation and founding of the city of Goshen and still does to this day."

Among the visitors were Goshen's Mayor Allan Kauffman and his wife Carol Miller and Goshen College President Jim Brenneman and his wife Dr. Terri Plank Brenneman.

During his homily, Father Steinacker said, "Nothing by coincidence; everything by Divine Providence that the Gospel passage on this day is John 20:2-9." He said that even though John arrived at the tomb first, he waited until Peter entered; acknowledging the role Christ gave to Peter.

Father Steinacker encouraged the congregation, some with family members going back five or six generations to the beginnings of the church, to "think of those people who started this church — the great strife, persecution and sacrifice they endured as with great humility they built this church."

"God has indeed blessed this parish for 175 years from its humble beginnings in the courthouse to the difficult war years. All that time one thing has remained constant — faith in Jesus Christ," Father Steinacker said. "Let us continue to run that race, which is life."

After Mass, two members of the 175th anniversary planning committee, Nancy Glon and Veronica Gouker read (in English and then Spanish) a proclamation received from Rep. Wes Culver stating the church's place in the early history of the city of Goshen.

The proclamation read in part, "Whereas St. John the Evangelist has been a blessing to the community of Goshen by its humble and loving service — as a member of the 119th General Assembly of the House of Representatives I want to honor and congratulate St. John the Evangelist with thanks for its service to the residents and wish it many more years of outstanding service to the city of Goshen."

St. John the Evangelist is the third oldest church in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. In 1840 St. John was made a mission church of St.



DENISE FEDOROW

St. John the Evangelist Pastor Father Tony Steinacker celebrated a special bi-lingual Mass on Dec. 27, the feast day of the Goshen parish's patron saint, to officially launch the jubilee celebration of the parish's 175th anniversary. Shown from left are seminarian Nathan Maskal, Deacon Dave Elchert, Father Tony Steinacker, Father Fernando Jimenez and cantor Kathy Fredrickson.

Augustine (now the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception) in Fort Wayne. From 1840 to 1860, St. John was served by Holy Cross Father Alex Granger, and Holy Cross Father Edward Sorin, who came from the University of Notre Dame and Father Henry V. Schafer who came from Avilla to Goshen to offer Mass for the Catholics in the Goshen area. Mass was celebrated in the old Elkhart County Courthouse and sometimes in homes until Father Schafer organized the 30 devoted families to build the first church building in 1860.

A catered brunch followed the Mass in the Deacon Art Bleau Parish Center.

Other upcoming events planned during this yearlong celebration include Friday night fellowship dinners and a second annual bi-lingual Mass and parish picnic with a quilt raffle in August. The first all-parish outdoor Mass and picnic was held this past August and a family movie night and turkey bingo was held in November.

The official celebration with anniversary Mass and dinner will be held on June 7 with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. A commemorative Altar-Rosary Society parish cookbook has been printed and an updated church history and pictorial directory are scheduled to be ready by the June celebration.



St. John the Evangelist parishioner and member of the 175th anniversary planning committee Veronica Gouker reads (in Spanish) a proclamation received from the parish's State Representative Wes Culver "honoring and congratulating" the parish on its 175th anniversary. A special bi-lingual Mass and brunch was held on Dec. 27 to launch the parish's year of celebrating the parish's 175th anniversary in 2015. From left are seminarian Juan Evangelisto, Father Tony Steinacker, Father Fernando Jimenez, 175th anniversary planning committee member Nancy Glon and Gouker.

PRO • LIFE

Pro-life advocate seeks to open hearts to compassion

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Allison Sturm, Project Rachel ministry coordinator of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, will be the first to tell you that she is passionately pro-life. But over the past several years she has expanded that passion to include a deep compassion for those women and men who not only may find themselves in a crisis pregnancy situation but those who suffer from the wounds of abortion as well.

It began four years ago when Sturm was called to the Project Rachel ministry. "I was challenged to go outside my comfort zone," she says of her need to understand why abortion was still the choice of so many when the physical reality of the procedure is painfully obvious.

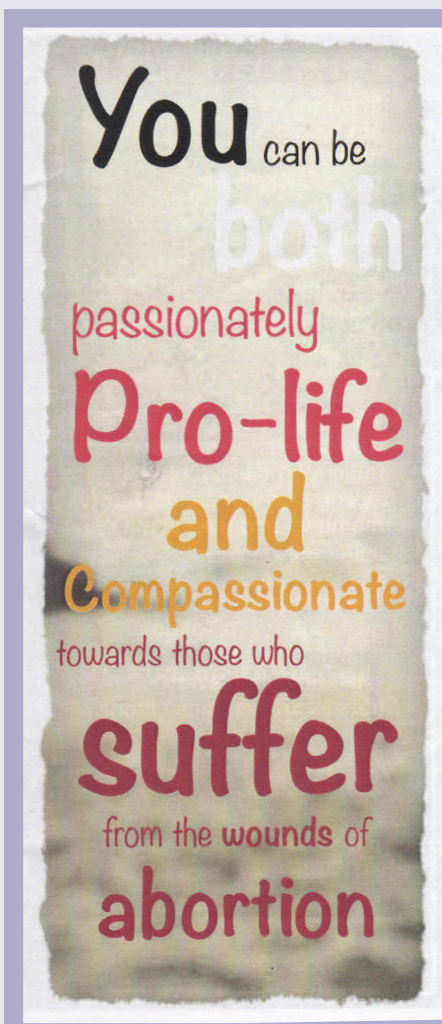
That first year Sturm spent much of her time researching abortion and perusing pro-life and post abortion websites. She attended March for Life events and stayed to listen to the poignant stories of the Silent No More witnesses. "I saw a different side of their pain," says Sturm.

Establishing the Project Rachel ministry, the post-abortion reconciliation program that offers hope and healing for those suffering from the pain of abortion and its aftermath, in the diocese presented some challenges, which Sturm took in stride. She at once developed a Project Rachel training program with a research based training manual for volunteers who were interested in companionship those in need, and in 2013 offered three three-hour sessions in Fort Wayne and South Bend. Seventeen individuals have been trained as volunteer companions to respond to post abortive men and women in need of help.

As Sturm fielded calls from the confidential dedicated toll free number and email she recognized a common theme to the grief she explored with each caller: "They didn't have anyone close to them they felt they could go to," says Sturm, adding that she heard the women say "they felt alone."

"More than half said they would have kept the baby if they had had someone to support them," Sturm notes.

This year, Sturm reports that the ministry has not had many calls for help. "It's frustrating, because I know they're out there," she says. So, in an attempt to better reach those in need, she went straight to her source — prayer. As she spent



Project Rachel is an outreach ministry of the Catholic Church available to anyone who is suffering from the wounds of abortion.

educate others about compassionate support.

To that end, Sturm has developed a 30-minute presentation titled "You Can be Both Passionately Pro-life and Compassionate Towards Those Suffering from the Wounds of Abortion" that seeks to educate audiences that she hopes will include high school and college students, teachers, Catholics in the pews and special interest groups, on pro-life issues as well as understanding the importance of showing compassion to men and women in crisis pregnancy situations or to those who suffer the aftermath of abortion. "Pro-lifers can come to the talk and see the other side," says Sturm, adding, "People generally identify the Catholic Church with its strong pro-life stand, but few seem to understand the Church's teaching on mercy and forgiveness."

After sending letters of intent to all parishes of the diocese, Sturm is scheduled to speak at several parishes in the diocese and college campuses.

Her talk begins by asking the audience if they have ever done anything that they regret. She speaks to the pain of holding a secret regret and how seeking support can change lives. "Pain," she says, "that is not transformed is transmitted." She notes that without healing support, not only the lives of the men and women who have experienced an abortion are negatively affected, but also the lives of friends and relatives.

During her talk, Sturm encourages each audience member to think of healing and mercy. She reminds them that most would only approach another for support if they knew they would be met with compassion rather than judgment. "It starts with compassion," she says.

Sturm hopes that her presentations will raise awareness on how to talk to someone with compassion, as Jesus would have it. "We must continue sharing the truth about abortion, but when we speak the truth in charity, we may be seen as someone who is caring, approachable and trustworthy," she says.

time with God she soon realized that those who feel shame and judgment about an abortion would most likely keep it secret. "They wouldn't seek support because they think they will be condemned," she says, determined to find a way to

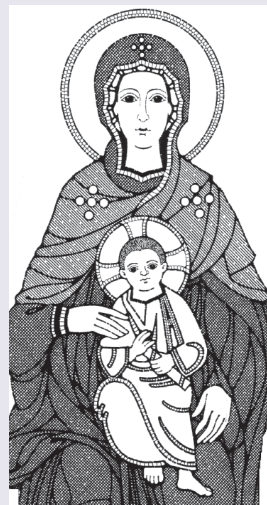
For more information or to schedule the presentation call 260-422-4611 or visit diocesefwsb.org/project Rachel. The toll free confidential phone number is 855-722-4354 or email projectrachelhope@gmail.com.

RESPECT LIFE

"Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

—Pope Francis

St. Patrick Church
ARCOLA



Our parish is dedicated to

*The Mother of Our Saviour
The Star of Hope
The Comfort of the Afflicted*

And the one chosen to guide us through the sorrows of life, including the agony brought about by abortion.

Queen of Peace, be with us.

SAINT MARY PARISH - HUNTINGTON



*It was you who created
My inmost self; and put
Me together in my
Mother's womb; for all
These mysteries I thank you,
For the wonder of myself, for
The wonder of your works.*

Psalm 139, 13-14

Corpus Christi Catholic Community
SOUTH BEND

Woman credits community for the confidence to be a mom

BY KATHY KERSHNER

MISHAWAKA — When Emily Wohlgeomuth became pregnant she was met with more than a few criticisms and difficulties. People she loved and trusted told her it was the worst mistake of her life. Friends told her it would be best for everyone if she would give the child up for adoption. Increasing tensions between herself and those with whom she was living at the time led her to believe she needed to find a “safer” place for herself and her unborn child.

A search on the Internet led her to the sanctuary she was seeking. Hannah’s House is a home in Mishawaka, which describes its mission as “a maternity home that provides a safe environment, programming and support for the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of pregnant young women.”

Completely funded by private and community donations, Hannah’s House emerged to fill the need that was found by crisis pregnancy centers for young woman to have a safe and nurturing environment during their pregnancy.

Though Wohlgeomuth said she was never tempted to abort her son, she described feelings of fear and doubt that sometimes confused her. Embroiled by so much negativity surrounding her at the beginning of her pregnancy she did wonder, “What if they are right? What if I can’t do this?”

But soon after meeting with her newfound allies at Hannah’s House, her perspective changed.

“Hannah’s House is a maternity home with a heart,” she explained. “That’s what is says on the sign — our slogan. The ‘house moms’ here — they care about us. They don’t want to see



KATHY KERSHNER

Emily Wohlgeomuth stands in the living room at Hannah’s House, Mishawaka. “To know that people are out there who are supporting us,” she exclaimed, “they keep Hannah’s House going because they believe we can do it. We ought to believe as well.”

us fail. They really want to see us get ahead.”

Integral to the mission of Hannah’s House is a program based on expectations that residents are working toward bettering themselves. Wohlgeomuth described some of the “works” that count toward the 40-hour weekly productivity require-

ment that all the residents agree to accomplish during their stay. Studying job skills, filling out job applications, reading articles or books on prenatal and post-natal care, contributing to the home environment through meal preparations and other domestic chores — all are considered by Wohlgeomuth to be part of the way toward more fully reaching her own potential.

Director, Andrea Popielski, explained, “We require residents to attend doctor’s appointment, counseling and church as well as working on self-sufficiency skills. Those are critical pieces of what we do,” and how the women residing at Hannah’s House empower themselves while providing for themselves and their children.

“Now I am in this mindset,” Wohlgeomuth said. “I’m going to do this. I’m going to be a mom. It’s awesome. I have this little boy. This life is growing inside of me.”

She spoke with hope and pride of things that she has accomplished and the items that she has been able to earn, with the help of Hannah’s House and community donors for the baby that is due in April.

THANK YOU
for choosing life!



ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
WATERLOO



*“In each child, God whispers
a new secret to the world;
adds a new dimension
of immortality to creation”*

—Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

St. John the Evangelist Parish - Goshen

Rev. Tony Steinacker, Pastor

St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish - Bristol

Rev. Robert Van Kempen, Pastor

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish - Elkhart

Rev. Jason Freiburger, Pastor

St. Vincent de Paul Parish - Elkhart

Rev. Matthew Coonan, Pastor

St. Therese, Little Flower Catholic Church



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"A society that kills its children has lost its soul and hope."

Servant of God, Dr. Jerome Lejeune
Discovered the cause of Down Syndrome

*May God have mercy on our nation
for the killing of the unborn!*

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fort Wayne

*"there is no
human life that
is more sacred
than another"*

QUOTES FROM THE
ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS
POPE FRANCIS
15 NOVEMBER 2014

"every human life is sacred"

**"IT IS NOT LICIT
TO ELIMINATE A
HUMAN LIFE TO
RESOLVE A
PROBLEM"**

*"every human life...
must be loved, defended,
and cared for"*

"Thou shall not kill"

Saint Pius X Catholic Church
Respect Life Ministries
StPius.net/RespectLife



Life

"is always a good.

*This is an instinctive perception
and a fact of experience, and man
is called to grasp the profound
reason why this is so."* Saint John Paul II - *Evangelium Vitae*

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
FORT WAYNE

"THE CONFLICT
is between a culture that
affirms, cherishes, and celebrates the gift of life,
and
a culture that seeks to declare entire groups
of human beings - the unborn, the terminally ill,
the handicapped, and others considered 'unuseful'
to be outside the boundaries of legal protection"

-Pope John Paul II

ST. LOUIS BESANCON



In the name of God, in whose
image everyone is made, may
we love, cherish, and protect
human life from conception
to the hour of natural death!
*"Holy Mary, mother of the
author of life, pray for us.
Amen"*



St. Joseph Hessen Cassel
FORT WAYNE

RESPECT ALL LIFE!



Human Life
is Precious
from Conception
until Death

Always
Choose Life

St. Bavo Parish
Mishawaka

Praying For Life
From Conception, To Natural Death



*Before I formed
you in the womb
I knew you.*

-Jeremiah 1:5-



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New Haven 46774
www.stjohnraiders.org

HOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

She said, "It is unreal how much they have helped me. I have a carseat, a crib, a bouncer, a baby swing, a pack-and-play, diapers. I have so many baby clothes," all of which, Wohlgemuth was empowered to earn through the productivity program at Hannah's House.

Much of her desire to become a good mom rests in the gratitude she feels toward the local community.

Tears filled her eyes as she described the overwhelming generosity that she and other residents of Hannah's House experienced firsthand this Christmas season.

"This is an example of people who support us," she said. "This Christmas, people we don't even know, who don't even know us, dropped off big bags with gifts in them for each of us. They had our names on them. They all had all sorts of baby stuff in them and even gift cards. They don't know who we are. We don't know them!"

She cried as she exclaimed, "To know that people are out there who are supporting us, donating large amounts of money for us to live here. They keep Hannah's House going because they believe we can do it. We ought to believe as well."

It is this trust and belief that she would like other young mothers to understand. Wohlgemuth sadly relayed a story of a young woman she knows who felt that the best way out of a crisis pregnancy was through abortion. The young woman has since had another child but always laments the death of her first baby.

"She still hurts for that baby that she aborted," Wohlgemuth shared. "She wishes that she had just given up the baby for adoption. Knowing that the baby was alive somewhere, rather than having decided to have aborted it. ... There are times when she just cries over that."

Wohlgemuth believes that all life is a gift from God. She would like women who are pregnant and afraid to realize that "you are not alone. There are so many people out there to encourage mothers."

In regards to Hannah's House, Wohlgemuth said, "These people are always here for us, no matter what. There are so many words I could use to describe Hannah's House, but I think 'amazing' is the one I like best."



May our Respect Life prayers

invite the Holy Spirit to
visit those who mistakenly
believe that their support
of abortion is righteous.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
SOUTH BEND



Respect for life

*requires that science and technology
should always be at the service of
man and his integral development.*

*Society as a whole must respect,
defend and promote the dignity*

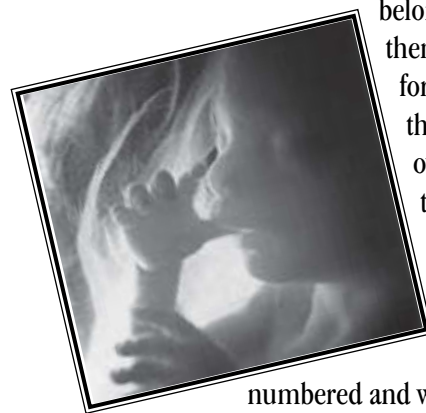
*of every human person, at
every moment and in every*

condition of that person's life.

JOHN PAUL II, *Evangelium Vitae*

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
NOTRE DAME

"Human life is sacred and inviolable at every moment of existence, including the initial phase which precedes birth. All human beings, from their mothers' womb,



belong to God who searches them and knows them, who forms them and knits them together with His own hands, who gazes on them when they are tiny shapeless embryos and already sees in them the adults of tomorrow whose days are

numbered and whose vocation is even now written in the 'book of life'. -*Evangelium Vitae*

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
MISHAWAKA

Lord, hear our prayer!



May Saint Monica, example for wives and mothers, intercede for those who seek her assistance.

St. Monica Parish
222 West Mishawaka Avenue
Mishawaka

**Acknowledge
God's Sovereignty
Over All Life--
Respect and
Defend Life!**



SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH
SYRACUSE, INDIANA

Babies are a gift from God



CHOOSE LIFE!
Sacred Heart Parish
125 North Harrison
WARSAW

Broken heart syndrome

In the late 1980s I saw a young lady in her late 40s who came to the emergency room having a heart attack. I performed an emergency coronary angiogram and to my surprise she had no coronary artery blockage to cause the heart attack, but she still had a very large area of damaged heart. She gave the history of being in the middle of a very contentious divorce. Several weeks later I performed more testing and the large area of heart that I thought was irreversibly damaged had completely recovered. I was perplexed. I thought that maybe, just maybe, the stress of the divorce proceedings had something to do with her presentation.

A few years later in 1991,

unknown to me at the time, an article was published in a Japanese cardiology journal describing a small series of patients that presented to the hospitals in Japan with large heart attacks during emotionally stressful circumstances, but like my patient they had no coronary blockage.

The most common provoking scenario in Japan was this occurring just after an earthquake or significant tremor, which are fairly common in Japan, and, of course, cause great emotional stress. They all had the very same large area of the heart that appeared to be damaged (for those of you with a medical background — it's the anterior-apical segment of the left ventricle that becomes akinetic to dyskinetic). Cardiologists in the U.S. did not

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

really notice this relatively obscure article at that time, but in the late 1990s and early 2000s reports were published here in American cardiology journals describing this same strange phenomenon.

In Japan it became known as Takatsubo Cardiomyopathy.

DOCTOR, PAGE 16

God offers eternal life in Christ



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Jn 1:35-42

The First Book of Samuel is the source of the first reading for this weekend. Originally, First and Second Samuel were one volume. At some point in history, an editor divided them into the two volumes, and so two volumes appear in Bible translations today.

As the title of these books implies, the central figure is Samuel, a prophet active centuries before Christ.

Prophets were high revered throughout the history of the chosen people. They were seen as God's special representatives, but also they personally were very holy and devoted to God. At times, prophets resisted their calling initially. Such was the case of the great prophets Isaiah, Ezekiel and Jeremiah. After all was said and done, they accommodated themselves to God's will and accepted the call to be prophets.

These figures were admired because the call to be a prophet was seen precisely as a call, as a summons, as a commission from God, and an empowerment and emboldening.

In this weekend's reading, God calls Samuel. It occurs according to God's plan. Samuel is open to hearing God, indeed ready to hear God, but Samuel cannot hurry the divine plan.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians supplies the second reading for this weekend. Many

of the Pauline writings are lustrous in their clear revelation of the bond between true believers and Jesus. Jesus was the Son of God, but also human, in a mystery theologians call the Incarnation. The Incarnation is a great, fundamental and essential fact of Christian belief.

In this belief, committed Christians, in faith and baptism, are inseparably bound to Jesus, both in a shared human nature, but also in the divine life given believers by Christ.

This supernatural bond, the very keystone of personal salvation, requires Christians not only to be spiritually faithful but faithful in every sense of their lives. They must reject carnal sin.

Stressing this point to the Christian Corinthians seems for some to be excessive for Paul, but it should be remembered, Corinth was known near and far as a virtual capital of lewdness and vice.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading. It is a story about the decision to follow Jesus by Simon, later known as Peter, and Simon's brother, Andrew. In the story, Jesus intrigues Andrew and Simon. The brothers recognize Jesus as Messiah. They thirst for salvation with its peace and promise. Jesus calls them, and they follow.

To indicate their new lives, Jesus gives Simon a new name, Cephas, that is often translated as Peter.

Reflection

The Church, in the majesty and glory of its liturgy, called us all to celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas, revealing to us that Jesus was the son of Mary, therefore a human, as she was only human despite her unique holiness and singular place in the divine plan of redemption.

Two weeks later, it celebrated the feast of the Epiphany, revealing then to us the fact that

Jesus, born in Bethlehem, was divine, the Son of God, and that redemption is God's gift for all people.

So, the Church, with the greatest joy and hope, has told us about the Lord. He is the Savior of the world! The son of Mary, Jesus is one of us!

The Church tells us that we are being touched by God's grace. God loves us. God calls us. He offers us eternal life in Christ. The Church now asks us, hearing these readings and celebrating these feasts, to ask ourselves what does Christ truly mean to each of us?

How should we react to the Lord? St. Paul gives very concrete advice. Samuel, Peter and Andrew are examples. We must follow Christ, the only way to find true life and joy.

READINGS

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42

Monday: Heb 5:1-10 Ps 110:1-4 Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20 Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17 Ps 110:1-4 Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25 — 8:6 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13 Ps 85:8, 10-14 Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14 Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 Mk 3:20-21

Policing is not war

When a nation goes to war, it is a common practice to dehumanize the enemy. When I was a young man and World War II was still a recent memory, I spent time in Paris and Normandy. I remember the vehemence with which French people my parents' age spoke about "les Boches," a disparaging term for Germans.

Americans held similar attitudes during that war. The U.S. Army produced crude posters about how to identify "Japs," and even encouraged recycling with phrases like "Give scrap to kill a Jap."

Perhaps this kind of ethnic reductionism serves a purpose. When we ask people to make great sacrifices, as we do in wars, it helps to eliminate moral ambiguity. Wartime propaganda shows our side as good and the enemy as evil.

Sometimes, though, I wonder whether we aren't making the mistake of importing martial attitudes into the morally more complex work of policing. I don't just mean the use of military-style equipment, but the very idea of police work as a version of war.

President Lyndon Johnson declared a "war on crime" in 1966. President Richard Nixon declared a "war on drugs" in 1971. President George W. Bush declared a "war on terror" after 9/11. And as President Barack Obama winds down an overseas war, something the Department of Defense calls the "1033 program" is delivering billions in surplus military equipment to local police departments.

The thing is, the people of Ferguson, Missouri; Staten Island, New York; and Cleveland are not the enemy. A few are bad actors who belong in jail, but even they are not the enemy. They are citizens of the same community as the police. They don't wear uniforms that mark them as lawful combatants. Even when caught red-handed, they are entitled to due process of law.



INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

JOHN GARVEY

This is why I worry about crime fighters becoming war fighters. It's also why I think African-Americans see more significance in the recent shootings than most whites do. Warriors take a different view of the people they are fighting. If we tell our police they are fighting a war, they are likely to act as soldiers generally do. They will design quick and dirty ways of identifying and dealing with the enemy.

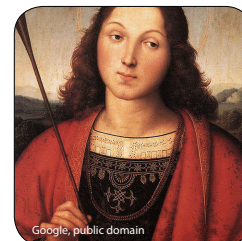
I'm not sure the recent police killings exhibit racism of the old-fashioned kind — a belief in the inferiority of other people based on their ancestry. But in a world where we treat policing as war, race combined with youth and social class, maybe dress and attitude, can be the way police identify the enemy in certain neighborhoods. And because combatants in war are fair game, the cops will be just a bit quicker to draw and fire.

We can help the police by changing their way of thinking about the job. Policing is not war. It is harder, because it entails a similar risk of death but demands more deliberation and prudence.

On the battlefield, there are only two kinds of soldiers — the quick and the dead. On our city streets, we ask the men and women who keep us safe to pause over the trigger and make judgments one person at a time because the people they meet there, even the ones they suspect of crime, are not the enemy.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America.

Saint of the week:



Sebastian

died c. 288

feast - January 20

According to the many legends surrounding Sebastian, he was born in Gaul and raised in Milan. Though a Christian, he joined the imperial army at Rome about 283. He made converts of officials and jailers, effected cures and urged Christian prisoners to stay strong in their faith. He was named captain of the praetorian guards, but the emperor, upon finding out that he was a Christian, ordered his execution. Shot with arrows and left for dead, Sebastian survived and was nursed back to life. Later, he denounced the emperor for his cruelty to Christians, and the emperor had him beaten to death. A favorite subject of Renaissance artists, Sebastian is the patron saint of archers, soldiers and athletes.

Africa's Catholic moment

According to an old Vatican aphorism, "We think in centuries here." Viewed through that long-distance lens, the most important Catholic event of 2014 was the dramatic moment when Africa's bishops emerged as effective, powerful proponents of dynamic orthodoxy in the world Church.

The scene was the Extraordinary Synod of 2014, called by Pope Francis to prepare the Synod of 2015 on the theme, "Pastoral Challenges to the Family in the Context of Evangelization." The dramatic tension was provided by northern European bishops (principally German) and the Synod secretariat, who worked hard to reframe Synod 2014 as an inquest on a question long thought settled by the rest of the Church: the question of admitting the divorced and civilly remarried to holy Communion. The subplot in the drama came from the fact that the Church in Africa — rich in evangelical energy, firmly committed to orthodoxy, but very poor — is funded in large part by German Catholic development agencies (themselves the beneficiaries of the "Church tax" collected by the German federal government).

So it took considerable courage for African bishops at Synod 2014 to challenge the Germans and their allies. It's not a big secret that there's a lot of racism left in Europe, where the best and the brightest often imagine themselves beyond the "taboos" that beset Africans (as one German cardinal inelegantly put it). Nor is it a secret that African prelates are too often regarded by some first world Catholics as second-class citizens: charming, you know, but not quite the A-team. Thus it doubtless came as a surprise to those pressing to change-what-cannot-be-changed in the Church's

ancient sacramental discipline when the African bishops declined to defer to their former European masters and determinedly made two points.

The first was that the Catholic understanding of marriage as the permanent union of a man and a woman — which Catholicism takes from both revelation and reason — had come to certain traditional African cultures as a great liberator.

Here, the African bishops insisted, was a powerful demonstration of the Gospel's power to free men and women from their attachment to culturally entrenched but dehumanizing ways of life. Here was real "liberation theology:" the liberation of men and women for the solidarity, joy and fruitfulness in marriage that God had intended from the beginning, and that the grace of God now makes possible through the saving power of Christ, His cross and His resurrection.

Or, more simply (and I paraphrase): You Europeans, whose faith has grown anemic, may experience the Catholic idea of marriage as a burden; we Africans have lived it, in our ecclesial experience, as a great liberation. European Catholics might consider *that*, as you ponder Pope Francis's summons to learn from the Church of the poor.

The second point the African bishops made was more subtle but no less unmistakable: Don't impose Euro-decadence on us, in terms of marriage or in the pastoral care of those experiencing same-sex attraction.

When African bishops today look at Europe through the prism of a Gospel-centered, almost pentecostal experience that has seen African Catholicism grow exponentially in recent decades, they don't see the center of world civilizational initiative, as their grandparents might



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

have done in colonial days. Rather, they see a continent dying from the first self-induced population collapse in human history. And they ask some obvious, if challenging, questions: Does this willful infertility have something to do with selfishness? With spiritual boredom? With a loss of soul? With a loss of faith in the Lord Jesus and His life-transforming, culture-forming, power?

How could the African bishops summon up the courage to make this challenge? Because they trusted their own ecclesial experience: the New Testament-like experience of the power of evangelical Catholicism. Because they trusted what they had "seen and heard" (1 John 1:3), they could challenge those who thought of them as the untutored kids on the block (at best), or as culturally backward welfare clients who ought to defer to their betters (at worst).

U.S. Catholics who have embraced evangelical Catholicism and find themselves shaken these days might take a lesson from this.

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

there is a miraculous recovery and the heart returns to normal function with no long-term damage. But it can indeed kill you with about one in 10 dying in the first few days of the process before recovery is given a chance to begin.

In the 1990s, I saw a few more cases. As we began the first decade of the new millennium, I began to see more and more cases and in the last five years the number of episodes I have seen has grown exponentially. As a scientist I now have to ask the question: Why are there so many more "Broken Hearts" now as compared to 20 or more years ago?

Here is my theory. There has been an incredible growth of media and social media including computers, laptops, smart phones and iPad-like devices. We are constantly being bombarded by friends, family and acquaintances with e-mails, texts and Facebook posts. All this creates emotional stress and therefore dramatically increases the opportunity to HAVE an emotional crisis.

There is hardly such a thing as solitude anymore! If there is no solitude then how do we pray? If we

don't pray how do we promote our spiritual growth? If we don't pray then how do we expect to receive the gift of Holy Spirit that can calm the soul? If we don't pray then how do we share and give our burdens and troubles to the Lord?

As we read the Bible we find that there have been many opportunities for "Broken Heart Syndrome" in Scripture but none greater than Mother Mary standing at the foot of the cross as her Son Jesus is dying. When you have great burdens here on earth consider praying to Mother Mary in heaven to intercede for you, because she, more than anybody, has had some experience in this area.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for January 18, 2015

John 1:35-42

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: the meeting with the first disciples. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JOHN WALK BY TURNED WHERE FOUR BROTHER MESSIAH	STANDING LAMB OF GOD RABBI STAYING AFTERNOON SIMON CEPHAS	JESUS HEARD TEACHER THAT DAY ANDREW FOUND PETER
--	---	---

NAMES

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

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DOCTOR

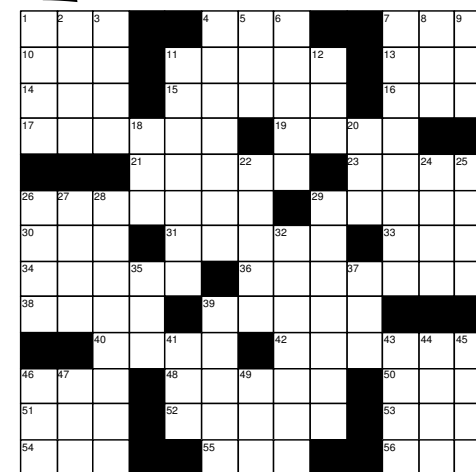
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Takatsubo means octopus trap, which has a shape similar to what the left ventricle looks like when it contracts in systole when one has this type of heart attack (I may have now crossed over into minutia, providing you with more information than you really wanted to know).

In the U.S. it became known as "Broken Heart Syndrome" or "Stress Cardiomyopathy." The cause is almost invariably intense emotional stress such as the death of a loved one, divorce or natural disaster. Interestingly, the "Broken Heart Syndrome" occurs much more often in women. The mechanism believed to be responsible for the damaged heart is catecholamine (adrenaline) excess that causes lack of blood flow and oxygen to a large area of the heart muscle and that area subsequently stops contracting and is stunned rather than permanently scarred as in typical heart attacks. Amazingly, just several weeks after these people present,

The CrossWord

January 18 and 25, 2015



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Based on these Scripture Readings: 1 Sam 3:3b-10, 19; 1Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42 and Jon 3:1-5, 10; 1Cor 7:29-31 and Mk 1:14-20

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| ACROSS | 26 Mother-of-pearl mollusk | 50 Frozen water |
| 1 Sailor's yes | 29 Called to | 51 Business title ending |
| 4 Priests are | 30 ___ fire | 52 Snake bite |
| 7 Grow older | 31 Quit | 53 Start of work week |
| 10 Reverend (abbr.) | 33 Three | 54 East northeast |
| 11 Superiors of religious men | 34 Long, skinny boat | 55 ___ Francisco |
| 13 Compass point | 36 "Speak, your ___ is listening" | 56 Expire |
| 14 Samuel's teacher | 38 Load | DOWN |
| 15 Title given to Jesus | 39 Days it took to see Nineveh | 1 Domain |
| 16 Month of Assumption | 40 Unmake | 2 Bark |
| 17 Poise | 42 Child watcher | 3 Nineveh repented of |
| 19 James & John did to Zebedee | 46 Brooch | 4 Swaziland capital |
| 21 Jonah's nemesis | 48 St. Thomas' turf | 5 Recede |
| 23 Cadre | | 6 Dignified |
| | | 7 Asia minor |
| | | 8 African antelope |
| | | 9 Electroencephalograph |
| | | 11 Opening for arm |
| | | 12 Men's neckwear |
| | | 18 Night bird |
| | | 20 Farm credit administration (abbr.) |
| | | 22 Animal rope |
| | | 24 Tack |
| | | 25 Revise |
| | | 26 Alphabet |
| | | 27 Zebedee's sons left |
| | | 28 Jonah was to do |
| | | 29 Samuel's reply to God |
| | | 32 KJV King James ___ |
| | | 35 Have |
| | | 37 Animal doctor |
| | | 39 Sounds |
| | | 41 Divinity degree (abbr.) |
| | | 43 Running out |
| | | 44 Economics abbr. |
| | | 45 "___ your hearts, not your garments" |
| | | 46 Dessert |
| | | 47 No room here |
| | | 49 Deoxyribonucleic acid |

Answer Key can be found on page 19

Sports

BISHOP LUERS WINS 'BATTLE OF THE BISHOPS' In the annual hoops "Battle of the Bishops," Bishop Luers won both the 2015 regular season girls' and boys' matchups, on Friday night, Jan. 9. In the 52-45 win, Tyrell Johnson and C. J. McCarter paced Bishop Luers with 12 points each, while Ryan Christman led all scorers with 14 for the Saints. For the ladies, Kayla Knapke and Emma Wolfe led the Knights with 20 points a piece in the 66-56 victory. Greta Winkeljohn was the top scorer for Bishop Dwenger with 18. — *Michelle Castleman*

ICCL kicks off year with showdown

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA, IN — The Inter-City Catholic League rung in the New Year with a party of its own pitting top teams from the St. Martin De Porres Division in a classic showdown at Marian High School.

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints and their tandem of Zach Whitfield and Hunter Renner wanted a little revenge following a one-point loss in the ICCL Holiday Tournament to the Blazers of St. Matthew.

The game started out with the Saints owning the right side of the backboard as Whitfield and Renner banked in four buckets jumping out to an 8-0 early lead.

It looked like it would be all Saints as they pushed the lead to 9-2 after the first quarter. Then Blazer Will Tiller knocked down a jumper and Quinn started getting to the rim, adding a couple more before Mishawaka Catholic headed into the locker room in control, 15-10.

The second half would take a different shape as the Blazers evened the tally at 15 each turning a once lopsided contest into the battle spectators were expecting.

The Saints' Renner netted a two-foot bucket only to be counter punched by Blazer Paul Cline's own power layup.

The inside presence of Renner paid dividends as he had one more shot to go through as time expired in the third giving his Saints a modest two-point lead going into the final quarter.

The Saints looked like their first quarter squad as Zach Horvath got into the scorer's book by hitting a bucket and pushing the lead to four.

The Blazers' big man Cline must have taken exception to the swing of momentum toward the opposition as he hunkered down and made two

big-time shots in a row evening the contest at 21.

Not to be outdone, Dominic Blum knocked down the only three of the game to give the Saints the upper hand heading down the stretch.

The back-and-forth baskets continued when Quinn hit a runner in the paint for the Blazers, pulling his team within one as fans stood for the final minute.

A thrilling breakaway basket by Joe Macheca with under a minute to go gave the Blazers their first lead of the game and after a Saint turnover looked like the ball game.

However, after both teams combined for a dismal 2 for 21 at the charity stripe, the Blazers missed the front end of a one and one giving the Saints an opening with under 10 seconds to go.

The Saints talented guard Horvath didn't disappoint as he hit the pressure shot with 6.6 seconds left giving Mishawaka Catholic a one-point lead.

Game over? Not so fast. The Blazers pushed the ball down the floor and the ball ended up in Quinn's hands. As the buzzer sounded, the ball, just off the finger tips, sailed towards the basket to find the bottom of the net for the unimaginable St. Matthew victory.

"Mishawaka Catholic is a good, well coached team and it is always a challenge when we play them," said St. Matthew's Justin Bartkus. "We started slow and lacked composure, we were flat and unfocused, but this team responded."

"Whitfield, who scored 12 all in the first half, gave us fits. If he wasn't scoring he was dishing off inside and we knew he was the key," remarked Bartkus. "We switched from a bigger defender to a more athletic matchup and basically picked our poison and it

worked out."

"We were happy with the post play of Whitfield, but I'm very proud of Horvath. He struggled early and still knocked down a difficult shot late," explained Mishawaka Catholic Coach Greg Schultheis. "St. Matthew is a resilient team. I liked our chances going in and I thought we had this one."

In other scores, St. Pius X remained undefeated in the St. Martin De Porres Division by defeating St. Thomas, 37-22.

The two undefeated teams in the St. John Bosco Division squared off against each other. The Eagles of St. Joseph prevailed, 29-17, over the Crusaders of Holy Cross.

The Bulldogs of Our Lady of Hungary were victorious over St. Jude despite the efforts of Falcon Joe Dreiman and his 16 points.

Corpus Christi's duo of Austin Lee and Braden Kansiewski both threw in a baker's dozen a piece, but that was not enough to beat the Panthers of St. Anthony and their combo of Kyran King and Ryan Schmitt as the Maroon clad squad held on for the victory, 47-39.

A complete listing of times, standings and team highlights can be found at www.icclsports.org.

Hoopfest tournament champions announced

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Winter break brought the annual Hoopfest for many Fort Wayne area CYO teams with the 2014 year-end tournament bringing lots of action across the four different age group brackets.

St. Charles boys' claimed both the seventh- and eighth-grade titles. In the seventh-grade tourney, the Cardinals beat St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. John the Baptist, New Haven, before downing St. Vincent de Paul, 39-27, for the championship. The older team opened with a win over Suburban Bethlehem, then beat Emmanuel-St. Michael School.

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel did double duty playing in two tournaments and had to miss a Hoopfest game for their Heritage Feeder School Championship, so the Cardinals got a win by forfeit before having to beat St. Paul twice in the finals of the 10-team showdown.

In the seventh-grade girls' contest, St. Vincent had quite a tournament. The Panthers had to battle their way out of the losers' bracket

and beat St. Elizabeth twice to win it all. The Panthers fell to the Pioneers in the opening round, 29-35, then won five straight.

Holy Cross Lutheran dominated the eighth-grade girls' brackets with victories over St. Vincent, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and Wyneken Lutheran to be crowned champs.

St. Vincent 8 lost their first round to Holy Cross, but went on to win two games over both St. Rose/St. Louis and St. Jude before incurring their second loss in the double elimination tournament to Wyneken.

Coach Dan O'Brien was pleased with his team's performance despite missing several players over the break. "Things are looking up, especially with the great play of those who are healthy," he said. "Rebecca Ruiz has really stepped up her game filling in for missing players and Alyssa Dempsey has turned on her game hitting 8-10 from the free throw line during the break."

O'Brien summarized, "We have really seen great growth in great adversity, which will only make us stronger for the rest of the season."

Crusaders, Lions square off in ICCL barnburner

BY JOE KOZINSKI

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY — The Inter-City Catholic League game between the Holy Cross Crusaders and the St. Pius X Lions squared off in a duel at Saint Joseph High School last weekend.

The Crusaders played the role of a jackrabbit jumping out to an early lead behind the scoring of Miguel Zyniewicz, Tion Ottridge and their talented guard Jayden Ivy leading by double digits late in the first half.

The Lions however looked like they were stuck in quicksand for most of the stanza, but mustered enough to keep the contest interesting on buckets by David Deputy, Johnathan Brach, William Ritten and a big three by Mark Hiestand to make the score 20-11 going into the break.

The second half again found Ivy and his Crusaders pouncing on St. Pius X for the first six points ballooning the score to an almost

ICCL, PAGE 18

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CYO Panthers off to a new season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — After five straight wins at the Holiday Hoopfest over Christmas break, Coach Marc Munson and the seventh-grade girls from St. Vincent are off to an impressive start with an 11-3 record.

“The girls win by playing great defense and turning it into great offense off turnovers and transition offense off of rebounds,” Munson detailed.

After an opening round loss in the Hoopfest to St. Elizabeth, the Panthers beat Queen of Angels, St. John the Baptist, New Haven, and St. Jude to stay alive before putting together back-to-back wins over St. Elizabeth, 35-26, and 39-36. In the first game of the championship, Coach Marc Munson’s Panthers were down 18-10 at the half before going on a 25-0 run in the third quarter to pull off the win and force a second game. In that contest there were eight lead changes in the second half, four in the final two minutes. St. Vincent came up with four clutch free throws and won by three.

With only seven girls on the roster, the Panthers often have to borrow from another grade when illness and injury strike. However, the team’s biggest goal is to be in better shape than any other team, to play the most intense team defense and play better together through passing,



MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

The St. Vincent de Paul CYO seventh-grade girls' basketball team is off to an impressive start of the season.

personal effort and support of teammate when things don't go their way. St. Vincent emphasizes the Play Like a Champion Today philosophy in all that they do.

Munson concluded, “We routinely ask the girls to conduct themselves as a champion by expressing excellence in all that they do, respecting their coaches and teammates through their actions and listening, practicing like a champion by showing up to practice on time and ready, being committed to developing as a player and as a good teammate to achieve improvement and having great sportsmanship (especially when calls do not go our way or we lose a game).”

ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

insurmountable 15 point lead.

The Lions had other ideas as a three from Hiestand stopped the bleeding and a shot with less than five ticks on the clock in the third by Ritten chopped the lead in half making the difference a manageable seven points.

With just 20 seconds left, Lion Thomas Morgenthal connected on a runner squeezing lead to two and then St. Pius X fouled a Crusader sending him to the line with a pressure free throw and 10.6 remaining in the game.

The free throw was off its mark giving the Lions one more chance and Holy Cross obliged them by fouling Brach with 5.1. The St. Pius player must have had ice water in his veins as he stepped to the charity stripe and knocked them both down,

sending the game into overtime.

The first bucket of the overtime period was made by Lion Deputy, giving his team their first lead of the entire game.

The Crusaders' leading scorer Ivy tied the ballgame at the free throw line with 4.5 seconds left in overtime. Holy Cross big man Chaz Black went to the stripe grazing the rim on his first shot but hitting the winner on his second securing a victory, 32-31, over the Lions.

Other high scorers from around the league included St. Matthew's Coley Quinn with 22, Mishawaka Catholic's Zach Whitfield with 21 and Hunter Renner adding 11, Our Lady of Hungary's Christian Tate had 19, Queen of Peace's Johnny Wang converted for 10, a duo from Holy Family Latrell Franklin and Ryan Hessey had 13 and 11 respectively and the trio of Ashton Ruskowski, Austin Lee and Brandon Kaniewski all scored in double digits.

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Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Jan. 16, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8.50, children (5-12) \$3.50. Carry-out available.

Spaghetti dinner supports Boy Scouts

Fort Wayne — Boy Scout Troop 20 will have a spaghetti dinner Saturday, Feb. 7, from 5-7 p.m. in the Queen of Angels Activity Center, 1500 W. State Blvd. Adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$6 and families \$28. Venice meat sauce, Casa salad and Edy's ice cream.

Spaghetti supper planned

Mishawaka — The Knights of Columbus Council 1878 will have a spaghetti supper Friday, Feb. 13, from 5-7 p.m. at 114 West First St. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children age 5 and above. Children under 5 years of age are free. All proceeds benefit Hannah's House.

Theology on Tap

Fort Wayne — Theology on Tap for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single or married, will be held at Soups Salad and Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., Thursday, Jan. 15, at 6:30 p.m. "Beauty will Save the World — Beauty and Liturgy: the First Theology," with speaker Dr. Adam DeVille, department of Philosophy and Theology for the University of Saint Francis. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/TOT for information.

Pancake breakfast planned

New Haven — St. Louis Besancon will have a pancake breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 18, from 8:30 a.m. until noon in the parish hall. Breakfast will include pancakes and feature sausage, biscuits and gravy, milk and coffee. Cost for adults is \$6, children 5-12 \$4, and under 5 eat for free.

Bishop Dwenger High School to offer SAT/ACT prep course

Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School will offer an SAT/ACT prep course on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. beginning Tuesday, Jan. 20. Visit www.bishopdwenger.com for the registration forms.

Card and socializing party planned

Fort Wayne — Men and women 21 years of age and older are invited to a card and socializing party Saturday, Jan. 24, from

7 p.m. to midnight at Queen of Angels activity center. Cost is \$10 at the door, which includes pulled pork and chicken, cole slaw, snacks, beer, pop and water. Door prizes awarded. All proceeds benefit Queen of Angels athletics. Contact Denny Jamison at 260-418-1139 for information.

New family financial aid meeting

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will have a financial aid meeting for the 2015-2016 school year on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m. in room 104. All financial, SGO, Indiana School Choice program and scholarship information will be shared.

Bishop Luers Winter Homecoming

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will have a winter homecoming Friday, Feb. 6, for the varsity boys' and girls' basketball games beginning at 6 p.m. The alumni office will be recognizing the 1968 and the 2014 boys' SAC championship tennis teams during halftime of the boys' game. A Casa Knight Dinner will be from 4:30-7 p.m. in the café and reservations are suggested. For information contact Sarah Shank at sshank@bishopluer.org or 260-456-1261, ext. 3039.

Retreat for Farmers rescheduled

Hartford City — "Restoring My Soul, The Psalm 23 Guide for the Farmer's Imagination" retreat for farmers with Pastor Jeffery Hawkins has been rescheduled for Jan. 23-25, at the John 23 Retreat Center. Call 888-882-1391 for information.

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Feb. 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The theme for the day is "Peace and Non-Violence." Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register by Jan. 30 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

Chicken dinner planned

South Bend — The St. Hedwig Holy Name and Rosary Societies are sponsoring a buffet chicken dinner on Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Hedwig Memorial Center, from noon until 2 p.m. Tickets are \$11 for adults and carry outs, children 12 and under are free. For tickets or more information call Norb at 574-233-9008. Reservations needed by Feb. 4.

St. Anthony de Padua School plans open house

South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua School will have an open house Sunday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Evenings of reflection planned

Notre Dame — Be Still — The Contemplative in the Active World is the theme for two evenings of reflection on Jan. 26 and 29 at 6 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Center on the Notre Dame campus. This year's series "Stillness in All Seasons" will explore the place of contemplative prayer during the different stages of life. Tickets are \$8. For more information and reservation, contact Patricia Bellm at 574-631-1379 or proclaim@nd.edu or visit icl.nd.edu/proclaim.

REST IN PEACE

Culver

John M. Hartsough, 56, St. Mary of the Lake

Decatur

Linda D. Kirchner, 56, St. Mary of the Assumption

Donaldson

Sister Helen Irene Watkins, PHJC, 80, Catherine Kasper Chapel

Elkhart

Eleanor D. Haney, 93, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne

Virginia R. Beery, 85, St. Joseph

Liliana V. Gastiger, 94, St. Henry

John Jack Teders, 82, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

William J. Dolan, 90, Our Lady of Good Hope

Grace I. Bench, 75, St. Vincent de Paul

Joyce Alane Gilliland, 91, St. Patrick

A. Lorraine Richards, 89, St. Jude

Magdalen M. Wuttke, 92, St. Charles Borromeo

Nancee L. Bryson, 62, St. Jude

Teresa Marie Etnier, 56, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Helen A. Kilcoin, 92, St. John the Baptist

J. Thomas Sarvay, 77, St. Charles Borromeo

Marcella G. Gamble, 100, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Martha E. Long, 86, St. Jude

Arlean L. McPherson, 78, St. Jude

Sara C. Young, 88, Saint Anne Home Chapel

Goshen

Margaret M. Zimmerman, 89, St. John the Evangelist

Granger

Anna Schmidt, 88, St. Pius X

Clara M. Naspinsky, 89, St. Pius X

Huntington

Sister Grace Marie Samblanet, OLVM, 85, Victory Noll

Mishawaka

Debra R. Bauters, 59, St. Joseph

Donald M. Greene, 100, St. Monica

Josephine Filippello, 96, St. Bavo

Charlotte A. Jackson, 86, Queen of Peace

Elsie E. Wozniak, 93, St. Bavo

New Haven

George A. Berghoff, 75, St. John the Baptist

William L. Ryan, 69, St. John the Baptist

Betty S. Wagner, 80, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Father Eugene F. Gorski, CSC, 82, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Sister M. (Margaret Ann Doran) Gabriella, CSC, 92, Our Lady of Loretto

Plymouth

Mary E. McKee, 88, St. Michael

South Bend

Wanita M. Przybysz, 84, Holy Family

Ruth J. Toth, 90, St. Anthony de Padua

Rocco Nate, 93, St. Anthony de Padua

Clifford E. Perras Jr., 67, St. Therese Little Flower

Dorothy M. Vertesich, Our Lady of Hungary

Joseph L. Vargyas Sr., 84, Our Lady of Hungary

Darlene E. Lenczewski, 76, St. Casimir

Magdalyn Tags Ball, 93, St. Anthony de Padua

Zsafia Vida, 85, Our Lady of Hungary

Leonard C. Falk, 91, Christ the King

Frances A. Hyduk, 88, Holy Family

Maria Piotrowiak, 92, St. Hedwig

Robert F. Tryner Sr., 91, St. Anthony de Padua

Sister Lourdes Kline, 95, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Sister served at Central Catholic High School in Fort Wayne.

The CrossWord
January 18 and 25, 2015



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TIM JOHNSON



NATE PROULX

The Cupertino Classic, shown in the poster outside St. Vincent de Paul gymnasium, was inspired by St. Joseph of Cupertino, a prayerful, simple priest from the 1600s renowned for having visions from God. While sometimes in prayer, people saw the saint float off the ground. Father Andrew Curry, organizer of the classic and pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine in North Manchester, recalled a painting capturing one of those moments where it looked as if St. Joseph of Cupertino is going up for a “slam-dunk.”

Diocesan priests and seminarians took to the hardwoods for the first Cupertino Classic basketball game on Monday, Dec. 29, at St. Vincent de Paul gymnasium in Fort Wayne. The priests defeated the seminarians, 41-26.

CUPERTINO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spun the ball around himself for a lay-up. He started this early in the game, which set the crowd on fire quickly.

He and his brother Father Matt Coonan, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, had some steals that led to fast breaks.

“Father Matt is always a tenacious forward and plays well on both sides of the court,” Father Curry said.

Father Jake Runyon, pastor of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, was impressive with his down-low playing on offense and defense.

“Father Jake is bigger than the seminarians but he can run, box out and even shoot the outside jumper,” Father Curry said.

The seminarians had some impressive players, especially Ben Landrigan and Dan Niezer, “but it was obvious that the seminarians as a whole had not played together as long as the priests had. Experience over youth, I guess,” noted Father Curry.

Another highlight was when the seminarians let a young man from the bleachers play in the last couple of minutes of the game and amazingly hit the last second shot.

While Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick of St. Vincent de Paul served as the priests’ team coach, Father Andrew Budzinski, vocation director and parochial vicar of St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, was the coach for the seminarians’ team, and he offered the young man from the bleachers an application to the seminary.

Father Curry said the basketball game, which he anticipates will become an annual tradition, has several goals that are surfacing.

He said, first, that it provides the

chance for priests and seminarians to play basketball together, which is difficult sometimes with their schedules.

Secondly, he added, “It gives people the chance to bring their family and friends to the game to celebrate our diocesan Christian family in a non-liturgical event.”

“This allows young people to see that priests are people who like to do the good things that people like to do,” Father Curry said. “This, hopefully, makes it more accessible for young people to contemplate being a priest or a religious. Next year we are hoping to have a halftime free-throw contest between religious sisters.”

And thirdly, Father Curry said, there is also a fundraising component that could grow from this.

Looking forward to next year, he expects to have some T-shirts for sale, anticipating the money would go towards seminarian education.

Father Curry said, “We would like to thank Mr. Terry Coonan of St. Vincent’s for helping us set up the game at St. Vincent rather quickly.”

Using social media to promote the event, “with about a week to go before the game, we knew that we could expect a lot of people to be in attendance based on interest we saw on our Facebook event page,” Father Curry said. “We were thinking we would have about 200 people at max. But when people kept pouring in the doors, it got the priests and seminarians very excited about the event and gave us hope that this event could be an exciting way to celebrate our faith in Jesus Christ.”

Due to the large attendance at the game, Father Curry said, “We are hoping to have next year’s game at one of the Fort Wayne Catholic high schools to accommodate an even bigger crowd.”



TIM JOHNSON

Diocesan priests and seminarians hit the hardwood courts to make the first Cupertino Classic a “spirited” success. The priests defeated the seminarians, 41-26, on Monday afternoon, Dec. 29, at St. Vincent de Paul gymnasium in Fort Wayne. An estimated 400 to 500 spectators attended the game.

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