



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Men of all ages inspired at Rekindle the Fire Conference

BY CHRIS LUSHIS

SOUTH BEND — Nearly 1,000 men from throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and beyond joined together on Saturday, Feb. 7, for the fifth annual Rekindle the Fire Conference. They gathered to partake in the sacraments and gain insightful motivation from notable Catholic speakers on living as strong and holy men in the midst of a fallen world.

Father Ben Muhlenkamp, parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, served as master of ceremonies alongside Conference Chairman Jeff Krudop. Main presenters for the conference were Franciscan Father David Mary Engo, Steve Ray, Dr. John Wood and Ruben Quezada.

The day's theme stemmed from the inspiration of famed Catholic apologist Matthew Kelly, who instructs "if we get the man right, we get the world right."

Father Engo began the talks with energy and enthusiasm, encouraging the men present to be courageous and live with holiness. "There are many challenges, which stand in opposition to Christ and His Church. In response, we must be men who are unafraid and unashamed to live the Gospel! It begins here, recognizing that the first person I must evangelize is me; that every day I need to be turning from sin, choosing virtue, living in holiness,

REKINDLE, PAGE 16



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Dr. John Wood, Catholic author and optometrist by profession, points to the crucifix, as he speaks of the desperate need for daily commitment to sanctity from all Catholics, especially husbands and fathers. Wood was one of the speakers at the Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference held on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Century Center in South Bend. Nearly 1,000 men from the diocese and beyond attended the conference.

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion to be celebrated in diocesan cathedrals

The Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates will be celebrated in the cathedrals of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

These rites will take place in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, at 2 p.m. on Feb. 15, and in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne at 2 p.m. on March 1.

Catechumens are those unbaptized individuals who will be entering the Catholic Church by receiving all the sacraments of initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil on the night of April 4. Candidates are those who are already baptized and are now preparing to complete their initiation or enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

The catechumens and candidates come from parishes throughout the diocese. During the liturgy, each catechumen and candidate, as well as his or her godparent or sponsor, will be presented for recognition to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. All together, several hundred catechumens and candidates — along with their godparents, sponsors, families and guests — are expected to attend the liturgies.

The catechumens inscribe their names within the "Book of the Elect," which will be presented for Bishop Rhoades to sign in an event called the Enrollment of Names. After participating in the Rite of Election, the catechumens will be referred to as the "elect," because they will have been officially declared ready to receive the Easter sacraments this year.

St. John the Baptist

Hospitality at the Fort Wayne school

Pages 8-9

Preparing for Lent

In Truth and Charity

Page 2

Pope on fatherhood

Families need fathers for guidance, love

Page 3

New Knights' council

St. Jude begins council

Page 4

Lenten advice from a pastor

Keep it simple sinner

Page 10

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU



This Lent, every Catholic parish in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will have Confessions available on **Thursday, March 5, from 6-8 p.m.** If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time, or just find it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon Confession time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and His Church.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

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

Business Department

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Bethany Belleville
bbelleville@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen
tsteffen@diocesefwsb.org
(260) 456-2824

Web site: www.todayscatholicnews.org

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

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

MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260) 456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.

BUREAU OFFICE: 1328 Dragoon Trail, Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone (260) 456-2824. Fax (260) 744-1473.

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

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

ISSN 0891-1533
USPS 403630



Find us on Facebook!

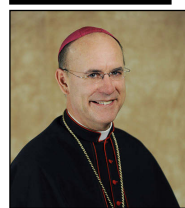
www.facebook.com/diocesefwsb



Follow us on Twitter!

@diocesefwsb

Preparing for Lent



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The season of Lent begins on February 18th, Ash Wednesday. In these days before Lent begins, I encourage you to think about your plans for the forty days of Lent, the penance you intend to do. Reflect on how you intend to make a good Lent, or more importantly, what God desires for you to help you to turn away from sin and draw closer to Him.

In the prayer over the people at the end of the liturgy of Ash Wednesday, the priest prays: *Pour out a spirit of compunction, O God, on those who bow before your majesty....* What does this word "compunction" mean? It means being enlightened or made aware of our sins and faults. It comes from the Latin verb "compungere" which means "to prick." So it is a puncture, a prick of sorrow. If we're going to make a good Lent, we need to have this sorrow for our sins. We need our consciences to be pricked. We need to recognize and be aware that we have faults. Saint John the Apostle wrote: *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

When we have compunction of heart, we are able to see the darkness of sin in our lives. Pope Francis says: *Walking in darkness means being overly pleased with ourselves, believing that we do not need salvation. That is darkness! When we continue on this road of darkness, it is not easy to turn back.* So we need to honestly look at our lives, admit our sins. This is the starting point for having a good Lent. It is only through repentance and conversion that we can live our true identity as Christians, as "children of the light."

The essential first step in returning to God is to recognize that we are sinners and to acknowledge our sins. Think about King David in the Old Testament. He sinned gravely against the Lord and was rebuked by the prophet Nathan. David then exclaimed in prayer: *I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.* David had been walking in darkness, but he repented and returned to the Lord. There are many other Biblical stories, including the parable of the prodigal son, that convey the same message. There can be no conversion without the acknowledgment of one's own sins. Only then can we experience the love that is greater than sin: divine mercy.

Our Savior began His public preaching with these words: *Repent, and believe in the Gospel.* Jesus invites us to accept the good news of His merciful love. It's not good news if we erroneously think that we are perfect and do not need His gift of salvation. In Lent, we hear anew Jesus' call to repent. He says (in Greek) *Metanoieite*, translated into English as *Repent*. It means to make a *metanoia*, a conversion, a radical change of mind and heart. It is necessary to turn away from evil in order to enter God's kingdom of love and peace.



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

A man receives ashes on Ash Wednesday at St. Francis of Assisi Church in New York in 2014. Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of the penitential season of Lent, is Feb. 18 this year.

We need to stand before the Lord in honesty and truth, admitting our sinfulness. Pope Francis says that "we must never masquerade before God." This requires the virtue of humility. In this context, the Holy Father says that "shame is a virtue." He calls it "blessed shame." The Pope says we need to have the ability to be ashamed and that this is the virtue of the humble. The humble person is ashamed of his or her sins. Of course, Pope Francis is not talking about destructive shame in which a person hates himself. He is talking about healthy shame, which he calls "a true Christian virtue." When one has this "blessed shame," one then can approach the Lord with a humble heart which God says "He will not spurn."

One important Lenten resolution for all of us should be to go to confession. Ashamed of our sins, we go to Jesus and say like King David *Against you, O Lord, I have sinned.* Or like the prodigal son said when he returned to his father: *Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.* What did the father do? He threw his arms around his son's neck and kissed him. He put a fine robe on him and had a banquet to celebrate his son's return. That's what happens every time that we go to confession. God our Father is filled with joy. He forgives us, so great is His love for us.

Besides the sacrament of Penance, we are also called to "do penance" during Lent.

This helps to reestablish the balance and harmony broken by sin, to change direction, to walk in the light and not in darkness. Outward acts of penance are very helpful for growth in our spiritual lives. They help to make amends for our sins and for those of others. I encourage you to think about what voluntary acts of penance you will offer to God this Lent. Fasting and almsgiving are especially recommended during Lent. Choose a Lenten penance or sacrifice that will help you to grow in the Christian virtues. Spiritual discipline is needed for true progress. It is a way to take up the cross of Jesus.

Finally, I wish to emphasize the importance of Lenten prayer. I urge everyone to make a prayer resolution for Lent. Daily Mass is certainly a great resolution. Stations of the Cross is another wonderful devotion during Lent, a prayerful means to enter into the mystery of Our Lord's passion and death. Or you may wish to try the daily rosary or daily Scripture meditations. There are an abundance of spiritual practices and devotions in our Catholic tradition. I don't encourage you to have a dozen resolutions. Pick one or a few and be faithful to them.

As we receive ashes on Ash Wednesday, may we do so with the intention of doing penance! Most importantly, may we heed the call of the Lord to repent and believe in the Gospel, to take up the cross and follow Him! May God bless you with a good and fruitful Lent this year!

Pope: Families need fathers who guide, love them through thick and thin

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Every family needs a father — a father who shares in his family's joy and pain, hands down wisdom to his children and offers them firm guidance and love, Pope Francis said.

Being a father is not easy since it takes lots of patience and grace, he said.

"But what consolation, what a reward one receives when the children honor this legacy. It is a joy that more than makes up for the hard work, that overcomes every misunderstanding and heals every wound," the pope said at his general audience Feb. 4.

In a series of talks on the family, the pope continued the second part of his reflection on the role of fathers. While his last audience talk looked at the risks and problems caused by fathers who are absent or fail their family, the day's talk focused on the importance and dignity of fatherhood.

Speaking to some 7,000 people gathered in the Paul VI audience hall, the pope spelled out the essential, but demanding, things it takes to be a good father.

The most important is being present, first by being by his wife's side "to share everything, joy and pain, hard work and hope" and by being there for his children as they grow, he said.

A father is there for his kids "when they play and when they work hard, when they are playful and when they are distressed, when they are communicative and when they are taciturn, when they are daring and when they are afraid, when they have strayed and when they have found their way again," he said.

However, being present "is not the same as being controlling, you know, because fathers who are too controlling suffocate their children and don't let them grow," the pope said.

A father knows how to firmly correct children's mistakes without demeaning or demoralizing them, as well as protect them at all costs, the pope said. Guidance does not come from a father who is "weak, yielding and a softie," he said.

When it comes to corporal punishment, the pope talked about how one father he knew explained his approach when the father admitted "sometimes I have to hit my kids a bit, but never on their face so as not to humiliate them." The pope praised the man's respect for the kids' dignity as he understood the need to punish in a way that was "just" with the ability to "move forward."

But a good father also knows how to forgive sincerely from the heart and be patient and merciful, like the father in the Gospel account of the prodigal son, he said.



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Francis holds a baby as he arrives for his weekly audience in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Feb. 4.

"How much dignity and how much tenderness in that father who is waiting by the door," waiting for the child who has strayed, he said.

"Yes, fathers must be patient. So many times there's nothing left to do but wait, pray and wait with patience, tenderness, magnanimity and mercy."

A parent finds pride not in having the child "be the same as me, who repeats what I say and what I do," but when the child has received the wisdom and values that really matter in life.

The father will have formed his children's heart to know on their own what is right and wrong and to feel, speak and act with wisdom and integrity, the pope said.

He said a wise and mature father will be able to say to his children after they've grown: "I taught you things that you didn't know, I corrected errors that you did not see. I let you feel an affection that was both deep and discreet that perhaps you did not

fully recognize when you were young and unsure. I gave you witness of rigor and willpower that perhaps you did not understand when you just wanted complicity and protection."

The good father tempers his emotions and digs deep to find the right words to make himself understood as well as accept the burden of those inevitable misunderstandings, he said.

The father will say to his grown children as they have children of their own, "When I see that you try to be this way with your kids and with everyone, I am deeply moved. I am happy to be your father."

The pope said that without God and His grace, "fathers lose their courage and walk off the field. But children need to find a father who is waiting for them when they return from their failures. They will do everything not to admit it, not to show it, but they need this, and not finding him opens up in them wounds that are difficult to heal."



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m. — Rite of Election, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Sunday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. — Mass at Holy Spirit Chapel, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame
- Monday, Feb. 16, 5:15 p.m. — Mass for Communion and Liberation Community, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7 a.m. — Servus Omnium Lecture, University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Finance Council, Holiday Inn, Warsaw
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 9 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, Feb. 19 to Friday, Feb. 20 — Board of Trustees Meeting, Ave Maria University, Florida
- Saturday, Feb. 21, to Saturday, Feb. 28 — Co-Chair Meeting of International Catholic — Reformed Theological Dialogue, Ghent, Belgium

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

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

House Speaker Boehner announces Pope Francis will address Congress

WASHINGTON (CNS) — House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, announced Feb. 5 that Pope Francis will address a joint meeting of Congress Sept. 24.

The pontiff's "historic visit" would make him the "first leader of the Holy See to address a joint meeting of Congress," Boehner said in a statement, adding that he was "truly grateful that Pope Francis has accepted our invitation."

Boehner noted that "in a time of global upheaval, the Holy Father's message of compassion and human dignity has moved people of all faiths and backgrounds. His teachings, prayers and very example bring us back to the blessings of simple things and our obligations to one another."

"We look forward to warmly welcoming Pope Francis to our Capitol and hearing his address on behalf of the American people," he added.

A statement from the Archdiocese of Washington called it "a great honor and tremendous joy to welcome our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to the Archdiocese of Washington during his proposed pastoral visit to the United States in September."

The statement said the announced visit "will be a time of grace for all of us." It also said the archdiocese looks forward "to the official announcement of more details of the visit."

On Jan. 19 when the pope was on the plane returning to Rome from his visit to the Philippines, he told reporters that his September trip to the U.S. would take him to Philadelphia, New York and Washington — where he intends to canonize Blessed Junipero Serra.

The pope also confirmed he would visit the United Nations in New York. He had already announced his participation Sept. 26 and 27 in Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families there.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC *Travel*

proudly presents ... **The Shrines of Italy tours**
with your travel hosts:



Father Andrew Budzinski
Director of Vocations
Parochial Vicar St. Vincent de Paul
Travel host for Fort Wayne departure
November 10-20, 2015

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



November 3-13, 2015

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

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

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

Limited Availability — Call today

SAINT LUKE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS



Saturday, February 28, 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm

University of St. Francis Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center

431 W Berry Street - Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Admission: \$10 Lower Level | \$5 Upper Level | \$15 Family Pass (upper level)

Suitable for Ages 10 & Up

Tickets: Available at your local parish or the Cathedral Book Store at Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 South Clinton Street, Fort Wayne
Call (260) 399-1442 or email district15@indianakofc.org

Information: www.diocesefwsb.org

Sponsored by: Redeemer Radio &
The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
All proceeds to benefit the
Diocesan Seminarian Vocation Fund.



PERFORMED LIVE BY LEONARDO DEFILIPPIS

www.StMaxDRAMA.COM

New Knights of Columbus council at St. Jude

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — Thirty-three Knights of Columbus are charter members of St. Jude Council 16065 pledged to operate under the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. Members held their first meeting on Dec. 15, 2014, electing Darren Zink as Grand Knight; Jeffery Rose, Deputy Grand Knight; Mark Corral, chancellor; Kirk Fitzgerald, recorder; Tony Patrick, treasurer; Jonathan Nusbaum, advocate; Andrew Hogan, warden; John Moor, inside guard; and Gary Cramer, outside guard.

Commenting on his position as council chaplain, St. Jude pastor Father Jacob Runyon said, "When Father Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus with a handful of parishioners, it was assistance to the family that he had in mind. Now, more than a century later that guiding purpose has made the Knights flourish not only by pro-

viding financial assistance to families when needed, but with daily spiritual direction through many planned activities for youth all the way to the elderly. As a pastor and chaplain of a parish council, I look forward to following the example of our founder, Father McGivney by bringing our K of C families closer to the Holy Family."

Grand Knight Darren Zink has been a Knight for 15 years starting at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish and later at Father Brandon Council 451, Fort Wayne. He looks forward to developing the new council for future generations.

The Knights of Columbus, formed 133 years ago, is a family, fraternal organization for Catholic men supporting and promoting activities for Church, family, youth, vocations and pro-life. More than 1.8 million members are found in more than 14,000 councils in the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland and nine other countries and territories.



MARK WEBER

Father Jacob Runyon, left, pastor of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, is the chaplain of the newly chartered St. Jude Parish Council. He is shown here with Darren Zink, council Grand Knight. The new council plans to introduce itself to the parish with a Lenten fish fry.

All Saints Religious Goods

8808 Coldwater Road - Fort Wayne

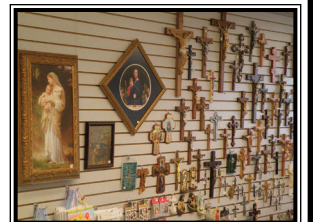
In Coldwater Centre at Wallen Road, 1.5 miles north of I-69

260-490-7506



- Books • Bibles
- Rosaries • Statues
- Crucifixes
- Medals

- First Communion Gifts
- Confirmation Gifts
- Baptismal Gifts & Gowns
- Church Supplies



Support your school. Use All Saints SCRIP!

Prenatal information to improve for parents of a disabled child

INDIANAPOLIS — Getting a prenatal diagnosis of a child's disability can be a heart-wrenching experience. To add to the stress, many health care facilities are ill equipped to provide information on the child's disability or prognosis. Parents facing this situation have felt pressured by the medical community to abort according to testimony given by several Hoosier parents before the House Public Health Committee during a Feb. 2 meeting.

Rep. Ron Bacon, R-Chandler, wants to change that. Bacon has authored a bill that would require health care providers to offer access to parents who learn that their preborn child has a disability to information, resources and disability support groups.

The bill, House Bill 1093, which passed the House Health Committee, requires the state department of health to collect the information and disseminate it to health facilities and health-care providers. The Indiana Department of Health supports the legislation. The bill is expected to pass the House before the end of the month.

Nina Fuller, Evansville

resident and founder of Smile on Down Syndrome, experienced first-hand the stress and trauma of learning her preborn child had a disability when following an amniocentesis she was told her daughter had Down syndrome. "I had never been exposed to or around anyone who had Down syndrome. I didn't know what their capabilities were and I was looking for information," she said.

The doctor directed Fuller to go to the local library where she found two outdated books from 1977. "I had nowhere to turn for information on what the future of my child would be," said Fuller. "My husband and I decided we would change that."

The Fullers became the first-call referral service for doctors whose patients were going to have a Down syndrome child.

Buffy Smith shared her experience of receiving a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome in early 2012. Smith's doctor told her she had a 1 in 9 probability of carrying the child full-term. Smith said, "The doctor began telling us about the life-long health implications, outlined a grim outlook for

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

education, and painted a picture of a terrible prison sentence for this preborn child. My immediate thoughts were to abort."

Smith said she wasn't alone in her thinking to abort as she reported that roughly 90 percent of mothers who receive a prenatal diagnosis of a disability terminate their pregnancy. While Smith did not choose abortion, she spent the final months of her pregnancy "living in a silent hell" due to the lack of information she had about Down syndrome.

Lisa Wells, executive director of Down Syndrome Indiana, who also testified in support of the bill, said she hears stories like Fuller's and Smith's, "on a regular basis." Wells said there are roughly 7,000-8,000 individuals living in Indiana with Down syn-

drome. And the life expectancy has increased significantly in the last 50 years in the United States. According to Wells, in 1955, life expectancy for a child with Down syndrome was nine years; in 1980, it was 35 years; and today, an individual with Down syndrome has a life expectancy of 60 years.

Sue Swayze representing Indiana Right to Life, who also testified in support of the bill, said, "We think it's important to provide information and a range of options available so that parents can discuss, learn and have hope."

Rep. Peggy Mayfield, R-Mooresville, read a letter from a constituent who received a poor prenatal diagnosis without sufficient information in 1997. The constituent said she felt "bruised, bullied and full of anxiety" following a visit to a neonatal specialist in Indianapolis. She was pressured by doctors to have an amniocentesis immediately because she was at 19 weeks. Mayfield said this woman realized what the doctor was really saying was that her baby had a disability so they needed the amniocentesis that day so she

could terminate the pregnancy before she reached the 20-week mark. Mayfield emphasized that parents need resources to help them understand the diagnosis, prognosis and support available right at the moment of being told of the disability of their baby.

Rep. Mayfield said the reason she read this letter, and is a co-author of this bill, is because the letter was from her sister-in-law. "I remember the torment they were going through in this situation," she said.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference who testified in support of the bill said, "Each human being, created in the image and likeness of God has dignity, and the Catholic Church supports this bill because it gives parents the resources and support they need to prepare prior to and after the birth of their child."

Rep. Bacon said that while he was not aware of this being as significant a problem in the metropolitan areas of the state, it has been a problem in the outlying areas, and the legislation would give parents the resources they need.

Women are not guests, but full participants in Church life, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Saying he knows the history of the subjugation of women continues to have a negative impact on how women are treated, Pope Francis called for greater roles for women in the Church and for greater assistance and workplace flexibility to ensure they can make the best choices for themselves and their families.

Pope Francis told the Pontifical Council for Culture Feb. 7 that its study of women's cultures was a topic "close to my heart," and that he fully recognizes the need "to study new criteria and methods to ensure women feel they are not guests, but full participants in the various spheres of the life of society and the Church."

"This challenge can no longer be postponed," he said.

The preparatory document for the meeting said that in the West, more and more women between the ages of 20 and 50 are leaving the Church. Many have "reached places of prestige within society and the workplace, but have no corresponding decisional role nor responsibility" within the Church community.

Pope Francis told the council — whose members are all cardinals, bishops, priests and laymen — "I am convinced of the urgency of offering space to women in the life of the Church and to welcom-

ing them, taking into account specific and changing cultural and social sensitivities."

"A more widespread and incisive female presence in the community is hoped for so that we can see many women involved in pastoral responsibilities, in the accompaniment of persons, families and groups, as well as in theological reflection," he said.

While they are equal, he said, women and men tend to have different qualities, and the Church and society need both.

"You women know how to incarnate the tender face of God, His mercy, which translates into a willingness to give your time rather than to just occupy space, and to welcome rather than exclude," the pope said. "In this sense, I like to describe the feminine dimension of the Church as a welcoming womb that regenerates life."

The council's preparatory document used the technical term "generativity" to discuss the aspect of women's lives involving physically or symbolically desiring new life, bringing it into the world, caring for it and finally letting it go. Richard Rouse, a council official, said in essence it means "helping life flourish."

Donna Orsuto, a U.S. professor of spirituality at the Pontifical Gregorian University, was part of the group of mostly Italian women who compiled the working document for the plenary meeting and was one of the speakers at the

plenary.

Generativity, she said, means "sharing life from one generation to next," including through parenthood, but also by mentoring others, teaching, creating jobs and many other ways.

Both men and women are called to be generative, she said, explaining that stagnation is the opposite of generativity. "The truly generative person is creative, brings life and energy, and it's about thinking about the next generation."

"The big challenge is not to stereotype women" in any discussion about equality and differences, she said. "The key is not to use the idea that men and women are different as a tool to suppress women. But to use it in a positive way," encouraging women and men to work together, bringing their diverse gifts to the Church and the world.

Archbishop Paul-Andre Durocher of Gatineau, Quebec, president of the Canadian bishops' conference and a member of the council, told Catholic News Service Feb. 6, the meeting created "spaces for dialogue" on a topic that brings together different ideas and lived experiences.

The archbishop, who was attending his first plenary meeting as a council member, said as soon as the topic was announced he sought additional input by reading and by talking to women, particularly women theologians, about

their views on the proposed questions. It also gave him a further push to support programs that help Catholic women and men work together in the Church, he said.

Asked if the council discussions made him think of any one particular woman, the archbishop responded, "my goddaughter, who is at university on an athletic scholarship. She is gifted in so many ways. The richness of her own life, the potential of her life and the world in which she is growing," particularly all the choices that she faces, give the archbishop what he said was a "sense of wonderment."

Pope Francis told the council that more must be done in society and in the workplace to ensure women really do have choices that enable them to use and develop their talents, exercise leadership roles and have a family if they choose.

"We must not leave women alone to carry this burden and to make decisions," he said. "Rather, all institutions, including the Church community, are called to ensure freedom of choice for women, so that they have the possibility to take on social and ecclesial responsibilities in a way that is in harmony with family life."

Redeemer is Hiring!

Find the Listing
at RedeemerRadio.com

 **Redeemer Radio**
106.3 FM • 95.7 FM • 89.9 FM

Listen worldwide at RedeemerRadio.com

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

Get more at TodaysCatholicNews.org

Catholics called to do everything in their power to end trafficking

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Highlighting the life, suffering and enduring hope of St. Josephine Bakhita, a Sudanese slave, Washington Auxiliary Bishop Martin D. Holley called for reflection and action to combat modern-day slavery during his homily on the first International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking Feb. 8. We must “do everything in our power through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy to eradicate human trafficking,” the bishop told the nearly 1,000 people — including trafficking survivors — gathered for the noon Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Held on the feast of St. Josephine, the day was designated by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General. Last year, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Migration and Refugee Services organized a national day of prayer for victims and survivors of human trafficking, and it spearheaded this year’s liturgy at the shrine. The day offered the fruits of “compounded prayer” and was an opportunity to shed light on a pervasive tragedy, said Hilary Chester, associate director of the U.S. bishops’ anti-trafficking program, in an interview Feb. 6. According to the U.N. International Labor Organization, there are nearly 21 million human trafficking victims worldwide.

Accountability is key concern for pope’s child protection commission

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Bishops who do not comply with the child protection norms adopted by their bishops’ conferences and approved by the Vatican must face real consequences, said Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley of Boston, president of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors. The commission, he said, “is very, very concerned about this whole area of (bishops’) accountability” and has a working group drawing up recommendations for Pope Francis. The proposed new norms, the cardinal told reporters at the Vatican Feb. 7, “would allow the Church to respond in an expeditious way when a bishop has not fulfilled his obligations. We think we have come up with some very practical recommendations that would help to remedy the situation that is such a source of anxiety to everybody” on the pontifical commission, he said. The recommendations will be presented to Pope Francis. The cardinal and members of the commission, which includes survivors of clerical sex abuse, spoke to reporters at the end of their Feb. 6-8 meeting at the Vatican.

Obama at prayer breakfast decries faith distortions, lauds good works

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Barack Obama decried the use of “twisted and distorted”

DEMONSTRATORS SHOUT SLOGANS HOLDING PLACARDS DURING PROTEST OUTSIDE CATHEDRAL IN NEW DELHI



CNS PHOTO/ANINDITO MUKHERJEE, REUTERS

Demonstrators shout slogans as they hold placards during a protest outside Sacred Heart Cathedral in New Delhi Feb. 5. Hundreds of Christian protesters clashed with police in India’s capital as they tried to press demands for better government protection amid concern about rising intolerance after a series of attacks on churches.

faith as a wedge or a weapon in remarks Feb. 5 at the National Prayer Breakfast. The president also lauded the faith-based work typified by others on the program for the annual event, including the Sister of Mercy who co-founded Project HOME, a Philadelphia program that aims to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty; and Dr. Kent Brantly, the physician affiliated with Samaritan’s Purse, who returned from Liberia last year with Ebola. “Around the world, we see faith inspiring people to lift up one another — to feed the hungry and care for the poor, comfort the afflicted and make peace where there is strife,” Obama said, pointing to Sister Mary Scullion of Project Home and Brantly as epitomizing “faith driving us to do right.” Sister Mary and Brantly each delivered prayers at the event. But faith also is distorted and sometimes used as a weapon, Obama said. “From a school in Pakistan to the streets of Paris, we have seen violence and terror perpetrated by those who profess to stand up for faith, ... but, in fact, are betraying it,” Obama said. He singled out the Islamic State, calling it “a brutal, vicious death cult that, in the name of religion, carries out unspeakable acts of barbarism — ter-

rorizing religious minorities like the Yezidis, subjecting women to rape as a weapon of war, and claiming the mantle of religious authority for such actions.”

Assisted suicide bills working their way through states, courts

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Assisted suicide is legal in only four states currently, but several other jurisdictions are considering passing legislation to legalize the practice. If there is a saving grace, it is that no federal legislation to enshrine physician-assisted suicide in law is planned. Actually, two previous federal laws addressed assisted suicide, according to Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities. A 1997 law called the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act “keeps federal money out of all assisted suicide,” Doerflinger said. When Oregon established its assisted suicide law, the state “had to create an entirely separate account with state funds,” he added. The other law is the more recent Affordable Care Act, passed in 2010. “We have pro-

life problems with the Affordable Care Act, but this is one of the victories,” Doerflinger told Catholic News Service. There is a provision in it that prevents state or local governments receiving federal funds to implement the law from withholding funds from those individuals or institutions which refuse to participate in assisted suicide. The state on most people’s radar screen on the issue is the nation’s largest, California. The Golden State was the home of Brittany Maynard, who moved to Oregon last year after she discovered she had terminal cancer.

Vatican makeover: New restrooms offer showers, barbershop for homeless

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Hot showers, a soapy shave and spiffy haircuts are available for free for those whom the Vatican calls “our homeless pilgrims.” Thanks to charitable contributions from Pope Francis and private donors, the Vatican has finished remodeling and expanding a public bathroom a few steps from Bernini’s Colonnade, surrounding St. Peter’s Square. The Vatican announced Feb. 6 that the construction work was finished and

that the updated bathrooms now include three showers and a barber’s chair. Free haircuts will be offered every Monday by volunteer barbers and students graduating from hairstylist school. Most barbershops and hair salons are closed on Mondays in Italy, making it the one day of the week hairstylists are easily available to volunteer their services. The showers will be open every day except Wednesdays — general audience day — and days when other large events are planned in St. Peter’s Square or the basilica, the Vatican said. “Our pilgrims without a home will receive, along with a shower, a complete change of underwear and a kit with a towel, soap, toothpaste, razor, shaving cream and deodorant, according to different individual needs,” the Vatican said in a communique.

Basilica title seen as call ‘to share love of Jesus with more fervor’

ROYAL OAK, Mich. (CNS) — The National Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak has been raised to national prominence again, being designated by the Vatican as the second minor basilica in Michigan and the 82nd in the United States. In 1998, the U.S. bishops designated it as a national shrine to St. Therese of Lisieux, known as the “Little Flower.” The basilica honor, conferred by the pope through the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, culminates a years-long application process by which shrine officials had to demonstrate the site’s worthiness as a “center of active and pastoral liturgy,” as well as meet other historical, architectural and ecclesial criteria. “The essence of being a national shrine — and now a minor basilica — is drawing people closer to the Lord by providing a place for prayer, and where one’s spiritual life can be refreshed, energized and deepened,” said Father Robert Fisher, pastor of the National Shrine of the Little Flower Parish, which is in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

IMF offers debt relief, grants for three African nations hit by Ebola

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The three West African nations stricken by the Ebola epidemic will receive \$330 million of financing aimed at helping them better combat the disease. The funding, which includes \$170 million in debt forgiveness and grants for debt relief, comes through the International Monetary Fund following months of negotiations among a network of advocacy organizations and the world’s richest nations. The funding initially will help Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone in their efforts to contain the Ebola epidemic that the World Health Organization estimates claimed nearly 9,000 lives as of Feb. 2. At the peak of the crisis, Guinea was spending more on its debt payments than it was on public health needs, said Eric LeCompte, executive director of the debt-relief organization Jubilee USA, which had advocated for the plan since August.

Saint Joseph to present 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

SOUTH BEND — The Saint Joseph High School Drama Club will present "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Feb. 26-27 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 28 at 2 p.m., at the Everest-Rohrer Chapel/Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," a musical with lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, is based on the coat of many colors story of Joseph from the Book of Genesis.

Student, pianist and composer John Griffith is playing the character Joseph. He notes that Saint Joseph High School historically puts on fantastic musicals and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" will be no exception.

"It's pretty exciting. It's a really big part," said Griffith. "It will be a very enjoyable and relaxing experience to see the show."

Dr. Zirkle to stay on as president of Ancilla College

DONALDSON — When it comes to "interim" appointments some organizations bring in a temporary person to fill a job, but Ancilla College has taken the step of making Dr. Ken



KEN ZIRKLE

Zirkle a more permanent fixture on campus. During an executive session by the Board of Trustees at Ancilla College at the December 2014 board meeting, the board voted unanimously to extend Zirkle's contract and name him president of Ancilla College.

This extension removes "interim" from his title and appoints him as president. The news brings consistency to Ancilla during a time of change with the board also approving a new residence hall for the fall 2015 semester. Zirkle's contract is for another year or as he says, "Until I am no longer needed."

Zirkle said, "The past seven months at Ancilla College have been very challenging and extremely enjoyable. I am blessed to be working with a body of professionals who are committed to helping our students achieve beyond their wildest dreams."

He continued, "Ancilla College is a treasure and serves a very special and needed purpose in the realm of higher education in north central Indiana. I am excited to be able to play a part in assisting in the future growth and development of such a special institution."

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

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. AUGUSTINE HOSTS VIEWING OF 'SISTERS OF SELMA'



ANNIE TARDY

Over 100 people of different ages, races, parish affiliations and faith backgrounds gathered at St. Augustine Parish in South Bend on Thursday, Feb. 5, to view the PBS documentary "Sisters of Selma: Bearing Witness to Change." During the ensuing discussion, "Catholics, Blacks and the Civil Rights Movement," vivid testimonies and emotions were shared by attendees, including Franciscan Sister Anna Marie and Franciscan Sister Jane Marie, both Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration who were present at St. Joseph Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, when Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was brought there on April 4, 1968 after being shot. The Black Catholic Advisory Board of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend organized the Black History event.

BISHOP CELEBRATES MASS AT DROP-IN CENTER FOR HOMELESS



ALLISON CIRAULO

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass at Our Lady of the Road on Feb. 6. The drop-in center for the homeless is run by the St. Peter Claver Catholic Worker in South Bend, and offers hospitality in the form of wintertime "Weather Amnesty" beds as well as breakfast, showers and laundry services on weekend mornings. The St. Peter Claver Catholic Worker community practices the works of mercy in the tradition of Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin.

Redeemer Radio announces new board members

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio has announced four appointments to its Board of Directors. Jeremy Reidy has been named board chair. Russ Suever has been named vice chair, and Cathy Edwards, board secretary. In addition, Julianne Toenges has been elected to the board.

Michael Landrigan, outgoing board chair, said of the transition, "When my term started, we had no idea of the challenges and opportunities that God would provide us. I am proud of the faith-filled response of our board, our dedicated staff and our hundreds of volunteers in stepping forward and finding solutions that have allowed us to broadcast Redeemer Radio throughout the diocese. ... I am also deeply grateful that Jeremy Reidy has agreed to serve as our next board chair. I have every confidence in him and in the continued success of Redeemer Radio."

Reidy, an attorney at Barnes and Thornburg LLP located in Fort Wayne, previously held the position of board secretary. Suever, retired from Lincoln Financial Group, remains as head of the Expansion Committee in addition to his new position of vice chairmen. Edwards is a corporate development account executive at WFWA PBS39 Fort Wayne. Toenges assumes the previously vacant role of Development Committee chair.

During Landrigan's three year term, both he and Reidy were instrumental in Redeemer's growth from one station in 2012 to three stations — WRDF 106.3 FM, WRDI 95.7 FM and WRRO 89.9 FM — by the end of December 2014.

BISHOP PERRY SPEAKS ABOUT FATHER AUGUSTUS TOLTON SAINTHOOD CAUSE



PROVIDED BY DANIELLE COLLINS

During Catholic Schools Week, Bishop Dwenger High School students in Fort Wayne gathered for an all-school assembly with Bishop Joseph Perry, auxiliary bishop of Chicago. Bishop Perry presented on the life and cause for canonization of Servant of God Father Augustus, the first African-American priest in the United States. Following the presentation, Bishop Perry celebrated Mass with a theology class. Bishop Perry, who is the diocesan postulator for the cause of canonization of Father Augustus Tolton, also spoke at Bishop Luers High School on Jan. 29.

Spirit of hospitality fills the halls of St. John the

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — St. John the Baptist School student body, staff and administrators were honored by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' first pastoral visit to their building on a snowy Feb. 4. The long anticipated morning began with an all-school Mass celebrated by Bishop Rhoades and St. John pastor Father Daniel Whelan and Father James Bromwich, who are in residence there.

Bishop Rhoades began the Mass by expressing his joy at sharing the day with the welcoming students and staff at St. John the Baptist School. In his homily he referenced the Gospel of the day, encouraging the students to believe in Jesus and be faithful to God. "The message," said Bishop Rhoades, "is about faith in God and in Jesus the Son of God. With faith we experience the power of God in our lives. ... Jesus is always with us and always at our side."

Bishop Rhoades encouraged the congregation of attentive students, teachers and friends to think about those who suffer and ways, like Pope Francis who has a heart for people who have suffered, "that you can reach out to those suffering."

Concluding the Mass the bishop expressed his gratitude for the invitation to visit and for all those who assisted at Mass praising the readers, choir, "who sounds like a chorus of angels," and parishioners who support St. John the Baptist School.

Bishop Rhoades added, "And I thank the teachers and staff for your witness of faith and all you do to help these children grow in their Catholic faith."

Father Whelan, a member of the Sons of St. Philip Neri, a community-in-formation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri along with Father James Bromwich, was pleased to welcome Bishop Rhoades to the parish and said, "It's a great honor to have our chief shepherd come to the parish to celebrate Mass. ... I'm happy to have the bishop see the beautiful liturgy we have here at St. John's."

The energetic students were respectful and attentive as Father Whelan escorted Bishop Rhoades to a classroom in each grade level, where he learned about each classroom's adopted saint as well as the academic and religious studies taking place. Following a spirited question-and-answer period that included thought provoking questions on the Bible, saints and other information as well as personal inquiries including

the bishop's favorite leisure activities, the bishop invited the students to pray with him and receive a blessing.

Lunch was a special event at which Bishop Rhoades was charmed by the creative saint centerpieces the eighth-grade students designed for the occasion. Marking the bishop's place was a miniature rendition of himself replete with crozier, red zucchetto and pectoral cross. Following lunch, which included a global slide show, the bishop was invited to play a Catholic trivia game with a question from each grade level. A correct answer awarded the bishop not only cheers and laughter from the student body but funds raised by St. John's student council to be donated to his charity of choice — the Women's Care Center. Bishop Rhoades was also gifted with a St. John the Baptist School Eagle bag with window sticker, T-shirt and blanket presented by student council president Abbey Grabner and her kindergarten buddy Alice Serrani.

Bishop Rhoades thanked the student body and staff for an impressive and enjoyable morning and asked them to pray for him as he will pray for them.

St. John the Baptist School educates the minds and hearts of 262 students grades preschool through 8 and has been considered an "anchor" in the south Fort Wayne neighborhood. St. John's is truly a neighborhood school to which many of its students still walk or ride their bikes. Parent involvement helps create the strong family atmosphere enjoyed by the students and dedicated staff there.

The A-rated school supports morning and afternoon classes for preschool students, ages 3-4 as well as full-day kindergarten. It boasts a fine arts program, clubs and athletics as well as a before and after school program. School Choice vouchers are welcome. And in addition to its exemplary academic standards, St. John provides a safe and healthy atmosphere in which faith and moral growth can flourish.

According to the mission statement of the school, "St. John the Baptist Catholic School will provide a solid Catholic education that prepares students to lead holy and honorable lives for Christ, to become faithful leaders in the community and thus attain eternal happiness with God."

This Christ-centered education, says interim Principal Barbara Cumberland, focuses on the whole child. "Academic success is important but with the moral and social teachings that are imparted through our

Catholic faith and the love of Christ, our students have the foundation to lead a successful and, more importantly, moral life."

Father Whelan agrees and adds, "We emphasize our faith by having strong liturgy, Eucharistic Adoration, and the love of Mary."

Carol McArdle has taught first grade at St. John School for over 30 of her 42 years in education. She and her siblings are all alum of the school, where she has taught many of her nieces and nephews. McArdle says she enjoys "coming to work every day to be a part of the tremendous student and parent family at St. John."

Rachael Eyrich, a parishioner since 2000, has three of her four children enrolled at St. John School. Eyrich, whose fourth-grade daughter Gianna read the first reading beautifully at the morning Mass, says she "loves the school."

"It's a constant in our lives. It helps us as parents to instill Catholic values in our kids," she says.

Five of Kris Lehner's six children are students at St. John's. Lehner, who has been a parishioner at St. John since coming into the Church 15 years ago, says of the school, "It's a good solid community. Father Daniel has brought so much to the school. I have confidence in sending my kids here. They're not just learning religion, but are able to talk about it wherever they are."



BY KAY COZAD

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, center, stands with Father Daniel Whelan, pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, and interim Principal Barbara Cumberland under the school's welcome banner honoring his pastoral visit Feb. 4.



BY TESS STEFFEN

Students pray in Carol McArdle's first-grade classroom on Feb. 4. McArdle has taught first grade at St. John School for over 30 of her 42 years in education.

Baptist School



BY KAY COZAD

Students of St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne pray at an all-school Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at his first pastoral visit to the school on Feb. 4.



BY TESS STEFFEN

Following lunch at St. John the Baptist School, students there question Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a Catholic trivia game, which awarded him funds for his favorite charity. Interim Principal Barbara Cumberland stands in back.

Marking Bishop Rhoades' lunch seat was a miniature rendition of himself replete with crozier, red zucchetto and pectoral cross, created by St. John the Baptist eighth-grade students for his pastoral visit on Feb. 4.



BY KAY COZAD



BY KAY COZAD

Bishop Rhoades questions students of St. John the Baptist School during his homily at an all-school Mass celebrated during his pastoral visit on Feb. 4.



BY KAY COZAD

St. John the Baptist School was established in 1929 and educates the minds and hearts of 262 students.

St. John the Baptist School
 4500 Fairfield Ave, Fort Wayne
 Est. 1929

- Interim Principal, Barbara Cumberland
- Grades preschool-8
- 262 students
- 18 teachers, seven staff members

www.stjohnsfw.org • 260-456-3321

K.I.S.S. — Keep it simple sinner

BY FATHER JAMES SHAFER

Growing up in a Catholic home, Lent was one of my favorite Church seasons. It was not because of the “penances” my mother imposed on all of us — we all fasted and abstained regardless of age — nor was it because I enjoyed the severity of the season. I think I liked it because it was different from the rest of the year and I felt like I was doing something with my faith. I remember going to Stations of the Cross, fish on all Fridays and the endless list of things given up. And, too, I remember failing at many of my Lenten resolutions ... and having much Catholic guilt about it.

Over the years, I have fallen more deeply in love with this holy season of Lent. My personal practice of it has deepened and my understanding about it is much enriched. I now know that it is about my personal baptismal relationship with God. I now know that it is about sharpening my spiritual focus, about getting off the treadmill of sin, about increas-

ing the feeding of my soul. It is a 40-day examination and retreat on my spiritual well being.

In relationship with all of that and the past 40 years of experience as a priest, a few years ago I approached my parishioners with a new plan for engaging this Lenten season. My experience taught me that I was usually not successful in my Lenten endeavors; that I normally proposed much and produced little; that I ended up more frustrated than renewed.

Soooooo — how about K.I.S.S., Keep It Simple Sinner. I proposed a plan I called 1-1-1. I would focus on ONE sin that I would really work on, some failure in my God/Church relationship, something perhaps habitual that was interfering with my personal relations with God or others or self.

Secondly, I would add in ONE spiritual exercise to feed my soul — Scripture reading, extra Masses, rosary, Stations, Adoration, etc. This addition would help to spur growth in my faith life.

And thirdly, I would make

ONE sacrifice that would remind me of my longing for God and going home one day. It would be a denial that I would feel, sense, know I was doing and why I was doing it. It would not be silly or frivolous or easy — something tough — like giving up electronics, texting, TV, games or any “toys” of life that were possessing me. And every time I missed it, I would remind myself that the longing I had for it was a mere wisp of the longing of my soul for a love life with God.

All of the above plan presumes I will pray and think about my upcoming Lent. I have to plan it and desire it or I will not do it. I have to set my will to enter wholeheartedly into this beautiful and holy season, embrace it with every ounce of strength I have.

Satan wishes me to be unsuccessful in drawing closer to the Lord. The Evil One wants me to fail. So the will must be firmly set. With a 1-1-1 plan in place before Ash Wednesday, the blessing of those holy ashes will have something to fall upon in my heart when I receive it on Ash Wednesday.

A Blessing of Ashes — something that has died and become something else — now blesses my Lenten journey — so something in me can die and become something else — more in my Church, in my Catholic faith, in my God who loves me. Enjoy your Lent and smile a bunch! Happy Lent!

Father James Shafer is the pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne.



One SIN
One SPIRITUAL EXERCISE
One SACRIFICE



Join Father Tim Wrozek
on a Pilgrimage to
Italy
October 5 - 15, 2015

You are invited to
a tour information meeting at St. Joseph Church,
corner of Brooklyn and Hale Avenues, Fort Wayne,
Sunday, February 15, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.
Please call 260-432-4010 or email frogheart@comcast.net
for more information and to leave a message for Father Tim.

<http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/#eotours>

Click on: “Know your tour information” in the blue field. Type in: Tour: IT15

Date: 10 05 15 Choose: W ID# 33357 Click on “Find your tour”

in the blue field at bottom of screen. Click on “Download a brochure”

Enjoy Daily Mass with Father Tim • Stay in First Class Hotel Rooms
Cost is all-inclusive from Fort Wayne • Daily Buffet Breakfast & Dinner
Deluxe Motorcoaches • Tours and Guided Sightseeing from Milan to Rome

CRS offers Lenten video series

“What Is Lent?” is an eight video series that features prominent Catholic leaders including Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop Paul Coakley, Archbishop José Gomez and Father James Martin, exploring such central Lenten themes as prayer, fasting, almsgiving, solidarity and more.

Throughout Lent, Catholic Relief Services will share these videos on CRS’ social media and other communications channels. The series will inspire people to reflect on the meaning of Lent, and take part in CRS Rice Bowl as a way to connect their prayers, fasting and almsgiving to make a positive difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in need around the world.

Visit crsricebowl.org/what-is-lent

Become islands of mercy in the sea of world’s indifference, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians are called to overcome apathy, discouragement and pretensions of self-sufficiency by letting God enter into their hearts, making them joyful, merciful and strong, Pope Francis said.

Through prayer, charity and humility before God, people receive a heart “which is firm and merciful, attentive and generous, a heart which is not closed, indifferent or prey to the globalization of indifference,” the pope said in his message for Lent, which begins Feb. 18 for Latin-rite Catholics.

In fact, the individualistic “selfish attitude of indifference has taken on global proportions,” turning it into “one of the most urgent challenges” that “we, as Christians, need to confront,” the pope wrote.

Released by the Vatican Jan. 27, the text of the pope’s Lenten message focused on the need for inner conversion and renewal, with the title, “Make your hearts firm,” which is from the Letter of James.

A firm heart is strong and steadfast against temptation and evil, but it is also open to God, capable of being “pierced by the Spirit,” touched by His love and moved to share it with others, he said.

“When the people of God are converted to His love, they find answers to the questions that history continually raises,” the pope said, including the pressing problem today of “the globalization of indifference.”

“Indifference to our neighbor and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians,” he said, which means the Church, parish communities and lay people need regular reflection and “interior renewal, lest we become indifferent and withdraw into ourselves.”

God’s love breaks down the walls of “that fatal withdrawal into ourselves, which is indifference,” he said.

By receiving Jesus, by listening to His word, receiving the sacraments and engaging in prayer, “we become what we receive: the Body of Christ,” which is a living, united communion of members that share their gifts and leave “no room for indifference.”

Parishes and Catholic organizations, too, must share and care for the weakest, poorest and most marginalized, refusing to “take refuge in a universal love that would embrace the whole world, while failing to see the Lazarus sitting before our closed doors.”

May Catholic communities “become islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference,” the pope said.

The Church and its organizations must go out to ends of the earth by praying with the Church in heaven and engaging with the wider world, he said.

Even the faithful who are now in heaven have not turned their backs “on the sufferings of the world,” rejoicing “in splendid isolation,” rather, they want Christ’s “victory of love” to penetrate the whole world, which is why they accompany those on earth as they continue God’s work, he said.

God calls every man and woman to Him, he said. That is why “in each of our neighbors, then, we must see a brother or sister for whom Christ died and rose again” and recognize that “all that our brothers and sisters possess is a gift for the Church and all of humanity.”

The best way for Catholics not to be overwhelmed by so much bad news in the world and to avoid the “spiral of distress and powerlessness,” he said, is to become united in prayer, to concretely help others and to see suffering as an occasion for one’s own conversion.

Safety net

After spending some time talking with a woman I met whose husband died suddenly a little over a year ago, a painfully familiar topic arose. "I just don't feel safe in this world anymore. Since Jim died, I feel weak and vulnerable," she lamented, informing me that she and Jim had been happily married for 34 years. She asked me if that feeling ever goes away.

I was suddenly whisked back in time to when shortly after my own husband Trent died suddenly, I experienced that very same frightening sensitivity. His death left me feeling exposed on all sides, the sole protector of not only myself but my two small children as well.

I can still recall mentioning over and over to anyone who would listen how vulnerable I felt — that I had lost my best friend, my safety net.

Over the years I have learned that feeling unsafe comes with

the grief territory. My reaction to my new singular situation was natural. I came to realize over time that lovingly partnering with someone in life typically creates a powerful force. Unfortunately, that realization was born of the loss of that partnering in my life.

So there I was left to my own devices with my two little girls to face the world and whatever challenges came my way. Yes, I had definitely lost my safety net.

Trent had been the major breadwinner in our little family. But more than that, he was my knight in shining armor who rescued me when my car broke down, brought me flowers after a particularly rough day, was as invested in our children's welfare as I was, partnered with me in all our family's decisions and much, much more. I learned rather quickly that there was more to feeling safe than just physical protection.

So as I formed my answer



KAY COZAD

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

to this newly bereaved widow's question, I found I had much to share with her. "Yes," I told her, "You will eventually feel safe again in this world if you mourn your dear husband's death well."

Our conversation turned then to some of what constitutes mourning well — allowing yourself to be who you are in the upheaval of grief, educating yourself on the truths about grief to become better prepared for what may come, taking gentle care of yourself as you

HOPE, PAGE 12

Forgiven, we are cured



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 1:40-45

The first reading for this weekend comes from the Book of Leviticus. In sequence, Leviticus is the fourth book in modern translations of the Bible. As such, it is part of the Pentateuch. The Pentateuch includes the five books of the Bible attributed to Moses. These five books are the Torah.

The Pentateuch forms the fundamental law, and philosophy, of Judaism, both in current understandings and in ancient practices as well.

In this reading, God speaks to Moses and to Aaron, the brother of Moses. The topic is leprosy. Today it is not known whether these references to leprosy in the Scriptures referred to Hansen's disease, or to some other illness. However, regardless of the exact scientific nature of what the ancients called leprosy, the problem was chronic and severe.

An entire social system developed around the disease. Victims were outcasts. They suffered being shunned, but they also most often virtually had to forage for food and search for any shelter they could find.

Ancient Jews would never blame God for the fact of such a serious malady. God was regarded as good, loving and

merciful. The ancient Hebrews saw human sin as ultimately the cause of all earthly misery.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians furnishes this liturgy with its second reading. In this reading, the great Apostle counsels the Christians of Corinth never to offend either Jew or Gentile. This advice reveals that the Corinthian Christian community involved both Jews and Gentiles. Jews actually lived in places throughout the Roman Empire, not just in the Holy Land.

Paul urges that the Christians follow his example, because Paul says that he imitates Christ.

For its last reading, the Church gives us a passage from the Gospel of Mark.

In this reading, a leper approaches Jesus, asking for a cure. The same attitude about leprosy, whatever this disease actually was, applied among Jews at the time of Jesus as it did among Jews at the time of Moses.

Jesus cured the man, the Lord being "moved with pity," according to Mark. This cure came when Jesus touched the man. Symbolic touching is very important in the liturgy. It represents contact and transferal. In Ordinations, the ordaining bishop lays his hands upon the candidates to be ordained bishop, priest or deacon. At weddings, the bride and bridegroom hold each other's hands.

Jesus transmitted the healing power of God to the man through this touch. Then, Jesus spoke the miraculous words of healing.

The Lord ordered the man to go to the priests. The man had been exiled from the community because of his illness. The priests could reinstate him. But, the priests had to see that he was free of disease.

Reflection

These weeks after Christmas, the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, and the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Church continues through these Scriptural readings at Mass to introduce us to the person and ministry of Jesus.

In the readings this weekend, the horror of leprosy, as it was seen among Jews long ago, is critical to understanding the readings. It is necessary to apply the circumstances to ourselves.

As did leprosy, sin leads to death. Furthermore, it separates us from the one community of faith in the Lord. We sinners are outcasts and strangers, left to struggle in any way we can, and this is the problem.

Living in sin is to be in a world in which selfishness is supreme. Jesus, always moved by love, cures us by forgiving our sins. Forgiven, we enter again the family of God. Life, not death, is our destiny.

The key is to have faith, repent and live according to the Lord's model, as Paul lived. This model means living with Jesus.

READINGS

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 1 Cor 10:31 — 11:1 Mk 1:40-45

Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25 Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10 Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14, 17 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6b, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32

Where will Lent take you this year?

This Lent, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) invites us all to live in solidarity with our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. CRS Rice Bowl celebrates 40 years of our faith-in-action program for families and faith communities.

With CRS Rice Bowl, we journey through Lent with daily reflections from our Lenten calendar and on our CRS Rice Bowl mobile app. We also offer suggestions for small sacrificial gifts to fill your Rice Bowl and Stories of Hope from around the world where CRS works. Depending on your vocation and/or ministry, CRS Rice Bowl has something to offer you on your Lenten journey.

Bring your parish community together for simple meals and prayerful reflection.

- Pray the CRS Rice Bowl Stations of the Cross, which are based in Catholic social teaching.

- Gather for a simple meal using the CRS Rice Bowl meatless recipes.

Live global solidarity in your family with families around the world.

- Place your family's Rice Bowl on the center of your table.

- Start or end each day with a reflection or "Story of Hope" from CRS Rice Bowl.

Encourage your students to explore tenets of the Catholic faith in a global context.

- Go to crsricebowl.org to get our "Educator's Guide," which includes lesson plans for grades 1-8.

- For high school and youth ministry resources, download or order our "Youth in Solidarity" resources and bring Catholic social teaching alive.

Discover what it means to be an individual in a global community.

- Download the CRS Rice Bowl mobile app to get daily reflections

CRS RICE BOWL

MELISSA WHEELER

sent right to your phone.

- Bring your friends together and reflect on being a global citizen in the Catholic Church and with our "Community Reflections" resource found at crsricebowl.org.

Reflect on what it means to be a diverse Church.

- CRS Rice Bowl resources are available in Spanish and English. For Spanish resources, go to crsplatodearroz.org to share the global solidarity message.

- Download our bilingual mobile app at the Google Play Store or iTunes.

Everyone can follow our Rice Bowl journey with our weekly reflections right here in *Today's Catholic*. Each week we will focus on one theme of Catholic social teaching.

Week One: Dignity of the Human Person

Week Two: Care for Creation
Week Three: Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers

Week Four: Option for the Poor
Week Five: Call to Family, Community and Participation

Week Six: The Common Good
Be sure to pick up your Rice Bowl in your parish before Ash Wednesday. To order a free Rice Bowl, visit crsricebowl.org or call 800-222-0025.

Melissa Wheeler is the diocesan director for Catholic Relief Services.

Saint of the Week



Apollonia

died circa 249
Feast February 9

A middle-aged deaconess in Alexandria, Apollonia was martyred there when mobs roamed the streets torturing and killing Christians. Her death was described by St. Dionysius of Alexandria in a letter to the bishop of Antioch: "Next they seized the wonderful old lady Apollonia, battered her till they knocked out all her teeth, built a pyre ... and threatened to burn her alive unless she repeated after them their heathen incantations." She refused and jumped into the fire on her own. St. Augustine later said she must have been directed in this by the Holy Spirit. The patron of dentists, Apollonia is also invoked for toothaches and gum disease. U.S. dental societies and journals have taken her name.

It's a God thing

In recent years, people who are in the hospital are likely to be seen by unfamiliar doctors. With all the healthcare changes, the landscape on how patients are cared for has changed significantly. You can no longer expect to see your own doctor. In most cases it will be a hospitalist or one of your doctor's associates taking care of you. The majority of primary care physicians no longer make rounds on their hospitalized patients. I hate to admit it but it's the same in my cardiology practice even though I strongly disagree with the concept and lobbied against it.

Many of my patients have been quite verbal about not seeing me when they are sick and in the hospital. I am personally only on service (working in the hospital) about one week out of four. This just represents one more strike against the evolving new healthcare system that for the most part has been forced on us all, putting efficiency above patient care. Recently, I was on service and what happened that week was really quite unusual. In a normal week I might have a handful of my personal patients that need to be hospitalized for various problems like congestive heart failure or unstable angina. But this week, I had three of my very long-term patients require hospital admission AND they were all entering into the last days of their life. I have learned after many years of practice that one of the most important things I can do as a doctor is to help people die peacefully and with dignity. Let me share the story of one of these patients (anonymously of course).

I had the honor of taking care of him for many years. He never complained about his very significant heart disease or

why he was afflicted with such. He lived an amazingly active life despite his cardiovascular disease. His wife always greeted me with a wonderful smile and was totally dedicated to her man. Although he had advanced heart disease he entered the hospital this time with rapidly progressing metastatic cancer. Three months earlier when I saw him in the office he made me aware that his cancer was back, but he and his wife were still hopeful.

As it turns out, I was on call the same day he was admitted, and late that night I was on the floor evaluating a patient. At this point, I didn't even know that the hospitalist team had admitted him. Suddenly, I heard a stat page and multiple people running past the nursing station where I was working. A quick glance up told me they were all entering a room about 20 yards away. I went down the hall to see if I could be of assistance and, as I entered the room I recognized a beautiful elderly woman at the bedside. We made eye contact and she subsequently blurted out "Dr. Kaminskas, thank God you are here." Her husband was MY patient and lay in the bed unresponsive. He always was a small man but I immediately noticed that he had lost at least 20 pounds since I last saw him.

I talked with his wife, family members and his nurse, and after examining the patient determined that he was in the process of dying. Because I knew the patient so well, the family and I were able to promptly make decisions together about his wishes at end-of-life. If I had not happened to be there at exactly that time, the responding doctors, who would not have known the patient or the situation, would have intubated him and placed him on

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

a respirator since there had been no specific advanced directives placed on his chart. His last hours or now maybe days would have been on life support, which could only prolong his suffering since he was at the end of his life.

As it turns out this patient died comfortably and with dignity just hours later with his family at the bedside. For as it says in Revelation 21:4: "He shall wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, crying out or pain, for the former world has passed away." Thank you, Lord, for putting me at the right place at the right time. This had to be a God thing.

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.

can try on different styles until we find the one that fits us and gives us the assurance that safety can come from our own faithful strivings.

network of trusted associates to assist me with those issues I needed help with. The rest I've taken on myself, with some failures, but just as many successes. All this has worked to build my confidence and sense of personal safety that I longed for after Trent's death. I'm always proud to report that I once put in a new garbage disposal all on my own.

But beyond all that may seem trivial to some, in my grief work I have learned that being left without a safety net affords the bereaved the opportunity to be alone in their grief and find out what they are really made of. Feeling alone without a safety net is a painful and frightening situation but it may also be the time when God gently moves in to draw us closer to Him and show us just how strong our spirits are. He shows us that we are never truly alone or without a safety net. Being vulnerable in our grief gives us the chance to open our broken hearts to a new way of being, where we

HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

experience the chaos of grief, finding personally fitting ways to acknowledge and express your feelings about your loss, seeking and accepting support, allowing the pain to transform you into a new being and moving forward with your loved one's memory planted firmly in your healing heart.

I relayed to her that after my husband's death as I struggled with this sense of vulnerability, I found myself faced with myriad issues that Trent was no longer available to handle, from finding trusted help with finances and car repair to maintaining our home and educational decisions for the girls. Over time I found inner strength and some creative ingenuity that I never knew I possessed.

I told her it was by trial and error that I have formed a

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for February 15, 2015

Mark 1:40-45

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: News of Jesus spreads. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BEGGED	MAKE ME	CLEAN
LEPROSY	LEFT HIM	WARNING
SEE THAT	BUT GO	SHOW
THE PRIEST	OFFER	MOSES
SPREAD	JESUS	ENTER
A TOWN	OPENLY	OUTSIDE
PLACES	PEOPLE	EVERYWHERE

NEWS SPREADS

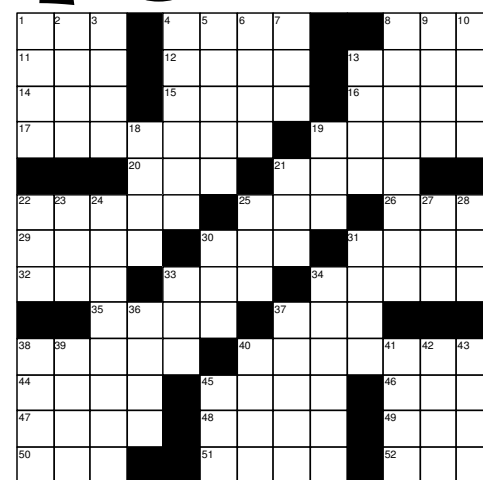
```

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

© 2015 Tri-C-A Publications www.tri-c-a-publications.com

The CrossWord

February 15 and 22, 2015



© 2015 www.tri-c-a-publications.com

Based on these Scripture Readings: Mk 1:40-45 and Gen 9:8-15; 1Pt 3:18-22 and Mk 1:12-15

ACROSS

- 1 Presbyterian Church in America
- 4 Parent groups
- 8 South by east
- 11 __ Father, Who art....
- 12 __ Major (Big Dipper)
- 13 One of Noah's sons
- 14 Kimono sash
- 15 Grating sound
- 16 Song of Songs is like one
- 17 Front bowling pin
- 19 Lent's length
- 20 Queasy
- 21 Sheet of matted cotton
- 22 Spirit sets _____

- 25 Cardinals have "the red ____"
- 26 "____ this bread"
- 29 Preparation for Easter
- 30 Sun tinged
- 31 Wager
- 32 Advertisements
- 33 Place
- 34 Jesus is, from dead
- 35 Repent
- 37 He had five loaves, two fish
- 38 Carry off
- 40 First book of Old Testament
- 44 At God's right ____
- 45 Jumps
- 46 Central Daylight Time

- 47 Youth club
- 48 Margarine
- 49 Monk brew
- 50 Supersonic transport
- 51 Cootie
- 52 Kitten's cry

Down

- 1 Winnie the ____
- 2 Office space
- 3 Opera solo
- 4 Lent's color
- 5 Pathway
- 6 Association (abbr.)
- 7 Exhaust
- 8 Abridges
- 9 Root vegetable
- 10 TV award
- 13 Descry
- 18 Baptism is not about washing this
- 19 "____ Tuesday"
- 21 Outlaw
- 22 Wing
- 23 Gave animals food
- 24 Natural tendency
- 25 Noah's other son (See 13A)
- 27 Dined
- 28 # of Commandments
- 30 Can metal
- 31 Helper
- 33 Noah's boat
- 34 Redeem
- 36 U.S. Ag. Dept.
- 37 Jesus healed many a ____
- 38 Reasons
- 39 Easter meats
- 40 Market in New Delhi
- 41 Fraud
- 42 Bored
- 43 Thick soup
- 45 Sow's mate

Answer Key can be found on page 15

Sports

ALL-NIC WRESTLING TEAM NAMED Three Saint Joseph High School wrestlers have been named to the All-NIC Team. Jared Kazmierczak and Norm Hezlep were named to the Second Team. Brendan Makowski earned Honorable Mention.

CYO teams gear up for tournaments

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — As the regular season comes to a close, CYO teams are gearing up for tournament play. According to Coach Dan O'Brien, his St. Vincent Panthers are well positioned for the post-season.

"For us, the game revolves around defense," he said. "It sets the tone for everything that happens. We are finally almost healthy, still have some aches and pains, but are able to play through them. We have really been able to establish unselfish team play and put forth defensive efforts that others are having a hard time scoring against."

In other girls' action, Coach Christine Nix and the St. Jude seventh graders lost a hard-fought battle to St. Elizabeth, 18-21, on Feb. 7. The Eagles made a late rally and cut the lead to one, but the Pioneers made two free throws to build a three-point lead. St. Jude missed a three at the buzzer in an attempt to send the game into overtime, but went on to finish their regular season with a 24-16 win over St. John the Baptist, New Haven, on Sunday.

Coach Marc Munson's seventh-grade girls' team from St. Vincent finished their regular season with a perfect 8-0 record, but not without a tough battle from the defending champs, St. Charles. The Panthers beat the Cardinals, 33-32, on a free throw in the final seconds on Saturday, Feb. 7. As the top seed, St. Vincent receives a first round bye and will play their first tournament game on Thursday, Feb. 12.

The St. Charles eighth-grade squad finished the regular season

on an amazing note — not their 3-2 league record, but their final win, in overtime, with two players. Both teams played very well, but the Cardinals started with just five and had three girls foul out, leaving just two on the court to finish.

The Blue League girls' season title came down to the wire in the final game of the season with the top two teams going head to head. St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJHC) beat St. Rose-St. Louis, 26-25, on Jan. 10. But the Twins came up with a 39-30 win on Sunday, Feb. 8, so the league title will be shared as both teams finished with a 7-1 record. However, because of the point differential, St. Rose/St. Louis will be the No. 1 seed in the upcoming tournament. In their victory, Nevaeh Feasby had an outstanding performance with the first nine points for the Twins and finished as the leading scorer in the game with 13. Maggie Castleman ended up with 12, six of which came in the final quarter. Eighth-grader Liz Zelt also added six crucial points in the fourth to seal the win for St. Rose/St. Louis. The Twins jumped out to a 7-0 start and 13-4 lead after the first quarter, but the Squires outscored them, 9-2, in the second quarter to make it a two-point ballgame at the half. After three quarters of play, the score was all knotted up at 23-23 and was tied several more times in the final quarter before the Twins pulled away for good. SJHC was impressive from the free throw line hitting 15-31, while the Twins converted on just 7-21. In the loss, Jelena Girod finished with 10 points, Ali Beard had eight and just a fifth grader, Hannah Sweeney chipped in

seven off the bench for the Squires. The two teams also met in the pre-season tournament at the University of Saint Francis where the Squires won handily. Pleased with his team's effort, Twins' assistant coach Corey Sheehan explained, "It's always a good matchup when these two teams play. Our girls played harder, hustled more and played better defense than we did in our first two outings against (SJHC)." Should the two meet a fourth time this season — this time for the CYO championship — it is sure to be another battle.

In the final weekend of boys' play, St. Elizabeth 7 won their last two games. Saturday they downed St. Jude, 34-11. The Pioneers were led by Nolan Cook's nine points and Matthew Coffee's eight. On Sunday, they beat St. Joseph, Decatur, in an exciting 26-24 nail biter. Coffee again led with 10 points, eight of which came in the fourth quarter. Sam Schenkel, Sam Hathaway, Jermaine Huddleston and Grant Brough all stepped up their games in the absence of their leader, Cook, who was out with an injury. Brian Cook and his coaching staff were very proud of their squad. "It was a complete team victory," Cook summarized.

In the Blue League, Most Precious Blood beat St. Rose/St. Louis, 39-29, on Saturday. But the Twins, rebounded on Sunday to beat St. Aloysius, 43-17. August Hein and Will Oberley scored 15 each for St. Rose/St. Louis. In other final matchups, Joe Derrick reported that St. Charles topped St. John and Mike Taube turned in a win for St. Mary over St. Aloysius.

Back to the hardwoods for ICCL basketball

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — As the snows of Super Bowl weekend became a faint memory, the teams of the Inter-City Catholic League regained their territorial prowess and again owned a Sunday afternoon at Saint Joseph and Marian high schools.

The enticing battle of the day pitted Christ the King, a team just one game out of first in the St. John Bosco Division, and their feeder school rivals separated by a mere three miles, Corpus Christi.

The Kings reveled in their deep bench lined with big men and talented guard play as their opponents possessed a duo that had dotted the pages of *Today's Catholic* all season, Aston Rusczkowski and Austin Lee.

The first quarter saw both teams counter punch each other as Christ the King chose the long range method of attack and the Cougars cut and drove their way to the basket ending the stanza two points behind the Kings, 8-6.

The second six minutes were a completely different story as Chase Sumner and Mason Cross opened up with three pointers pacing the Kings with a 10-zero run, briefly stopped by a Rusczkowski free throw. Then Christ the King's big man Garrett Stefanek had his own spurt of seven straight, pushing the mar-

gin to 14 going into intermission.

The Kings seemed to own the glass in the third, but the pesky Cougars held as Rusczkowski's three-ball as time expired kept the score reachable as the final quarter began.

The pressure of the Christ the King defense pushed the lead until the long-range assault of two threes in a row by Cougars Lee and Aiden Clark questioned the outcome.

In the end the Kings were too deep and solid defensively as they held on to a comfortable victory, 48-34, remaining just one game back of the Eagles of St. Joseph.

"When you dig a big hole it's so difficult to come back from," noted Corpus Christi Coach Rick Rusczkowski. "Our team played hard, but Christ the King hit shots when they needed to. Rebounding and fundamentals really cost us today."

"We stressed to our team continued pressure, move the ball and take good shots and those three things turned the game around," explained King Skipper David Sumner. "We had to guard their athletes, but our inside presence of Stefanek, Jeremy Klima and John Driscoll paid dividend coupled by the solid play of Sumner and Clark."

Other scores from around the league include the St. Joseph

ICCL, PAGE 14



Saint Joseph High School Girls' basketball victorious

SOUTH BEND — The Saint Joseph High School girls' basketball team won the Northern Indiana Conference last week, with their win over Washington High School. The conference win is shared in a three-way tie with Penn and Washington. The team finished regular season play with a 20-1 record.

Current seniors Michelle Weaver and Madeline Raster also both netted their 1,000 career points within the last two home games joining alum Aimee Litka (class of 2005), Melissa Lechlitner (class of 2006), Sydney Smallbone (class of 2007) and Alex Kubsch (class of 2012) in that special Saint Joe sorority.

Sectional games started Feb. 10 at Jimtown High School.

LISA KOCHANOWSKI

The Saint Joseph High School girls' basketball team won the Northern Indiana Conference and finished regular season play with a 20-1 record.

High-scoring shootout determines CYO fifth-grade championship game

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In over a quarter of a century of coaching, Tim Rooney has never witnessed anything quite like the 2015 CYO championship for his St. Elizabeth fifth graders. Not only did his team cap off a stellar season with a tournament trophy, he is sure several records had to be shattered. In a game that took two overtimes to determine a winner, St. Elizabeth slipped by St. Vincent in an amazingly, high-scoring shootout, 72-71.

Also unbelievable was young Jared Frey's performance — pumping in 50 points for the Pioneers. But it was not only Frey's offensive effort that his coach was impressed with.

"We have been on Jared about improving his defense and he really stepped up," Rooney added.

"It was an ESPN Classic! The combined point totals for the two teams and Jared's individual scoring have to be some sort of record for this grade level, if not all of CYO," insisted an elated Rooney.

But in Rooney's mind, the real story is how his team never gave up. Down 18 points in the third quarter, his squad made some adjustments, applied a



PROVIDED BY TIM ROONEY

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Pioneers were the winners of the CYO fifth-grade championship. The Pioneers defeated St. Vincent de Paul, 72-71, in a high-scoring shootout.

tougher half-court defense and came back to send the game into overtime.

During the fourth quarter rally, Brody Glenn and Andy Rooney each made key four-point plays to get the Pioneers back in the game. Then down by six in the second overtime, they still did not give up, coming back yet another time to win it all. Frey hit a trey and some key free throws to finally put the game away for St. Elizabeth.

"It was a great life lesson for our boys. No matter how bleak things may look, never give up and keep trying," he added.

Both teams came into the contest with impressive records. The Pioneers were 18-3, while St. Vincent had only loss one game — to St. Elizabeth earlier in the season. As Rooney told St. Vincent's coach, Troy Linder, "No one deserved to lose this game."

ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Eagles behind John Paul Lewis and Chris Smith's 14-point outbursts, dispatching St. Adalbert, 39-15.

The maroon-and-gold-clad Panthers of St. Anthony doubled up Holy family, 42-20, as Rayan Schmitt knocked down 17 in the victory despite the efforts and 11 points of Riley Hessey.

The Pumas of Queen of Peace and the 22-point performance of Luini Sete knocked off the Bulldogs of Our Lady of Hungary, 39-29, and squashed

the individual scoring of 16 by Christian Tate.

St. Pius X survived an ambush at the hands of the Falcons of St. Jude, 35-32, as John Brach, Alex Mossey and Joe Drelm all eclipsed the double-digit threshold in scoring.

Coley Quinn again led St. Matthew in scoring as the Blazers beat St. Thomas, 22-10. The Holy Cross Crusaders also kept pace in the St. John Bosco Division by beating the cross-town Saints of Mishawaka Catholic, 49-17.

The games that were snowed out on Super Bowl Sunday will not be made up due to scheduling concerns. The schedule for the final week of the regular season can be found at www.icclsports.org.

Boys Varsity Basketball

John Bosco	Division				Overall			
	W	L	T	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
St. Joseph-SB	6	0	0	1.000	7	0	0	1.000
Christ the King	4	1	0	0.800	6	2	0	0.750
Holy Cross	4	1	0	0.800	8	1	0	0.889
St. Anthony	2	3	0	0.400	4	3	0	0.571
Holy Family	1	4	0	0.200	1	7	0	0.125
Corpus Christi	1	4	0	0.200	3	4	0	0.429
St. Adalbert	0	5	0	0.000	0	8	0	0.000

Martin de Porres	Division				Overall			
	W	L	T	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
St. Pius X	5	0	0	1.000	6	2	0	0.750
St. Matthew	5	1	0	0.833	5	2	0	0.714
Mishawaka Catholic	4	1	0	0.800	4	3	0	0.571
St. Thomas	2	3	0	0.400	3	5	0	0.375
Our Lady	1	4	0	0.200	3	5	0	0.375
Queen of Peace	1	4	0	0.200	3	5	0	0.375
St. Jude	0	5	0	0.000	1	7	0	0.125

SERVICE DIRECTORY

A reliable source for all your service needs

The Kendzicky & Lothary Group

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



Great outcomes. Done well.

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

©2010 Robert W. Baird & Co., Incorporated Member SPIC www.rwbaird.com MC-27403



All your legal needs, we can help!

ALL INDIANA COUNTIES...

OFFICE APPOINTMENT OR WE WILL MEET YOU.

Attorney Richard J. Thonert
260-637-4040

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

MORKEN, inc.

Commercial & Industrial
ROOFING

3303 Freeman Street • Fort Wayne
432-2885

CHUCK'S FOOT SUPPORT

Shoes - Pedorthics - Repair

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



THINK GREEN
Repair it!

www.chucksfootsupport.com

Park Lake Medical Building
LEONARD J. Andorfer
& Co., LLP
2410 Lake Avenue
P.O. Box 5486
Fort Wayne 46895-5486
(260) 423-9405
Fax: (260) 422-9206

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

• Tax Planning and preparation
corporations, individuals and partnerships
• Estates and Trusts • Auditing Services
Visit us at www.ljandorfer.com

Please call Sam Haiflich for your next Auction or Appraisal
260-740-7299 Sam@bkmauction.com

17 years experience bkmauction.com
(260) 622-1000 • (260) 824-3982
1085 North Main St., Bluffton, Indiana
Parishioner-St. Aloysius, Yoder



Farm Residential Commercial
Auctioneers

SHAWNEE

Construction & Engineering

COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

7701 Opportunity Drive, Fort Wayne 46825

489-1234

\$50 OFF Carpet Cleaning!

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

JANITORIAL SERVICES

• 24 Hour
Emergency
Restoration



(260) 483-2112 www.cioccas.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or email: fhogan@diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

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, Feb. 19, at 6:30 p.m. In "Why Does Beauty Matter?: Extravagance and God," Father Jacob Meyer, parochial vicar, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, will explore common questions surrounding beauty and extravagance. At the most fundamental level, why does beauty matter, and how does it bring glory to God? Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/TOT for information.

Gorkie Zale offered

South Bend — Gorkie Zale, traditional Polish Lenten Lamentations, will be prayed at St. Adalbert Church on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. during Lent, beginning Feb. 25. English translations are available.

Lenten Day of Recollection offered

Fort Wayne — The Confraternity of Penitents will offer a Lenten Day of Recollection on Saturday, March 14, at Our Lady of the Angels Oratory, 2610 New Haven Ave. Mass at 7:45 a.m. will be followed by continental breakfast, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, Stations of the Cross, mid-day Prayer and a potluck lunch. Presenter: Brother Fidelis Maria, FBM. Catholic books, gifts available. Day ends at 1 p.m. Free will offering. For information call 260-739-6882.

Teaching Mass planned

Roanoke — Have you ever wondered about the structure or the meaning of the Mass? Father Dale Bauman will celebrate a teaching Mass at St. Joseph Church on Monday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. This is an exceptional opportunity for those in the RCIA and all who are preparing to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

St. Louis Besancon plans fish fry

New Haven — St. Louis Besancon will have a Lenten fish fry on Friday, Feb. 27, from 4-7 p.m. in the parish hall. Adult dinners are \$9.50, kids 5-12 are \$5 and kids under 5 eat for free. Carry-out available for adult dinners only.

Fish fry planned

South Bend — St. John the Baptist Parish will have a Jonah fish fry with a side salad bar on

Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 4:30-7 p.m., at Holy Family Parish Center, 56407 Mayflower Rd. Advance tickets for dine in or carry out are \$8. Children ages 5-12 are \$5. Tickets at the door are \$9. For tickets or information call 574-232-9849.

Fish fry sponsored by Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 27, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Cheese pizza will also available. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-11, and children 5 and under are free. Drive-through and carry-out available.

Fish fry by the East Race

South Bend — Knights of Columbus Council 553 Santa Maria begins their Lenten Fish Fry series on Friday, Feb. 20, from 5-7:30 p.m. Adults and carryout \$10, children 6-14 \$5 and children 5 and under are free. Lots of parking at 553 E. Washington St.

Fish fry planned

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 12417 will have a fish fry at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 St. Joe Road, on Friday, Feb. 27, from 4:30-7:30 pm. Adults are \$8.50, children 6-12 are \$4.50, and children 0-6 are free. Carry out available.

Holy Name Society fish fry

New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Feb 20, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children 5-12 \$4.50 and children under 5 free.

St. Matthew fish fry

South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 20, from 4-7 p.m. in the school gym. Tickets at the door are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children 4-12 and children age 3 and under are free. Tickets may be purchased in advance at a reduced price by calling 574-289-5539.

Fish fry planned

South Bend — St. Adalbert Parish will have a fish fry and salad bar on Friday, Feb. 20, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Adults and carry-out tickets are \$10 per person, children 5-12 \$4 and children under 5 free.

40 Days for Life

South Bend — The 40 Days for Life spring campaign begins on Wednesday, Feb. 18, with Mass at 1:30 p.m. with Father Vincent Joseph in the Chapel of Divine Mercy in the Life Center, 2018 Ironwood Circle. Father Steve Lacroix, CSC, will celebrate Mass on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 8 a.m. Prayer, fasting and keeping vigil in the Chapel of Divine Mercy or at the Prayer Peninsula next to the abortion business is encouraged during 40 Days for Life.

Catholic Apostle Build dedication set

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Apostle Build invites the faithful to join them Friday, Feb. 20, at 4 p.m. in Fuller's Landing, 4308 W. Cook Rd., as they dedicate and hand the keys to the Bakhtov family. Tours of the house and hot chocolate will be part of the celebration of the beautiful outcome of many Catholic laborers working as the hands and feet of Jesus.

Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference planned

Kokomo — Be a Family Fully Alive!, the Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference will be March 14 and 15, at Kokomo High School, 2501 S. Berkley. Hosted by St. Joan of Arc and St. Patrick Catholic Church and sponsored by the Diocese of Lafayette, St. Joseph Hospital and the Knights of Columbus, the event features speakers Dr. Edward Sri, Sister Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, Father Joseph Freedy, Lisa Cotter, Father Ricardo Pineda, CPM, and activities for children. Admission is \$50 single adult, \$100 married couple, \$30 teen (not registered with their family) and \$135 per family. Rates increase after Feb. 22. For information visit www.holyfamilyconference.org.

The CrossWord
February 15 and 22, 2015

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

REST IN PEACE

Angola

Constance Adams, 89, St. Paul Chapel

Churubusco

Leo Patrick Garlitz, 71, St. John Bosco

Fort Wayne

Judith E. Throm, 75, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Edward Anthony Morris, 72, St. Charles Borromeo

Elizabeth C. Kempf Schlatter, 91, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Sharon L. Main, 79, St. Charles Borromeo

Eloise M. Harmeyer, 88, St. Therese

Marie Catherine Herbert, Saint Anne Home

Laszlo F. Klug Sr., 73, St. John the Baptist

Marie D. Liner, 80, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

John P. St. George, 72, Queen of Angels

Granger

Wilfred J. Mayette, 80, St. Pius X

Norma I. Janczak, 88, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Richard Scott Pulaski, 53, St. Monica

Notre Dame

Sister Harriet Marie, CSC, 92, St. Mary's

Piercetown

Carolyn Olinger, 81, St. Francis Xavier

South Bend

Florian H. Moskwinski, 85, Holy Family

Richard L. Botka, 91, Holy Cross

Joseph E. Hickey, 86, St. Matthew Cathedral

Lyle W. Rinehart, 86, Corpus Christi

Joseph S. Markovich, 76, Holy Family

Cecil J. Jump, 92, Corpus Christi

Dennie M. Palmer, 60, St. Matthew

Yoder

Stanley A. Smitley, 73, St. Aloysius

John XXIII Center to hold monthly retreat on Merton

Hartford City — John XXIII Retreat Center will offer a four-session retreat series on Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk, poet, and spiritual writer. "Thomas Merton - Going Deeper into the Contemplative Tradition" will be held one Saturday a month from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the center beginning on Saturday, Feb. 28. Facilitated by Sister Joetta Huelsmann, PHJC, each session fee for the day is \$30 and lunch is provided. Register by the Monday before each session. Topics will be: Feb. 28 — "The Hunger in Thomas Merton, Personal Integrity and Sanctity of Life;" March 21 — "Seeds of Identity, Integration and The God Within;" May 9 — "Labor, Solidarity and Service and Words of God;" June 6 — "God's Will and Love is a Foundation." Register at john23rd@sbcglobal.net or call 765-348-4008 or toll-free 888-882-1391.

Mardi Gras benefits Tolton cause

South Bend — The Tolton Society of St. Augustine Parish, 1501 W. Washington St. will have a Mardi Gras with silent auction on Tuesday, Feb. 17, from 5-8 p.m. Authentic New Orleans music, gumbo and other cuisine offered. Adult tickets are \$10, youth 4-10 are \$5 and children under 3 eat free (spaghetti available). Proceeds will benefit the Cause of Sainthood for Father Augustus Tolton. Contact Annie Tardy at 574-707-1232 or Artardy@hotmail.com for information.

Knights plan Lenten fish fries

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 20 and all Fridays of Lent, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8.50, children 5-12 \$3.50. Shrimp for \$9 will be available.

The Catholic Schools Office is accepting applications for ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL St. John the Baptist School Fort Wayne, Indiana



Enrollment: 262 Grades: PreK - 8

Qualifications:

- Practicing Roman Catholic & Faithful to the Magisterium
- Teaching experience in the classroom
- Commitment to promoting a strong Catholic identity
- Hold or Eligible for Indiana Administrative License

For more information and application, contact: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

915 South Clinton Street • Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Tel: 260-422-4611 Fax: 260-426-3077

Applications available online at: www.diocesefwsb.org/Administrative-Application

Advertise in Today's Catholic. Reach over 48,000 Catholics in each issue. Call Tess at 260-399-1457.

REKINDLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and by setting my sights on the glory of heaven.”

He stressed the importance of returning to God through His gift of Reconciliation. “Enter into the mercy and goodness of God, where we are given the grace not to sin again, where we will be transformed and converted to Jesus Christ, to be liberated from shame and guilt, and able to live as a free son of God again.”

Throughout the day, the opportunity for Confession and Eucharistic Adoration was offered to all, with 476 men becoming spiritually cleansed through participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Steve Ray next spoke about the importance of personal evangelization. A convert to Catholicism and passionate apologist, Ray emphasized the necessity of talking to others about the truth and beauty of the Catholic faith who might not otherwise have access to it. “There are people out there who would love to be Catholic if someone would just take the time to listen and share with them.”

Both Ray and his wife had been raised Baptist and only began to discover the truth about Catholicism when learning about it in an attempt to point out its theological flaws and fallacies. The Rays found that their questions regarding true worship, authority and morality could only be satisfactorily answered by the Catholic Church.

After their conversion, they sought to educate their friends and the local community about the truth of Catholicism. Ray stated, “Every Sunday afternoon for two years, our home was open and we advertised, ‘If you hate the Catholic Church, tell us why.’ In a two-year period, we watched 200 people become Catholic.”

Ray, who has led hundreds of pilgrimages to the Holy Land and traced the journeys of St. Paul, urged the men in attendance to be the primary examples and leaders of faith in their families. He encouraged them to be active in the life of the Church, to participate in the sacraments and to “swim upstream to proclaim the Gospel against the devastating currents of the culture.”

Dr. John Wood, Catholic author and optometrist by profession, spoke of the desperate need for daily commitment to sanctity from all Catholics, especially husbands and fathers. “John Paul II says that, ‘If you want to destroy society, you destroy the family. If you want to destroy the family, you destroy the father; you destroy the man.’ The number one reason for poverty and for crime is fatherless children. I would also propose the reason 85 percent of Confirmation students leave the faith less than seven years later is also because of fatherless children. The man’s role is to guard and protect. We have to step it up and live our faith!” he said.

He highlighted a four-part action plan, grounded in the example and teachings of numerous holy men

and women for transforming the world and allowing ordinary people to make an extraordinary difference. These steps include “understanding the mission that we are all called to be saints, to hold one another accountable so that we may lead ourselves and others to heaven, to become immersed in the glory of Scripture and the sacraments and to sacrifice joyfully and accept suffering with love.”

Ruben Quezada spoke about the importance of teaching children proper morality and the essentials of the Catholic faith, reminding the audience that “this is a battleground, we are the Church militant, and we are responsible for leading and acting with virtue!” He implored that elected representatives be held accountable for upholding the dignity of the individual and the common good, and reminded them of the importance for all Catholics to take their duties as fathers, husbands and American citizens seriously.

Quezada, who has been particularly and personally impacted by the examples of men and women who have died for the faith, also emphasized the importance of reading the lives of the saints for gaining inspiration and courage, especially accounts of the martyrs.

A lunchtime breakout session was held for the young adults in attendance to have the opportunity to further engage with the speakers in a question-and-answer session. Each shared what they believe are the greatest threats to masculinity and the family, as well as what gives them their greatest hope for the future.

Father Muhlenkamp additionally gave a brief reflection, touching on the epidemic of pornography and sexual immorality within the culture. He shared that “across all age groups, viewing pornography is the sin most often confessed by men. In most cases, this is a symptom of the real issue of an individual lacking of true intimacy with God and others.” He shared advice and provided resources to aid men in overcoming this sin and finding ways to be held accountable in their struggle.

To conclude the conference, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass along with Father Muhlenkamp and Father Engo, assisted by Deacon Bob Byrne, St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, and Deacon Jerry Kohrman, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades touched upon the commission given by Christ to live and preach the Gospel. He implored, “My brothers in Christ, I hope that this day has been a time of grace for you, that you leave here strengthened as men of God, men on a mission. The Church needs you to bring the saving Gospel of Jesus to your families, schools or places of work, to your communities and to the world. We must go out. We can’t stay put. That’s our faith and our great hope: the victorious cross of Jesus!”

Looking for inspiration,
tips on purity?

Text “rtfpurity”
to 75309
for weekly messages.



PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Conference Chairman Jeff Krudop, left, presents a cake to Franciscan Father David Mary Engo at the Rekindle the Fire Conference on Feb. 7. Father Ben Muhlenkamp, parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, right, served as master of ceremonies. In his talk, Father Engo spoke of the importance of Reconciliation.

Nearly 1,000 men from the diocese and beyond attended the Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference on Feb. 7 at the Century Center in South Bend.



Steve Ray speaks about the importance of personal evangelization.



Ruben Quezada speaks about the importance of teaching children proper morality and the essentials of the Catholic faith, reminding the audience that “this is a battleground, we are the Church militant, and we are responsible for leading and acting with virtue!”



A man prays during the Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, which closed the Rekindle the Fire Conference on Feb. 7 at the Century Center in South Bend.