

**Holy Week**

A walk through  
Lent, Triduum

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**Pope Francis in Naples**

Reaching the unemployed,  
immigrants, prisoners

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Twenty years, 330 wins

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**Interpreter for the  
Deaf and Hard of  
Hearing at liturgies**

Chrism Masses, March 30 in  
South Bend, and March 31 in  
Fort Wayne, and Easter Mass,  
April 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the  
Cathedral of the Immaculate  
Conception, Fort Wayne

**BEGIN HOLY WEEK  
HONORING CHRISTIAN  
MARTYRS**

Palm  
Sunday,  
March  
29, at 7:15  
p.m. at St.  
Matthew  
Cathedral,  
1701  
Miami  
St., South  
Bend with  
Bishop



Kevin C. Rhoades, Presider. Hosted  
by the Community of Sant'Egidio.

**Diocesan women's retreat  
offers encounter with Jesus**

BY KAY COZAD

HUNTINGTON — One hundred twenty-five women from around the diocese gathered at St. Felix Catholic Center in Huntington on Saturday, March 21, to pray, reflect and encounter Jesus. Sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend's Office of Adult Faith Formation, the retreat, aptly titled "Women Encounter Jesus," offered encouragement to those present to open their hearts and deepen their relationship with Christ.

"Give space to the Lord to speak to your heart and let Him love you the way He wants to love you," exhorted Cindy Black, director of the Office of Faith Formation. Black urged the women to enrich their spirits during the day of retreat by using Scripture and the majestic building and sacred grounds of St. Felix to encounter their Lord.

Moving hymns and songs were an integral

part of the day's offerings with keyboard, guitar and harmonious vocals provided by Natalie Pugh and Vanessa Proulx, both of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne. Following song and communal prayer several speakers brought the women of the Bible to life with inspiring reflections.

Sarah Hill spoke of Martha and Mary's biblical encounter with Jesus and Martha's bitterness about serving while her sister Mary sat listening at Jesus' feet. She challenged the women to consider that though Jesus rebuked Martha He didn't ask her to stop serving, but instead to change her heart. "Seek Christ and the will of God first and everything else will fall into place," Hill urged the women enthusiastically, adding, "Worry steals our joy."

Mary Glowaski, Secretariat of the Office of Evangelization and Special Ministries, followed Hill with encouraging words on the Blessed Mother's encounter with her Son

RETREAT, PAGE 4

**Notre Dame and Holy Cross educators bring  
knowledge and hope to Westville prisoners**

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS



PROVIDED BY PETE MAUNEY

Participants of the Bard Prison Initiative program are shown from the Woodbourne Correctional Facility in New York. Faculty and staff from the University of Notre Dame, Holy Cross College and the Bard Prison Initiative in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Corrections are working together to educate and provide hope for prisoners at the Westville Correctional Facility in Indiana.

NOTRE DAME — One of the key themes throughout Pope Francis' pontificate has been a consistent call to reach to the margins of society and demonstrate merciful love to those who are often forgotten by the world.

In a homily given last month, Pope Francis reiterated the need for all Catholics to respond to the Gospel in this way, exclaiming, "Compassion leads Jesus to concrete action: He reinstates the marginalized. The way of the Church is to pour out the balm of God's mercy on all those who ask for it with a sincere heart; to leave her four walls behind and to go out in search of those who are essentially on the 'outskirts' of life."

This is precisely the mission taken up by faculty and staff from the University of Notre Dame, Holy Cross College and the Bard Prison Initiative (BPI), in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Corrections (IDOC), to educate and provide hope for prisoners at the Westville Correctional Facility.

The program, known as the Westville Education Initiative (WEI), offers male inmates the opportunity to enroll in college level courses to work towards earning an associate's degree in liberal studies from Holy Cross. These inmates, who have demonstrated both an aptitude and desire to pursue studies in higher education, undertake the same level of responsibility that Notre Dame and Holy Cross professors expect from students at their respective institutions.

WESTVILLE, PAGE 5

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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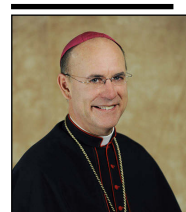
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# The Easter Triduum: The Heart of the Liturgical Year



IN TRUTH  
AND  
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The days of the Easter Triduum are the heart of the liturgical year. The Church invites us to share in the mystery of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. I invite you to participate in the beautiful liturgies of the Easter Triduum in your parish churches or in our cathedrals. The Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and ends with Evening Prayer (Vespers) on Easter Sunday.

## Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

At this evening Mass, we commemorate the Last Supper when Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. At the Last Supper, Jesus anticipated the sacrifice of His death the next day. He changed the bread and wine into His Body and Blood, giving us the awesome gift of the sacrament of the Eucharist. He gave to the apostles the power to "do this in memory of me," thus instituting the ministerial priesthood.

At the Holy Thursday Mass, we not only hear the Gospel of the washing of the feet of the apostles by Jesus, this action is also re-enacted in many parishes. In this gesture, Jesus bequeathed His love to us as a new law. This act of humility, which anticipated His supreme sacrifice on Calvary, is an example for us of our call to serve others with the love and humility of Jesus.

At the end of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession to a place of reposi-tion. We are invited to spend some time in adoration before the Eucharist on Holy Thursday night. Some of the faithful visit different churches to pray in adoration on Holy Thursday night. This pious tradition is encouraged on the night of Jesus' agony in the garden of Gethsemane. On the first Holy Thursday night, the disciples fell asleep in the garden, leaving Our Lord alone in His agony. We visit Our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament, not wanting to leave Him alone at this time.

## Good Friday

On Good Friday, the Church commemorates the events between Christ's condemnation to death and His crucifixion. Good Friday is a day of penance, fasting, and prayer. It is a day for us to meditate upon the sufferings of Our Lord, upon the evil and sin that oppresses humanity, and upon the salvation brought about by the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus.

The Church does not celebrate Mass on Good Friday. Instead, we gather in a special service to commemorate Our Lord's Passion and Death. At this service every year, we hear Saint John's account of the Passion. At this service, we address to



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades washes the feet of diocesan seminarians at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Holy Thursday in this 2013 archive photo. In this week's column Bishop Rhoades writes: "At the Holy Thursday Mass, we not only hear the Gospel of the washing of the feet of the apostles by Jesus, this action is also re-enacted in many parishes. In this gesture, Jesus bequeathed His love to us as a new law. This act of humility, which anticipated His supreme sacrifice on Calvary, is an example for us of our call to serve others with the love and humility of Jesus."

God a long "prayer of the faithful" which includes all the needs of the Church and of the world. We then venerate or adore the cross. The liturgy ends with the reception of Holy Communion consecrated and reserved from the night before.

Besides the Good Friday liturgy, in many places there are other expressions of popular devotions on Good Friday that are approved and encouraged by the Church. Stations of the Cross and penitential processions, for example, help us to interiorize the mystery of the Cross.

## Easter Vigil

Holy Saturday is a day of great silence in which we are invited to wait in prayer, interiorly recollected, for the great event of Our Lord's Resurrection.

The solemn Easter Vigil begins at night-



See page 3 for the Holy Week  
and Easter liturgies  
with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.  
All are invited.

fall on Holy Saturday. It begins with the blessing of the new fire and the lighting of the paschal candle which symbolizes Christ our light and the light of the world. The great proclamation of the "Exsultet" rings out joyfully, followed by many Scripture readings tracing salvation history, culminating in the singing of joyful alleluias and the Gospel of the Resurrection of Jesus.

At the heart of the Easter Vigil is the celebration of the sacraments of initiation. Those who have journeyed in preparation through the catechumenate receive the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation and then join the community in the reception of the Holy Eucharist.

The Easter Vigil is called "the mother of all vigils." The proclamation of the Resurrection scatters the darkness of the night. We celebrate the victory of Jesus who conquered sin and death. This is not only a past event. It is a present reality. Christ's love continues to defeat sin and death. This happens in the life of His Body, the Church, in our lives as His redeemed brothers and sisters.

I encourage all to participate in the liturgies of the Easter Triduum and to relive the great mystery of our salvation through these rites of the Church. May you have a spiritually enriching celebration of Holy Week! May these celebrations deepen our conversion to Christ and our communion with Him in His Body, the Church!

# Pope preaches hope to Naples' unemployed, immigrants, prisoners

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Hope is the first act of resistance to evil, Pope Francis told the people of Naples as he pleaded for respect for the dignity of immigrants, jobs for the unemployed and the conversion of the city's notorious mafia families.

"The Gospel teaches that the truly blessed are the poor in spirit, the nonviolent, the meek, those who work for peace and justice. This is the force that will change the world," the pope said March 21 as he celebrated Mass in Naples' iconic Piazza del Plebiscito.

"Dear Neapolitans," he said in his homily, "don't let anyone steal your hope! Don't give in to the lure of easy money or dishonest income. ... React firmly against organizations that exploit and corrupt the young, the poor and the weak with the cynical sale of drugs and other crimes. Don't let anyone steal your hope!"

Pope Francis' 10-hour visit began with a brief stop for prayer at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary in Pompeii and included a visit to a notoriously rough "periphery" neighborhood, Mass in the center of town, lunch at a local prison, a meeting with priests and religious, a visit with the sick and a seaside gathering with young people and the elderly.

As he was being driven along the waterfront at the end of the day, the crowd lining the road made way for a pizza maker. Although the popemobile did not stop, it slowed down enough for the flour-covered artisan to hand his pie to the pope. The Vatican did not release information on the pizza's final fate.

During his morning meeting with residents of the city's Scampia neighborhood, an area of poverty and degradation, an immigrant woman from the Philippines asked the pope to please remind people that immigrants are children of God.

"Have we reached the point where that's necessary?" the pope asked the crowd. "Are migrants second-class humans?"

"They are like us, children of God," he said. What is more, they are reminders that this world is not the permanent home of anyone and that "we are all migrants (moving) toward another homeland."

"We are all children of God," he said, "beloved children, desired children, saved children. Think about that!"

The pope also insisted, loudly and repeatedly, that high unemployment rates — especially among youths — were a detriment to society and a failure of the current economic system and public policies.

The problem is not simply the poverty joblessness creates, he said, but the way it robs people of dignity and of hope for the future. "When one is unable to earn his daily bread, he loses his dignity,"



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

**Pope Francis holds a reliquary containing what is believed to be the blood of St. Januarius as he gives a blessing during a meeting with religious at the cathedral in Naples, Italy, March 21. The dried blood of the saint is said to liquefy several times a year. After the pope handled the relic, the blood apparently liquefied.**

the pope said.

"Tell me," the pope told the crowd in Scampia, "if we close the door on migrants, if we take away the jobs and dignity of people, what will happen? Corruption "is a temptation, it's a slide," he said.

Everyone has within them the possibility of being corrupted, of paying someone under the table or looking for easy cash, he said.

"Corruption stinks" like a decaying animal corpse, he said. "A corrupt society stinks. A Christian who allows corruption is not a Christian. He stinks, understand?"

Later, addressing mafia members and other criminals during his homily at Mass, the pope said: "Humbly, as a brother, I repeat: Convert to love and justice. Let yourself be found by God's mercy."

"The tears of the mothers of Naples, mixed with those of Mary our heavenly mother," also are pleading for the corrupt to change their ways, he said. "These tears can melt the hardness of your hearts and lead everyone back to the path of goodness."

After Mass, Pope Francis went to a local prison, where he had lunch with about 100 prisoners, who had been chosen by lottery. They reportedly included 10 people from a prison block set aside for inmates who are homosexual, transgender or HIV-positive.

Although he had prepared a speech for the inmates and prison staff, the pope set it aside and spoke informally, telling the prisoners that everyone has made mistakes, but the important thing is to make amends, get up and try to live a better life.

The first saint in Christianity, he said, was a condemned thief — the one who was crucified alongside Jesus and asked Him, "Remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus' response to him was, "Today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Ending the day with young people and the elderly, the pope

admitted to being "really tired" by the day's busy schedule.

He joked with a woman identified only as Erminia, who told him she was 95 years old.

"If you are 95, I'm Napoleon," he told her.

Pope Francis denounced the "hidden euthanasia" of withholding medicine from the aged, "not giving them care, making their lives sad" and allowing them to die alone.

He told people with elderly parents to make an examination of conscience about how often they phone or visit their parents, and he told everyone to remember that when it comes to how they treat the aged, "you will reap what you sow!"

Angelo and Caterina Russo, who direct the Naples archdiocesan family life office, asked the pope's advice for dealing with the current crisis in marriage and family life.

Pope Francis said, "I don't have the recipe" for changing the situation, but he is convinced that October's world Synod of Bishops on the family could be a start for the Church. He also denounced "gender theory" for undermining marriage by creating confusion about what it means to be a man or woman.

Without a solid upbringing and education in the meaning of love, marriage and family life, he said, even the best marriage preparation courses cannot create a Catholic husband and wife. It is not "like a language course: You'll be spouses in eight lessons," he said.

And, as he frequently does, he told married couples it is natural to fight, even throw things, but it is important never to end the day angry.

"Plates can fly," he said. "Have you broken a few," he asked the Russos, who have been married 31 years.

"Plastic," Angelo said before Caterina explained, "We used plastic plates at the beginning."



## PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, March 29, 11 a.m. — Palm Sunday Mass, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Sunday, March 29, 7:15 p.m. — Prayer for the Martyrs Service, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Monday, March 30, 7:30 p.m. — Chrism Mass, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Tuesday, March 31, 7:30 p.m. — Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m. — Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Friday, April 3, 1 p.m. — Good Friday Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, April 4, 9 p.m. — Easter Vigil Mass, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Sunday, April 5, 11:30 a.m. — Easter Sunday Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.



## Priest appointment

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has appointed **Reverend Stephen Lacroix, C.S.C.**, as Pastor of Christ the King Parish, South Bend, effective July 1, 2015. The present Pastor, Father Neil Wack, C.S.C., has been appointed by his provincial superior, Father Thomas O'Hara, as Vocation Director for the U.S. Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

## Lenten Penance Service

• St. Therese, Little Flower, 54191 Ironwood Rd., South Bend, March 31 at 7 p.m.

## Pope Francis calls death penalty 'unacceptable,' urges abolition

BY LAURA IERACI

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis came out squarely against the death penalty once again, calling it "unacceptable" regardless of the seriousness of the crime of the condemned.

Pope Francis met with a three-person delegation of the International Commission Against the Death Penalty March 20, and issued a letter on the occasion urging worldwide abolition.

Citing his previous messages against the death penalty, the pope called capital punishment "cruel, inhumane and degrading" and said it "does not bring justice to the victims, but only foments revenge."

Furthermore, in a modern "state of law, the death penalty represents a failure" because it obliges the state to kill in the name of justice, the pope said. Rather, it is a method frequently used by "totalitarian regimes and fanatical groups" to do away with "political dissidents, minorities" and any other person deemed a threat to their power and to their goals.

"Human justice is imperfect," he said, and the death penalty loses all legitimacy within penal

systems where judicial error is possible.

Increasingly, public opinion is against the death penalty, in view of the effective means available today to restrain a criminal without denying them the possibility to redeem themselves and of a "greater moral sensitivity regarding the value of human life," Pope Francis said.

The death penalty is an affront to the sanctity of life and to the dignity of the human person, he said. It contradicts God's plan for humankind and society and God's merciful justice, he added.

Capital punishment "is cruel, inhuman and degrading, as is the anxiety that precedes the moment of execution and the terrible wait between the sentence and the application of the punishment, a 'torture' which, in the name of a just process, usually lasts many years and, in awaiting death, leads to sickness and insanity."

The pope went on to say that the application of capital punishment denies the condemned the possibility of making reparation for the wrong committed, of expressing their interior conversion through confession, and expressing contrition, so as to encounter God's merciful and saving love.

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**Divine Mercy Chaplet and Reconciliation**

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## RETREAT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jesus. Mary's "yes" to God in bringing the mystery of Love to humanity is the perfect model of discipleship she said, relating that Mary lived out the character of God. Glowaski gently reminded those present that God offered many graces that stretched from letting go to the power of love. God, she said, calls all to not just be like Him but love like Him.

Plenty of quiet reflection time was interwoven throughout the day offering these busy women a chance to journal their thoughts as they pondered reflection questions and Scripture verses, walk the grounds of St. Felix and visit the beautiful tree nestled grotto. Lunch and dinner times gave the guests the opportunity to encounter Jesus in one another.

A simple bell called the women back to the St. Felix chapel where they had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Confession with Father Ben Muhlenkamp, parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, before witnessing the biblical woman at the well tell her story. Diana Anderson, in the persona of the Samaritan woman, told her rapt audience that Jesus planned His encounter with the sinful woman at the well. He thirsted for her as He does for all of His children, she said, and offers waters of everlasting life. "We are all women at the well," she said.

Several women then gave their witness to the entire congregation on how the retreat day had affected their hearts. One attendee was celebrating her encounter with Jesus along with her aunt who joined her at the retreat and had been by her side as she was welcomed into the Church 26 years ago.

Following more coveted reflection time the ladies gathered to walk the journey that Jesus took to Calvary with the Stations of the Cross. In reverent cadence the meditations read by Pope Francis on Good Friday in Rome in 2014 invited the women into Jesus' story, inciting deeper awareness of solidarity, compassion and the power of love.

A very powerful hour of Eucharistic Adoration concluded the day of reflection in which the faithful women rested deeply in the love of God. Cindy Black encouraged the women to "Come before Him and sit at His feet. Converse with Him. This is per-



PHOTOS BY KAY COZAD

**Women in attendance of the first diocesan women's retreat sponsored by the Office of Adult Faith Formation pray at the grotto on the grounds of St. Felix Catholic Center in Huntington during meditation time on March 21. Below, Eucharistic Adoration was held in the chapel at St. Felix Catholic Center where women in attendance listened to a meditation on the biblical woman who was healed by touching Jesus' cloak tassel (Lk 8:43-48). Many approached the altar to pray and touch the cloth that lay upon the altar representing the tassel of Jesus' cloak.**



sonal time with Jesus. Allow Him to speak to our hearts. He knows what we need." She spoke quietly of the woman of the Bible who had hemorrhaged for years and was immediately healed when she touched Jesus' cloak in faith. Affixed across all sides of the beautiful marble altar were strips of tattered fabric symbolizing the tassel of Jesus' cloak to which the women were invited up to pray. The healing energy of God was palpable there at the altar as the women prayed humbly together in silence.

Attendee Michelle Rupright of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish in Fort Wayne felt enriched by the prayerful day. "I could feel God working in me very personally. ... I needed this day to pull away from all the business. God is healing me today," she said.

Aubrey Pfister and her aunt Carol Quella, both from Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw, attended at the suggestion of Pfister's dad.

With two little boys Pfister was grateful to have the quiet time. Rosemary McAttee, of St. Aloysius Parish in Yoder, along with the youngest female at the gathering, her toddling daughter Melinda, agreed saying, "Melinda is my fifth. I have a desire for quiet and reflection." Our Lady of Good Hope parishioner Carol Kern added, "You could focus and be in the silence and let things go."

Norma Baisinger from St. Charles Parish felt the atmosphere was "amazing." "And you can't beat the content — women of the Bible," she said, adding, "It's nice to be with ladies who are here with the same intentions."

Mary Glowaski said of the importance of the day, "Women are important in the spirituality and life of the Church. There's a lot of language in the Church to say that but its not always reflected."

Cindy Black added, "It's important for us to step away from everyday life and let God love us ... to hear His still small voice. ... There are 125 here who hopefully are encouraged and will leave here and take that to their loved ones."

A peaceful rendition of Tantum Ergo and final offering of gratitude for those who committed their day to Jesus and to those who organized and facilitated the retreat were shared with a promise that this was the beginning of many more retreats for women across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

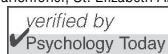
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# Clarify chemical abortion, RU-486 regulation advances in House

STATEHOUSE — A bill to clarify the law regulating chemical abortion cleared another hurdle when it passed a House panel by a vote of 10-3 on March 17.

Senate Bill 546, authored by Sen. Mark Messmer, R-Jasper, provides a clarification to current law regulating chemical abortion, which was ruled unconstitutional. The legislation enacted in 2013 aimed primarily at the use of RU-486 would require health providers who provide RU-486 to meet the same requirements as surgical abortion facilities. The changes to the law are expected to make the 2013 legislation constitutional and will allow the law regulating chemical abortion providers to take effect.

Messmer who presented his bill to the House panel said SB 546 was drafted in response to a Dec. 5, 2014, federal court injunction to provisions of SB 371 that passed and was signed into law May 2013 due to violations of the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution.

He said that SB 546 was drafted in consultation with the attorney general, the State Department of Health, the governor's and speaker's office to address the equal protection

concerns. Termination of pregnancy reporting requirements to the state department of health is also addressed in SB 546. The bill removes the language of physician's office to a broader definition of healthcare providers. Healthcare providers that are involved in less than five chemical abortions per year are exempt from the provisions of the bill.

Messmer said that if SB 546 passes the solicitor general will file a motion and ask the district court to lift its injunction precluding state officials to enforce the physical plant requirements.

"We feel the carefully crafted changes set-up in SB 546 when applied uniformly will accomplish this," said Messmer.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), who testified before the house panel said, "We do support the bill. The Catholic Conference affirms that all human life has dignity and value. The Church opposes abortion on principle and recognizes it as an evil. However, because it is tolerated by law and civil society, regulation of it is necessary for the well-being and health for the woman and the child as a matter of health and public safety, and to

## INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

**BRIGID CURTIS AYER**

safeguard and promote as much as possible the common good," said Tebbe.

"SB 546 provides for an appropriate regulation of abortion facilities and proper recording regarding abortions conducted. The Catholic Conference believes the state is fulfilling its responsibility to promote the common good in this bill and we consider it to be positive public policy," said Tebbe.

Lindsey Craig, director of Family Policy for the governor's office, said, "I'm here to express my support of the bill. It has really been a team effort with the governor's office, the department of health, legislators and the attorney general so we appreciate your support on this bill this morning."

Justin McAdam, general counsel for Indiana Right to Life,

said, "We support this bill. We think it's a good bill and a good approach to fixing the definitional issues and the constitutional issues raised by the court in this lawsuit."

If SB 546 is enacted, and the injunction lifted, provision of SB 317 enacted in 2013 will go into effect. Facilities dispensing abortion-inducing drugs will be required to meet the same medical standards as those that provide surgical abortion, including notices and informed consent. Doctors who prescribe the abortion-inducing drugs RU-486 will be required to examine the woman in person, and schedule follow-up care. It prohibits telemed practices where a doctor could use Skype to discuss options with the pregnant mother rather than an in person exam. The legislation does not include the morning after pill.

Under the bill, in order for a woman to have a chemical abortion, a doctor will have to assess the gestational age of the baby in order to determine if it's an appropriate use. Additionally, the doctor will have to rule-out an ectopic pregnancy, including serious side effects including death, if RU-486 is used.

RU-486 is a regimen of drugs starting with an artificial steroid that blocks progesterone, which is a hormone that is needed to continue a pregnancy. After two days another drug is given to induce contractions to help expel the embryo.

According to Dr. Hans Geisler, a retired ob-gyn of Indianapolis, chemical abortion when compared to surgical abortion is riskier. A chemical abortion has a 15.6 percent risk of hemorrhage compared to a 2.1 percent risk from a surgical abortion.

**The Indiana Catholic Conference** provides legislative updates via email pushes. To receive the updates join the Indiana Catholic Action Network (ICAN). These and other public policy resources are available at [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org).

## WESTVILLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jay Caponigro, director of Community Engagement at Notre Dame and facilitator for the Faculty Steering Committee with WEI, said, "We need to make sure we are offering rigorous academic courses that are at the standard of Notre Dame and Holy Cross, so if students want to apply to another institution when they leave the program to complete their bachelor's degree, that they are prepared and have gotten the best academic training they could."

WEI became a reality when representatives from Bard College in New York, an institution that has achieved tremendous success in prison education, contacted Notre Dame to inquire about the potential interest of expanding to Indiana. Their program, which just honored its 12th class of graduates, recently welcomed Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York as commencement speaker. There he told the men, "I salute you this graduation morning because you have learned not only the lessons of books, library, classroom and professors, but the most sublime lesson of them all: that the essence of life, the core of living, is found within the human person, not without."

He further emphasized the importance of lifelong learning beginning at an early age, saying, "A solid education is perhaps the most valuable gift we can (and must) provide our young people. Better schools mean less poverty, violence, crime ... and prisons!"

Notre Dame and Holy Cross were immediately supportive of the Westville endeavor and, with support from BPI, were able to move forward and create the infrastructure required for a sustainable initiative. The IDOC has also been an essential partner of the program, though since budget cuts in 2011 has been unable to financially support publicly funded college degree-granting programs.

Holy Cross President Brother John Paige indicated that the schools were quick to jump on board because the program so aptly fits the mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross. "As our constitutions indicate, we have a preferential option for the poor, the marginalized and the oppressed. I see the Westville program as a systematic way that specifically fulfills our mission of education by serving one of the most marginalized groups in our society, namely prisoners, whom the culture often says we should lock up and then throw away the key. This initiative dovetails beautifully with Catholic social teaching and makes for a great partnership with BPI in their pursuit of social justice and also with the state, which has been willing to accommodate our efforts."

The benefits of this program for both those earning their degree and for society at large have been transformative. Caponigro said, "Of those who have earned degrees through BPI, the recidivism rate, the amount of people who go back into jail, is just 3 percent. That is what we are aiming to do; we want people to understand that they have alternatives and futures if they participate in this program."

Holy Cross Brother Jesus Alonso, director for educational

outreach, further spoke about the program's life-changing effects. He remarked, "None of the men who have taken part in the Westville program have returned to prison and conduct issues for these men are also significantly decreased. The inmates are happy to have this opportunity to grow in knowledge and those who operate the prisons are pleased to witness this improvement in behavior. It is for these and many other reasons that the leaders of this program are committed to its long term growth."

Alesha Seroczynski, Ph.D., WEI director of College Operations provided specifics on how she envisions this growth to occur. "We currently have 32 men participating in the program, with two earning their associate's (degree) this spring. Over the next five years we are hoping to expand our enrollment to fill our dorm of 102 beds. Long term, we are hoping to include as many as 200 men in our program, but even reaching 100 students would make this one of the top college prison programs in the nation."

This program has provided many men with a new start and the ability to make positive improvements to their life. To summarize the fundamental importance of WEI, Caponigro emphasized, "The mission of Holy Cross and Notre Dame is to educate the heart and mind. In Westville, we want to bring that same spirit to the table. We do this by showing that we are truly about helping these men realize their fullest potential as children of God."

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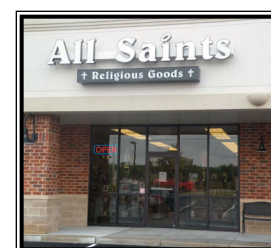
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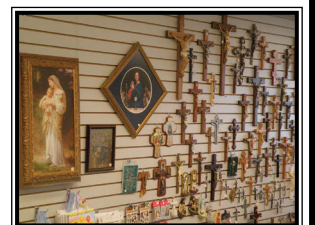
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## U.N. says Pope Francis will visit morning of Sept. 25

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the announcement that Pope Francis would visit the United Nations the morning of Sept. 25 to address the U.N. General Assembly. In a statement March 18, the United Nations also said the pope would meet separately with the secretary-general and with the president of the General Assembly and would participate in a town hall gathering with U.N. staff. Ban noted that the pope's visit came during the United Nations' 70th anniversary, in which its members would make decisions about sustainable development, climate change and peace. He said he was confident the pope's visit would inspire the international community to redouble its efforts for social justice, tolerance and understanding. The United Nations did not release the detailed itinerary for the meetings, part of a larger papal visit to Washington, New York and Philadelphia. The Vatican is expected to release the official itinerary about two months in advance of the trip, unless local officials release it earlier. In February, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, announced that Pope Francis will address a joint meeting of Congress Sept. 24, making him the first pope to do so.

## In Holy Year, pope wants to share experience of mercy he had as teen

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis' decision to convoke a special Holy Year of Mercy has its roots in the event that led a teen-age Jorge Mario Bergoglio to the Priesthood. Pope Francis has recounted the story several times in the past two years. On one occasion early in his pontificate, he told members of Catholic lay movements about his faith journey, particularly the importance of growing up Catholic and the influence of his grandmother. Then he said: "One day in particular, though, was very important to me: Sept. 21, 1953. I was almost 17. It was 'Students' Day,' for us the first day of spring — for you the first day of autumn. Before going to the celebration I passed through the parish I normally attended, I found a priest that I did not know and I felt the need to go to Confession. For me this was an experience of encounter: I found that someone was waiting for me. Yet I do not know what happened, I can't remember, I do not know why that particular priest was there whom I did not know, or why I felt this desire to confess, but the truth is that someone was waiting for me. He had been waiting for me for some time. After making my confession I felt something had changed. I was not the same. I had heard something like a voice, or a call. I was convinced that I should become a priest." Over and over again, Pope Francis tells people: God is always there first, waiting for you; the sacrament of Confession is an encounter with the merciful God who is always ready to forgive those who seek pardon; and recognizing how merciful God has been with you should make you merciful toward others.

# NEWS BRIEFS

## CONSERVATIVES CALL FOR REPEAL OF DEATH PENALTY



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY KANSAS COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

Laura Peredo, president of Ravens Respect Life at Benedictine College of Atchinson, Kansas, speaks at a news conference in the rotunda of the Kansas Capitol in Topeka March 17. Peredo was one of a group of Kansas conservative leaders calling for repeal of their state's death penalty.

## British traditionalist bishop is excommunicated for illicit ordination

ROME (CNS) — A traditionalist bishop who has denied the Holocaust has been automatically excommunicated along with the priest he illicitly ordained a bishop. British Bishop Richard Williamson violated Church law when he ordained Father Jean-Michel Faure, 73, a bishop without papal approval during a ceremony in Nova Friburgo, Brazil, March 19, the feast of St. Joseph. While the Vatican did not comment immediately, canon law provides automatic excommunication for the newly ordained bishop and for the bishop ordaining him in cases where the ordination goes against the will of the pope. Bishop Williamson had been excommunicated in 1988 when he and three other traditionalist bishops were ordained against papal orders by the late French Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, founder of the Society of St. Pius X. Pope Benedict XVI lifted the excommunications in 2009 as a first step toward beginning formal talks aimed at reconciliation with the group. However, there was widespread outrage at revelations that Bishop Williamson had denied the gassing of Jews in Nazi concentration camps. The Vatican said the pope had been unaware at the time of the bishop's radical views on the Holocaust.

## USCCB president says 'witness of marriage' can inspire a troubled world

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The family is an instrument of evangelization and it can influence others more than people realize, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said at The Catholic University of America. Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, said families deserve to be held up and supported in their daily lives and that last fall's extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family in Rome was designed to ensure that families remain an integral part of Church life. "I think (evangelization and family life) goes hand in hand certainly, this whole idea that the family is not simply an object of our care. The family is what influences neighbors," he said during a March 16 program tying together last October's extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family and the upcoming synod on the family with the new evangelization. "Families have a powerful impact even on people who don't belong to their family. I think the family is being called to be an instrument of the evangelization to participate in that work," he added. In a 75-minute discussion with John Grabowski, associate professor of moral theology and ethics at the university and a member of the Pontifical Council for the Family, Archbishop Kurtz offered his insight into last fall's synod and outlined the core principles that will be part of the synod Oct. 4-25 at the Vatican.

## Assyrian Christians who escaped Islamic State seek refuge in Lebanon

BEIRUT (CNS) — Assyrian Christians from Syria's besieged Khabur region who fled their homes when the Islamic State seized their villages in February are increasingly seeking refuge in neighboring Lebanon. As of March 17, the Assyrian Church of the East in Lebanon had registered 50 families from the region, and more are coming into neighboring Lebanon each day. Michael and Hanna arrived in Lebanon March 11 with their 10-year-old daughter, Elizabeth. They requested that Catholic News Service identify them by pseudonyms to protect their identity, because relatives are among the 300 or so hostages taken by Islamic State in the Feb. 23 rampage on Khabur's cluster of 35 villages. So far, Islamic State released about 20 of the kidnapped, but there is no news of the remaining hostages, who include women, children and elderly. "We have not heard anything," Michael said. "We're praying that God will protect them. What else can we do?" Michael and his family were awakened around 3 a.m. by the thundering of Islamic State militants bombarding nearby villages. They waited a while to determine if the militants would approach their village, Tal Maghas. By 5 a.m., it was clear they had to escape. "Everyone was terrified and panicking," Michael said.

## Welcome children, learn from them, pope says at audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Children are a blessing for humanity and for the Church, bringing new life and energy to families and society, Pope Francis said. Unfortunately, he said, too often children are society's "great rejected ones, because they aren't even allowed to be born!" Continuing a series of general audience talks about the family March 18, Pope Francis said it was troubling that so many European countries have a birthrate so low that their populations are declining or would without immigration. "Children bring life, happiness, hope — and even troubles, but that's life," he said. "Obviously they cause worries and sometimes problems, but a society with those worries and problems is always better than a society that is sad and gray because it has no children." Pope Francis, who spent more than half an hour kissing and blessing babies and children in St. Peter's Square before the audience, said little ones are not diplomats and have not yet learned "the science of duplicity." And they let people know exactly what they are thinking, sometimes to their parents' chagrin.

## Syrian children risk becoming 'lost generation,' Vatican official says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Without family, a legal identity and adequate education, children uprooted by the ongoing violence in Syria and the Middle East "are at risk of becoming a lost generation," said Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations in Geneva. The archbishop noted that "children suffer the brutal consequences" of war and called for a "comprehensive system of protection for children" in these conflict zones. "In camps throughout the Middle East, children constitute approximately half of the refugee population and they are the most vulnerable demographic group," he said during a session of the U.N. Human Rights Council March 17. Archbishop Tomasi noted the grave situation of these children: Many are separated from their families, live in poverty and have difficulty accessing basic services. In this defenseless state, some are recruited and trained as soldiers or used as human shields. Islamic State militants have "worsened the situation by training and using children as suicide bombers, killing children who belong to different religious and ethnic communities, selling children as slaves in markets, executing large numbers of boys and committing other atrocities," the archbishop said.

## PHJC Coming Home to Mishawaka/South Bend

MISHAWAKA, SOUTH BEND — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ have a rich and lengthy history of serving the people of the Mishawaka and South Bend area. To celebrate this history they are reconnecting with friends, family and people they have known, served and worked with in this area. The event called, PHJC Coming Home Mishawaka/South Bend, will be held April 10-12.

Several events will be included in this weekend celebration.

On Friday, April 10 from 7-9 p.m. a collaboration of the St. Pius X, Granger, young adult group and the Poor Handmaids will gather for a young adult evening of praise and worship, silent reflection, input, conversation and dinner. This gathering, for all young adults from 18-40 years old, will center on discernment and ways to find God's guidance in relationships and work.

On Saturday, April 11, at Marian High School in Mishawaka, a reunion for former Poor Handmaid Sisters and alumni of Ancilla Domini High School, Donaldson, will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. At 2 p.m., the public is invited to a festival for all ages with food, children's games, music and a variety of fun activities. Come and meet or reconnect with the Poor Handmaid Sisters.

On Sunday, April 12, at 9 a.m., a prayer service will be held at Catholic Cemetery on Liberty and Jefferson avenues in Mishawaka honoring the Poor Handmaids buried in the cemetery. At 10:30 a.m. a Mass will be celebrated at the Bishop Crowley Activity Center at Marian High School. Father Ted Franzman will celebrate Mass. A brunch will follow at 12 p.m. in the main gym. There is no charge for the brunch but please register for easier planning. Besides the weekend events, Poor Handmaids are also visiting several schools in the South Bend and Mishawaka area this spring.

For more information and to register for any of these events visit [www.poorhandmaids.org/cominghome](http://www.poorhandmaids.org/cominghome) or call Julie Dowd at 574-935-1768.

## Discernment Night for young adults to be held

GRANGER — Discernment Night for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single and married will be held Friday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Pius X Church in Granger. Join other young adults to discern God's guidance for relationships, careers and life choices. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner, a presentation and discussion. Music, prayer and Eucharistic Adoration will begin at 8 p.m. and social time with a bonfire — weather permitting — at 9 p.m. The Discernment Night is presented by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the St. Pius Young Adults and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

For information contact Sean Allen at [sallen@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:sallen@diocesefwsb.org) or 858-354-9006.

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## PROJECT RACHEL BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN REACHES OUT TO THOSE HURTING FROM PAST ABORTION EXPERIENCE



PHOTO PROVIDED BY PROJECT RACHEL

The Project Rachel billboard campaign, using 10 billboard sites around the diocese to reach out to those who suffer from post abortion pain, officially began on March 23. There will be three locations in Fort Wayne, three in South Bend, two on U.S. Highway 30 and one near Goshen. The billboards, which are displayed either in English or Spanish, provide a message of God's love and mercy and offers a dedicated phone number and website to access for help. The campaign will run for four weeks.

## Immaculate Conception to distribute food in April

AUBURN — Couples With Kids, a group of young families at Immaculate Conception Church, will host its fourth annual food drive during all Masses the weekend of April 18-19. Parishioners are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to Mass that weekend.

All food will be distributed at 1 p.m. on April 19 at the church, 500 E. Seventh St., Auburn. Anyone in need is welcome; no proof of financial hardship is required.

## Diocesan Scouting committee incorporates faith with patches, religious emblems

FORT WAYNE — The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) is a group of Catholic laypeople and clergy whose mission is to utilize the Boy Scouts of America as a viable form of youth ministry with young Catholics in the U.S. Each diocese across the country is invited to participate on this committee.

The diocesan committee provides information to enhance the Catholic faith with troops and other youth. Activities include religious emblems: Light of Christ (6-7 year old Scouts); Parvuli Dei (8-10 year old Scouts); Ad Altare Dei (any registered Scout in a

Troop or Crew); Pope Pius XII (registered Scouts or Crew 15 years old or older).

Also available is a Rosary Patch Series, designed to help participants understand how to pray the rosary, including the prayers on each bead and the mysteries. Separate patches focus on each set of mysteries — joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious.

Another patch offered is the Footsteps of American Saints, a series that honors the men and women whose devotion to prayer and the sacraments inspire American Catholics.

To earn patches, participants answer questions, exhibit knowledge and participate in activities that emulate the person honored.

A Marian Patch Series has activities that examine one of the 19 Marian feasts. Each patch will help the participant understand more about why America has been entrusted to the Blessed Mother's care and love.

The Activity Patch Series is available to any youth or adult. For more information contact Theresa Dirig at 260-414-9172, [tscoutlady@yahoo.com](mailto:tscoutlady@yahoo.com), or visit [NCCS-BSA.org](http://NCCS-BSA.org).

## Friends of St. Adalbert School plan Mass, potluck dinner celebration

SOUTH BEND — The Fourth Annual Friends of St. Adalbert School Mass and potluck dinner will be held on Saturday, April 18,

at St. Adalbert Church and Heritage Hall. All alumni, school families, parishioners of St. Adalbert and St. Casimir and friends of the school are invited to attend 5 p.m. Mass with dinner following in the school hall.

Members of the school community and school choir will sing at the bilingual Mass. Academic accomplishments and growth in school programs and community relationships will be celebrated.

Following dinner will be recognition of Rosa Maria Hernández, a long time leader in the Latino ministries; Elaine Wituski, a school alumna and music minister at St. Adalbert; and the Women of McGlenn Residence Hall at Notre Dame who have been serving at the school for many years.

Dinner attendees are asked to bring a dish to share.

For more information contact Linda Cornett at 260-637-6329 or [SaintAdalbertAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:SaintAdalbertAlumni@gmail.com).

## Women's Morning of Reflection held

NIX SETTLEMENT — A Women's Morning of Reflection was held on March 21 at St. Catherine of Alexandria Church-Nix Settlement. Six area parishes were represented by the 48 women in attendance who participated in morning Mass celebrated by Father Dale Bauman, pastor at St. Catherine. A presentation on Pope Francis' 2015 Lenten talk, "Make Your Heart Firm," was followed by a discussion on implementing the pope's message at the parish level.

## MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT



ALLISON CIRAULO

The Office of Family Life sponsored a daylong marriage enrichment retreat for the Hispanic parishes in the diocese on Saturday, March 7. Dr. Dora Tobar of the Diocese of Lafayette spoke on the topic of "How to live a happy and holy marriage." Over 70 couples attended the retreat, held in the gym of St. Casimir Parish in South Bend. The same retreat is scheduled for Fort Wayne on Nov. 7 of this year. These retreats are part of the implementation of the bishop's pastoral plan to provide more formation opportunities for Hispanic couples and families.



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Father Tim Wrozek, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Fort Wayne, holds a palm burning ceremony with students and staff in the courtyard of St. Joseph School. The ashes were used at Ash Wednesday Mass.



JERRY KESSENS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades signs the Book of the Elect during the Enrollment of Names at the Fort Wayne rite on March 1 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. After participating in the Rite of Election, the catechumens are referred to as the "elect," because they will have been officially declared ready to receive the Easter sacraments.



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KAY COZAD

**This sign at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish on the southwest side of Fort Wayne invited parishioners and anyone seeking reconciliation to go to Confession during the Light is on for You held on March 5 from 6-8 p.m. All churches in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were open for Reconciliation during that time.**



KAY COZAD

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, right, and Father Jacob Meyer, chaplain of Bishop Dwenger High School, left, distribute ashes to students, staff and others at Ash Wednesday Mass celebrated at Bishop Dwenger.**

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is presented with a Book of the Elect during the Rite of Election ceremony at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend on Feb. 15. Representatives from parish- and campus ministry departments throughout the area announced and recognized over 100 catechumens preparing to enter the Church this Easter Vigil.**

# THE JOURNEY THROUGH LENT ...

## There is more to come

BY FATHER JAMES SHAFER

I would imagine that most church-attending Catholics experience Holy Week by participating in Mass on Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord and again on Easter Sunday. My purpose in writing this brief article is to encourage all to discover the treasure trove between those two Sundays.



tomb ... as if there is more to come ... in silence.

And so it is the Vigil, we keep our Paschal fast, and then in the silence of our evening, we begin once more by speaking the blessing of a new fire, a new Light to shine in the darkness. A beautiful song of praise is sung to Christ our Light, we listen to an expanded Liturgy of the Word that recalls our salvation history, we sing the A-l-l-e-l-u-i-a



us in forming us as a Eucharistic people ... the gift of His Body and Blood. And we remember what He taught us on that holy night when He washed the feet of His disciples, that sharing in His Eucharist would lead us to lives of serving others. Then we depart in silence ... with Him... to a night of prayer in Gethsemane ... in our place of reposition ... and we pray with His



The Church refers to it as the Sacred Paschal Triduum, the Three Days. It includes our celebrations of Thursday of the Lord's Supper, the Passion of the Lord, and the Easter Vigil or as we commonly refer to them ... Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

I encourage all of you to attend your parish celebrations of these great and holiest of all days. The reason? It is an intimate walk with the Lord Jesus during the most important days of His life, His death and resurrection, the heart of our faith and our life with Him through our Baptism. (Nota Bene: I am not treating the Chrism Mass here. It is celebrated Monday and Tuesday of this holiest of all weeks in both South Bend and Fort Wayne. Priests renew their bond with the bishop and Church in their Priesthood. And, of course, bishop blesses the new oils we use throughout the year in various sacramental celebrations. Once you attend, you may want to put it on your yearly calendar!)

So, back to the intimate walk with the Lord, so fitting for a disciple. On Holy Thursday we join together in the evening to remember His gathering with His small community to pray the Passover feast. It was a sacred meal, calling its participants to remember God's formation of them as His beloved people. In our celebration we remember His awesome love for



suffering approaching ... as if there is more to come ... in silence.

On Friday, a day we name Good Friday, a day of fast and abstinence from meat, our Paschal fast, we begin once more ... in silence. As the priest prostrates himself as Jesus did in Gethsemane, we kneel and pray silently as we prepare to listen to the Passion of the Lord ... we venerate His Holy Cross by a touch, or kiss, or bow or genuflection as we place there on the Cross our own brokenness, pains, losses and burdens, our needs that we want to unite to Him ... His Passion, His Cross and now His Eucharist, as we receive Holy Communion. This is the only day of the year that our Church does not celebrate Mass, as the Eucharist we receive is from the previous night, the Lord's Supper. After Holy Communion, we depart as we began, in silence, as if it is not over even though He has died for us ... we fast, we are silent, we ponder, we wait at the

once again. Next we celebrate our new and deeper life in Christ by blessing new water, renewing our baptismal promises, welcoming new members in Baptism and full communion. A liturgy of Light, an expanded liturgy of the Word and a liturgy of Baptism are followed by the liturgy of the Eucharist. His Resurrection has followed His Death. He is living in our midst.

We have walked with Him through His Sacred Paschal Triduum, the Three Days, almost as if they were one long event in parts spread out over three days. Framed by the opening hymn of Holy Thursday and the concluding hymn of the Easter Vigil, we have intimately shared His suffering, death and resurrection, proceeding from silence to silence, reflecting on Him, on what His Divine Love for us truly means. This is Love, the holiest of all weeks, the week of Priesthood and Holy Eucharist, the week of dying and rising, the week of Baptism and renewed life in Christ. Holy Week ... enjoy not only the beginning and end, but also the intimate days between. Your heart and soul truly will be blessed by your presence with His Presence. How awesome is this gift to our Catholic faith!

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



# Pilgrims who walk Via Dolorosa don't care if it isn't Jesus' exact route

BY JUDITH SUDILOVSKY

JERUSALEM (CNS) — Several pilgrim groups gathered in a sunny courtyard in Jerusalem's Old City. They were preparing to follow a tradition reaching back at least to the fifth century: walking along the Via Dolorosa, through the cobbled streets of Jerusalem's Old City.

The Via Dolorosa represents the route taken by Jesus on the way to His crucifixion, until He was laid in the tomb. Although the route followed for this devotion has changed over the centuries, the need and desire of the Christian faithful to walk in Jesus' footsteps has not. The current route was probably formalized in the 18th century.

"To follow the actual footsteps of Jesus is pretty amazing. It brings His message even more into our hearts," said Marilyn McDonough, 64, a Catholic from Santa Clara, Calif. "I keep thinking about all the suffering He did for us and what He went through mentally and physically. It is overwhelming for me to be here."

At the same time, she said, she is aware that no one knows for certain the exact places where Jesus walked. The restored 12th-century Chapel of the Flagellation that stands in the courtyard today was built on the location of a fifth-century church.

"If you take the whole area of Jerusalem, I know Jesus walked in this area. Did He step in this very spot? Maybe not, but I know He walked in other spots, and if I walk around here I can feel it in my heart," she said.

Nigerian pilgrims sang a traditional hymn; an Asian group stood in orderly rows, chanting a prayer and led by a pilgrim carrying a large cross. Groups from Eastern Europe and the United States stood in different corners of the courtyard, some listening as a guide presented religious and historical explanations of the place, while others bent their heads in silent or communal prayer.

Starting with the first station, in the courtyard of the nearby el-Omariyya Muslim school, they would all walk the same path, stopping to pray and reflect at the traditional 14 stations, with the final five located inside the

Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

Some of the pilgrim groups walked the path carrying a cross as Jesus did. On Fridays the Franciscans lead an official procession along the Via Dolorosa.

"Sometimes you will see pilgrims here from 4 a.m. and until late at night," said Franciscan Father Eugenio Alliata, professor of Christian archaeology at the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum. "Everyone sings and prays according to their tradition, in their own language. Jesus walked with a real cross, the pilgrims walk with a symbolic cross. Each one has his own cross to bear, and Jesus helps them to do that."

There is no clear consensus among biblical scholars that this current Via Dolorosa tradition is the actual route taken by Jesus. It is based on the assumption that the Pretorium, where Pontius Pilate judged Jesus, would have been at that time the Antonia Fortress, built by King Herod.

With no hard archaeological evidence of where the Pretorium was, where Jesus' trial took place and which path He took to His own crucifixion, scholars of biblical history base their assumptions upon what they know of the layout and social mores of the Roman-occupied city of Jerusalem of that time.

Some, like archaeologist Amit Reem, believe that one probability is that the Roman governor would have stayed in the palace of the Judean king during his stays in Jerusalem, and he would have judged Jesus from there. The palace is thought to have been in what is today's Tower of David Museum just inside Jaffa Gate.

Reem, who works for the Israel Antiquities Authority, recently finished 10 years of excavation work revealing the



CNS PHOTO/DEBBIE HILL

**Al and Beth Rubio from Arizona stand by a cross in the courtyard of the Chapel of the Flagellation in the Old City of Jerusalem March 9.**

foundations and a drainage system of King Herod's palace in one of the museum buildings.

"It can be fair to think that Pontius Pilate, the Roman representative of Caesar, stayed in Herod's Palace while in Jerusalem," said Reem, standing outside the ruins of the monumental steps leading to what is believed to have been Herod's famous pools. The area was excavated in the 1980s by archaeologist Rene Sivan. Using an outdoor screen, the museum shows a virtual recreation of the palace pools according to first-century descriptions of the palace.

Reem noted that early Christians did not follow the current Via Dolorosa route. He said the Via Dolorosa was south of Jaffa Gate, starting from Mt.

Zion, where Christians from the fifth and sixth centuries identified the Pretorium, leading from near Dung Gate to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

"Though we do not find any actual evidence that (Herod's Palace) is the place where Jesus' trial was held, it is a logical, theoretical estimation that it could've been here," he said.

Father Alliata, however, is not convinced.

In his thinking, the Roman

governor would have needed to stay near the place of most importance for Judaism to be on guard for any unrest during the Jewish pilgrimage holiday of Passover, when thousands of Jews, including Jesus, would ascend to the Temple Mount to give the required offerings. That would place him in Herod's Antonia Fortress which, according to Franciscan tradition, stood at the site of the modern Franciscan chapels.

## Holy Week Schedule Sacred Heart Latin Mass Parish

4643 Gaywood Drive - Fort Wayne 46806

Holy Thursday, April 2: Mass at 7 p.m.

*followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight*

Good Friday, April 3: Mass of the Pre-Sanctified at noon

Holy Saturday, April 4: Easter Vigil begins at 10:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 5: Mass at 10:00 a.m.

## Most Precious Blood Church



### EASTER TRIDUUM

THURSDAY 7:00 PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER  
(ADORATION AFTER MASS UNTIL 10:00 PM)

FRIDAY - 1:30 PM GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY & COMMUNION

SATURDAY - 9:00 PM EASTER VIGIL MASS

EASTER SUNDAY - 8:00 & 10:15 AM MASSES

(REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE)

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## Holy Week Schedule St. Patrick Parish

309 South Taylor Street - South Bend

*"St. Mother Theodore Guerin Latin Mass Community"*

PALM SUNDAY

7:45 am Blessing of Palms, Procession followed by Sung Mass

GOOD FRIDAY - 5:00 pm Passion, Adoration of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY - 11:00 pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY - 8:00 am Sung Mass

## St. Michael Catholic Church

611 N. Center St., Plymouth, IN 46563

### Holy Thursday

7 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

*Bilingual*

### Good Friday

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion  
12:30 PM in English and 3 PM in Spanish

### Holy Saturday

8:41 PM Easter Vigil

*Bilingual*

### Easter Sunday

Masses in English at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30  
Mass in Spanish at 2 PM

# Catholics urged to support Middle East Christians on Good Friday

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Iraqi and Syrian refugees who have fled persecution in their homelands and the Palestinian Christians struggling to survive in the land of Jesus deserve the prayers and material support of Catholics around the globe, a Vatican official said.

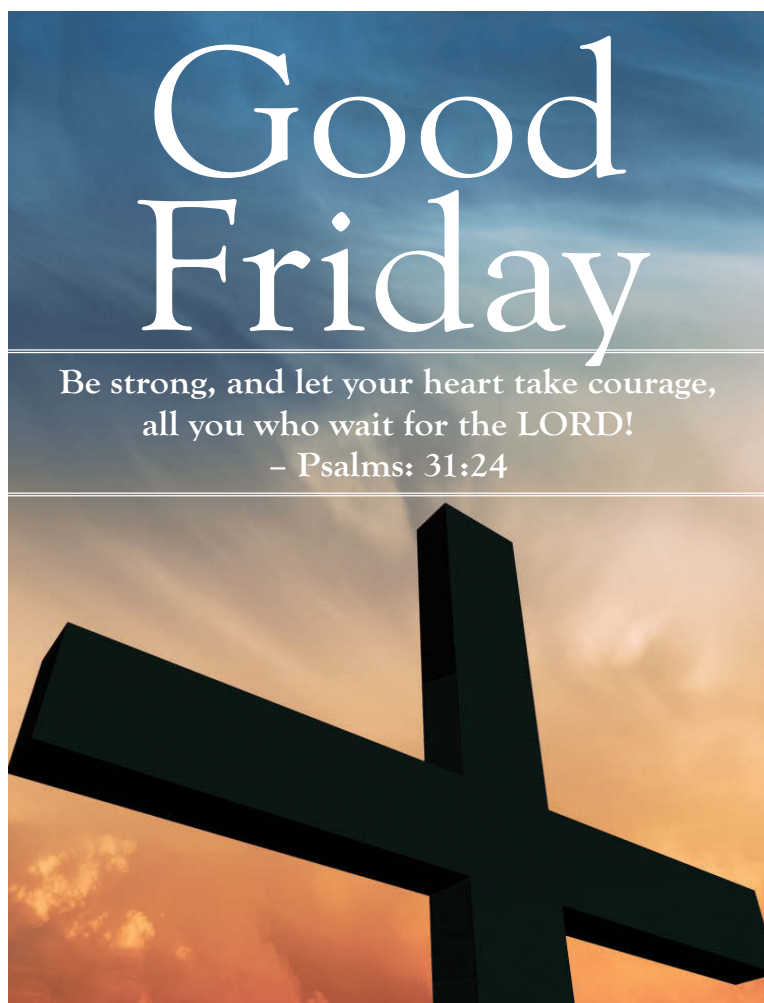
Catholics can “become promoters of dialogue through peace, prayer and sharing of burdens” with Middle East Christians, said Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches.

In a letter sent to bishops around the world, Cardinal Sandri asked for continued support for the traditional Good Friday collection for the Holy Land. Sixty-five percent of the funds raised go to the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, an administratively autonomous province of the Franciscan order. The Franciscan Custody is responsible for most of the shrines connected with the life of Jesus as well as for providing pastoral care to the region’s Catholics, running schools, operating charitable institutions and training future priests and religious.

The collection, taken up at the request of the pope, is administered by the Franciscan Custody and the Congregation for Eastern Churches. The congregation monitors how all funds are used, both the 65 percent directed to the Franciscan Custody and the 35 percent used to support projects chosen by the congregation elsewhere in the Holy Land, Cyprus, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Turkey, Iran and Iraq.

None of the money will be used to help offset the deficit of the Franciscan order’s headquarters in Rome. U.S. Franciscan Father Michael Perry, the order’s minister general, announced in December that because of a lack of oversight and “questionable” transactions, the generalate had a significant debt.

“From the time the collection was established, the congregation



has distributed the funds directly to the Custody specifically for the projects approved,” said a friar who belongs to the Custody. “The generalate has nothing to do with the process.”

Along with Cardinal Sandri’s letter, the Vatican press office on March 10 released some details of how the 2014 collection was disbursed. It said close to \$2.5 million was used to provide emergency assistance to people in Iraq and Syria; just over \$2.6 million was used to support Catholic education at every level; and about \$2.4 million went to a variety of small programs, including support for the Assembly of Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land.

The Vatican also released a list of the projects supported through the funds given to the Franciscan Custody to assist the Christian minority in the region, preserve

and provide pilgrim access to the archaeological sites and Christian shrines and support education.

Among the maintenance and restoration work carried out were projects at the basilica in the Garden of Gethsemane, at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Cenacle where the Last Supper was believed to have been, the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, the archaeological dig at Magdala, Capernaum, Mount Tabor, Cana and Mount Nebo in Jordan.

The collection also helped fund university scholarships for 295 students, the purchase of equipment for 10 small artisanal businesses and the restoration of houses where some of the poorest families in Bethlehem live. In addition, assistance was provided for housing projects in the Old City of Jerusalem, in Beit Hanina and in Bethlehem, West Bank.

## USF and area insurance companies address need for professionals through new RMI Program

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis is launching a new four-year bachelor degree program, Risk Management and Insurance (RMI). Developed by the university’s Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership in conjunction with Northeast Indiana Specialty Insurers (NISI), the program is heavily based in industry-specific, project-based learning in order to educate students to become the professionals needed by area insurance companies. The RMI program will begin in the fall of 2015, and enrollment is currently open.

Approximately 5,500 insurance jobs will become available in the next 10 years, thanks to the fact that the industry is growing at approximately 4-5 percent per year. Northeast Indiana now has over 4,000 specialty insurance professionals and more than 11,000 total industry employment, with a wide range of jobs including medical, sports management, marketing, business operations, financial and other. The average annual salary of these jobs is \$63,000, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics.

Director of the USF RMI program, Eve-Lynn Clarke, is excited about the opportunities that await USF students. Clarke, a former vice president of Fort Wayne’s Lincoln Financial Group, explains the breadth of work in risk management and insurance.

“The Ebola scare, computer hacking incidents, extreme weather and professional reputational risks associated with sports figures and medical malpractice are situations managed by RMI professionals in Northeast Indiana,” she said. “Well-paying and available jobs in an exciting field is a major win for students attending our university.”

NISI co-chair Joseph Svitek, chief financial officer for Ash Brokerage Corporation, said, “One of NISI’s goals is to find local talent to fill these positions as they open. We are eager to work with USF students.”

Many NISI partner companies are offering hands-on fieldwork to USF students to provide real-world experience in a project-based learning environment. In addition, RMI students will have mentors and internships, and hear best practices from professionals in the field. Internships are available and waiting for students who enroll in the program.

To show young people that specialty insurance means more than just sales, USF and NISI are also starting a marketing campaign, “Major Win.”

As the campaign illustrates, specialty insurance is an exciting and interesting field that is all about helping businesses assess and manage risk.

NISI is a group of local insurance leaders working with Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership to strengthen the insurance industry in our region. Talent development, a goal of NISI, is what led them to work closely with the University of Saint Francis.

## Social work students to host panel talk on veterans

NOTRE DAME — The Saint Mary’s College Department of Social Work and Gerontology will host a panel discussion entitled “The Battle after the War: Veterans on Their Lives and Struggles” on Tuesday, March 31, from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Carroll Auditorium, Madeleva Hall.

Members of the community are invited to join students, faculty, and staff from Saint Mary’s College for this free and informative event.

For the past 11 years, social work students enrolled in the course Human Behavior and the Social Environment II at Saint Mary’s have organized this annual community forum.

Three well-known local experts will participate on a panel to discuss community topics relevant to veterans, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, homelessness, policies, laws and services that challenge and impact veterans’ lives. The panel represents influential leaders and organizations that help veterans overcome these challenges.

Panelists include the following: South Bend Mayor Peter Buttigieg (D) took a seven-month leave of absence in 2014 to serve as an officer in Afghanistan with the U.S. Navy Reserve, earning the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his counterterrorism work; U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski (R), a member of House Armed Services and Veterans’ Affairs Committees, helped write a bipartisan law to combat military sexual assault and supported the violence against women act; and Kent Laudeman, lieutenant colonel retired, U.S. Army Reserves and director of Robert L. Miller Sr. Veteran’s Center at the Center for the Homeless in South Bend, earned his doctorate of education and worked in counseling in higher education before bringing his military and veteran experience to the Veteran’s Center.

For information contact Frances Kominkiewicz at 574-284-4515 or kominkie@saintmarys.edu.

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## Undoing a chemical abortion

In 1978, Charles E. Rice, a former professor of law at Notre Dame Law School made this prediction in his book "Beyond Abortion: The Theory and Practice": "The abortion of the future will be by pill, suppository or some other do-it-yourself method. At that point the killing of a baby will be wholly elective and private. We have, finally, caught up with the pagan Romans who endowed the father, the 'pater familias,' with the right to kill his child at his discretion. We give that right to the mother. But it is all the same to the victim."

His prediction was prescient, given that "chemical abortions" are now widely available in the form of the French abortion pill, RU-486. The abortion pill has been available in the U.S. since

2000. By 2008, approximately 25 percent of abortions prior to nine weeks relied on RU-486, also known as mifepristone. A 2010 scientific review on RU-486 noted that chemical abortion "has been used successfully in the medical termination of pregnancy for over 25 years, and the method is registered in 35 countries."

In recent years, there has been a small but important glimmer of light piercing through this dark backdrop of widespread RU-486 utilization, namely, that it is sometimes possible to reverse a chemical abortion if a woman comes to regret her decision soon after taking the abortion pill.

Carrying out a chemical abortion actually requires two different pills to be taken sequentially. RU-486 is administered prior to



### MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

reaching the 10<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy, and about two days later, a hormone called misoprostol is given that causes contractions and expels the unborn child. Reversal may be possible when the second pill has not yet been taken.

RU-486 itself is often

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## Learn, repent and be saved



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Palm Sunday Mk 14:1-15:47

This weekend, in a liturgy powerful in its ability to transport us to the momentous events of the first Holy Week, the Church celebrates Palm Sunday.

A procession will precede each Mass, ideally involving the entire congregation, who will carry palms blessed by the celebrants. The procession, the palms and the acclamation of the congregation will recall the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem centuries ago.

Further to impress upon worshippers that arrival, the procession begins with a reading from Mark's Gospel. This reading notes the coming of Jesus, across the Mount of Olives, from Bethany, to Jerusalem. He approached Jerusalem from the east, just as the Scriptures had predicted as the route of the Messiah.

He came in humility. Roman leaders would have ridden into the city on horseback or in chariots. Jesus rode a colt. As the Lord would insist days later to Pilate, the Roman governor, the kingdom of God is not of this world.

After this procession, the Liturgy of the Word progresses normally. The first reading is from Isaiah. It is the third "Suffering Servant" song, emphasizing the fictional, unidentified Servant's absolute devotion to God despite all the difficulties and hardships that would come.

The Book of Isaiah has four of these hymns of the Suffering Servant. Each is expressive and

moving. Incidentally, Christians always have seen Jesus in this literary figure.

Supplying the second reading is the Epistle to the Philippians. Eloquent and most compelling, scholars believe that its origin was liturgical. Early Christians used this hymn in their worship. The hymn is an exclamation of the glory of Christ.

For the Gospel reading in the Liturgy of the Word, the Church this year provides the Passion according to St. Mark.

Each of the Gospels has its own perception of the Passion of Christ. For Mark, the special point is that the Lord was utterly alone as he faced trial and death. Judas' betrayal, the young man who ran away, Peter's denial, the inability of the religious scholars to see the Lord's true identity, and the kangaroo court of the Sanhedrin, dramatized by the high priest's utter pragmatism, and the similar Roman governor's court, burdened with the bewilderment and indifference to truth on Pilate's part, all were important details for Mark, all indications of human frailty and sin.

This Gospel is a wonderful first step in understanding the meaning of Holy Week and human need for redemption.

### Reflection

People almost always can say where they were when they first heard of the horrible collisions of hijacked planes with the World Trade Center Towers on Sept. 11, 2001. Americans who were alive on Nov. 22, 1963, remember where they were when they heard that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated. Those alive on Dec. 7, 1941, remember hearing the first reports about Pearl Harbor. People alive on April 15, 1912, all knew where they were when they heard that the British luxury liner, Titanic, had sunk with great loss of life in the mid-Atlantic.

Thus it was with the

Evangelists. They vividly reported the Passion of Jesus. Their careful, but individual, reconstructions of the day indicates how vital the Lord's trial and death were in the Evangelists' lesson plan.

With Lent, the Church has prepared us for Holy Week. Mark tells us that Jesus faced the sin of the world, deserted by frightened, ignorant human beings. He faced death. Each Christian, somehow, is in similar conflict. The Church bluntly reminds us of this fact, not in despair, but in hope. Follow Jesus to Calvary. Rise with Jesus to new life. Find reality. Find truth. Find genuine self-identity and purpose in life. Find hope. Face facts. Live Holy Week and learn and repent and be saved.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1 — 15:47

**Monday:** Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1-3, 13-14 Jn 12:1-11

**Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6b, 15, 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34 Mt 26:14-25

**Thursday:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 Ps 116:12-13, 15-16c, 17-18 1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15

**Friday:** Is 52:13 — 53:12 Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jn 18:1 — 19:42

**Saturday:**

1) Gn 1:1—2:2 Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35

2) Gn 22:1-18 Ps 16:5, 8-11

3) Ex 14:15—15:1 Ps Ex 15:1-6, 17-18

4) Is 54:5-14 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13

5) Is 55:1-11 Ps 12:2-3, 4-6

6) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4 Ps 19:8-11

7) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28 Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 Ps Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

8) 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

9) Mk 16:1-7

## CRS stories of hope

Over this Lent, each week we have been introduced to a Catholic Relief Services program somewhere across the globe. This week, we turn our focus locally. Twenty-five percent of funds collected in Rice Bowls remains in the local diocese.

This year, the local focus is on the Garden of Feedin' in the Diocese of Albany, New York. This community garden program provides fresh fruit and vegetables for the Sister Maureen Joyce Center soup kitchen. Nearly 130 people gather for lunch at this soup kitchen three times per week. Those who prepare the meals for the soup kitchen strive to make them as healthy as possible for those eating. The community garden helps provide that nutrition. The garden also brightens up the local community, which includes abandoned lots and much unemployment. In addition to the soup kitchen and community garden, the center also houses a food pantry that serves 300 households per month. There is also a ministry for young families that provides diapers, formula and other necessities for young families.

We can see the virtue of the common good through the work of the Sister Maureen Joyce Center in Albany, New York. In order for all people to have the opportunity to grow and develop fully, a certain social fabric must exist within society. Social conditions such as economic, political, material and cultural impact our ability to realize our human dignity and reach our full potential.

As this Lenten journey ends, consider how you have been inspired to live out the Gospel call to love others. How will you incorporate the principles of human dignity, care for creation, dignity of work, option for the poor, call to community and the common good in your life? Prayerfully consider one of the following suggestions.

Go on a Justice Diet. For a day, list everything you eat and drink. Try to trace the supply chain of each item. If you eat meat, consider the grains that the animals ate, and the money the farmer spent to feed them. If you drank coffee, consider the conditions in which the farmers

### CRS RICE BOWL

MELISSA WHEELER

worked. What has gone into your day's diet? Where might injustice have taken place — social or ecological? As we move from the fast of Lent to the feast of Easter, be intentional about that upon which you feast.

Become an advocate for the poor by joining Catholics Confront Global Poverty (CCGP), a joint venture between the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services. As we have emphasized during Lent, the face of God is revealed in the faces of the poor and vulnerable. We are the hands and feet of Christ here on earth. How will you do the work? You can advocate for those who are hungry and suffering at CCGP's website, [www.confrontglobalpoverty.org](http://www.confrontglobalpoverty.org). The CCGP Action Center will provide all the tools and information that you need to send an email, make a phone call or schedule a visit with your representatives and senators. Your voice can make a difference locally and globally!

Consider how you might spread the social justice message in your own parish and this diocese. Are you being called to be a leader in this journey? Through CRS we are building capacity for social justice work. If you are interested in helping, please contact me at [mwheeler@bishophdwenger.com](mailto:mwheeler@bishophdwenger.com) or 260-496-4700.

Thank you so much for your commitment to CRS Rice Bowl this year. Please look in your parish bulletin for Rice Bowl collection information. May the Risen Christ inspire your good works this Easter season as you continue building the Kingdom of God each and every day.

Melissa Wheeler is the diocesan director for Catholic Relief Services.

### Saint of the Week



### Annunciation of the Lord

First century  
Feast March 25

According to the revised New American Bible, the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel tells Mary she has been chosen to be the mother of God, the Son, is the exact moment of the Incarnation. The encounter, with Mary's questioning and acceptance, is described in Luke 1: 26-38. This liturgical feast, first celebrated in the East, was introduced in Rome between 660 and 680. The oldest liturgical books called it "Adnuntiatio Domini," the Annunciation of the Lord, but during the Middle Ages it was popularly celebrated as a Marian feast, the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary. The 1969 revision of the Roman liturgical calendar restored the feast as a solemnity of the Lord and restored its ancient title.

# A mission of love

The World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia this September should be more than a vast Catholic “gathering of the clans” around Pope Francis — and so should the months between now and then. If the Church in the United States takes this opportunity seriously, these months of preparation will be a time when Catholics ponder the full, rich meaning of marriage and the family: human goods whose glory is brought into clearest focus by the Gospel. Parents, teachers and pastors all share the responsibility for seizing this opportunity, which comes at a moment when marriage and the family are crumbling in our culture and society.

Now, thanks to a fine mini-catechism prepared by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and the Pontifical Council for the Family, we’ve been given a basic resource with which to do months of preparatory catechesis on marriage and the family — and preachers have been offered reliable material for shaping homilies on these great themes between now and September.

“Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive” (Our Sunday Visitor) begins by reminding us that the Catholic Church’s teaching on marriage and the family is not composed of “positions” or “policies,” a widespread misunderstanding today. Rather, the Church’s teaching about marriage and the family are expressions of the basic truths of Christian faith: God, who brought the world into being, loves us; the divine love is most powerfully displayed in God’s Son, Jesus Christ; friendship with Jesus brings us into the communion of the Church, which is a

foretaste of the communion with God for which we are destined; our basic task as Christians is to offer others the gift we have been given — friendship with the Lord, which we do both by witness and by proposal. Or as St. Augustine so memorably put it in the “Confessions,” we have been made for God, and our hearts are restless until they rest in the divine embrace.

Nothing falls outside God’s creative and redeeming purposes, which include our being created male and female, the complementarity and fruitfulness built into our being created male and female, and the permanence of marriage, which is a sign of God’s own covenant fidelity. God is a communion of loving Persons; thus married love, St. John Paul II taught, is an icon of the interior life of the Holy Trinity. God keeps His promises; thus the promise-keepers among us who live the covenant of marriage bear witness to that divine promise-keeping by their own fidelity.

In light of all this, the Christian idea of chastity comes into clearer focus. In the Catholic view of things, chastity is not a dreary string of prohibitions but a matter of loving-with-integrity: loving rather than “using;” loving another for himself or herself. The sexual temptations to which the Church says “No” are the implications of a higher, nobler, more compelling “Yes”: yes to the integrity of love, yes to love understood as the gift of oneself to another, yes to the family as the fruit of love, and yes to the family as the school where we first learn to love. “Yes” is the basic Catholic stance toward sexuality, marriage and the family. We should witness



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

to that “yes” with a joyful heart, recognizing that the example of joyful Catholic families is the best gift we can offer a world marked today by the glorification of self-absorption.

In a pontificate that has reminded us continuously of our responsibilities to the poor, for whom God has a special care, preparations for the World Meeting of Families are also an opportunity to remind our society that stable marriages and families are the most effective anti-poverty program in the world. As demographer Nicholas Eberstadt wrote recently, “the flight from the family most assuredly comes at the expense of the vulnerable young” — especially low-income children, who are more vulnerable to the toxic effects of family breakdown. That’s not Catholic carping; that’s basic social science data.

The Catholic idea of marriage and the family is a gift for the whole world. Catholics should gift that gift away, profligately, in the months ahead.

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

On the other hand, the abortion pill itself has notable side effects and risks associated with its use. Common side effects include uterine cramps, high blood pressure, bleeding not related to the menstrual period, overgrowth of the uterine lining, stomach cramps, dizziness, reduced blood potassium and nausea. Some women also experience fever, chills and infection.

Among the more serious possible side effects would be death of both mother and child arising from endomyometritis (infection of the uterine lining) and septic shock. A December 2005, article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* indicated that women are about 10 times more likely to die from RU-486 abortions than surgical abortions in early pregnancy, partly because of the risk of infection.

Another complication of using RU-486 is incomplete abortion, with embryonic/fetal parts remaining. In the first six years of RU-486 availability in Australia, for example, there were 792 reports of adverse effects, 579 of which pertained to parts of the embryo/fetus remaining, and 126 of these required follow-up surgical abortion.

Time is clearly of the essence: the longer a woman waits after

taking RU-486 before attempting a reversal, the lower the likelihood of success. Health care professionals should become informed about the possibility of using progesterone to reverse the effects of RU-486 in women who have begun the chemical abortion process and then changed their minds. The website for the Abortion Pill Reversal Program, a national effort to encourage and support abortion pill reversal, can be found at <http://abortionpill-reversal.com/>. As noted on the site, “The Abortion Pill Reversal Program has a network of over 200 physicians worldwide that assist the women that call our hot line. This hotline is manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week by one of our Registered Nurses ... if you’ve taken the abortion pill, it may not be too late. Call 877-558-0333 right away.”

This remarkable initiative has already saved the lives of many children, and has brought the blessing of motherhood to fruition for many women who recognized the mistake they had made in taking the abortion pill.

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

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for March 29, 2015

Mark 11:1-10

Following is a word search based on the Processional Gospel reading for Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JERUSALEM	BETHPAGE	MOUNT
OLIVES	TWO	DISCIPLES
WILL FIND	A COLT	UNTIE
STREET	MANY PEOPLE	SPREAD
ROAD	LEAFY	BRANCHES
FIELDS	HOSANNA	BLESSED
THE NAME	LORD	DAVID

## UP THE ROAD

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

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# MSOB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

described as a “progesterone antagonist” or as an “antiprogesterone.” These names indicate the extent of its hostility towards the vital hormone, progesterone. What this means is that RU-486 blocks progesterone, a hormone needed to build and maintain the uterine wall during pregnancy. Thus, RU-486 can either prevent a developing human embryo from implanting in the uterus, or it can kill an implanted embryo by essentially starving her or him to death.

The reversal technique relies on using progesterone itself to counteract the effects of the abortion pill. In a study published in the *Annals of Pharmacotherapy* in December 2012, successful reversal was reported for four of six women who took RU-486; these women were able to carry their pregnancies to term after receiving an intramuscular injection of progesterone. Since 2012, dozens of other women have successfully reversed their chemical abortions. Thus far, no side effects or complications associated with reversal of the abortion pill have been reported.

# Gratitude shared for Catholic Relief Services Collection

Dear Bishop Rhoades:

On behalf of Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, I extend my gratitude for your contribution of \$62,944.23 from the 2014 Catholic Relief Services Collection in your diocese.

This collection supports six Catholic agencies whose programs help families suffering from war, famine, poverty and natural disasters. They also aid the victims of human trafficking, unaccompanied minors and immigrants trying to reunite with their family members.

Funds from last year’s collection helped USCCB’s Office of International Justice and Peace (IJP) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) work with the Church in the Central African Republic to raise awareness and advocate for those afflicted by violence and conflict. As a result of their intervention, the United States committed \$101 million for Africa Union Peacekeepers and \$30 million for humanitarian assistance. The number of African Union Peacekeepers was increased from 1,200 to almost

6,000. Through projects like these, the Office of International Justice and Peace and CRS help the Church to stop violence and seek assistance for those in need.

The millions of people that benefit from this collection continue to rely on our prayers and financial support for their basic daily needs.

Please convey to your priests and parishioners our heartfelt gratitude for their commitment and generosity to the Catholic Relief Services Collection. They demonstrate genuine love and compassion for all who are helped by the collection — our brothers and sisters who are truly Jesus in disguise.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

**Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr**  
 Archbishop of Cincinnati  
 Chairman,  
 Committee on National Collections

# Sports

**BISHOP LUERS 'RUN WITH THE KNIGHTS' 5K AND 10K RUN SLATED** Bishop Luers will host "Run with the Knights!" 10K Run and 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, May 9, at Foster Park, 3900 Old Mill Rd. Pre-registration is \$15/person, and after Friday, May 8, registration is \$20 per person. Race start time is 9 a.m. Day of the race registration will begin at 8 a.m. at Foster Park. Packet pickup will be Friday, May 8, from 4-6 p.m. in the front lobby of Bishop Luers High School or at Foster Park on the day of the race from 8-9 a.m. To register by credit card, visit [www.bishopluers.org](http://www.bishopluers.org). Race registration forms can be found at [www.bishopluers.org](http://www.bishopluers.org). For more information, contact Sarah Shank at 260-456-1261, ext. 3039.

## St. Jude Eagles' coach Westendorf retires

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — After responding to a request for a fifth grade boys' basketball coach in the St. Jude bulletin, Dave Westendorf and his brother, Jerry, agreed to take the team for one year until a "real" coach could be found.

Although he had never coached before, Westendorf had played the game at Bishop Dwenger High School and his uncle (Larry Westendorf) was a successful coach at St. Charles Borromeo School and went on to a Hall of Fame career at the University of Saint Francis.

"I caught the bug," Westendorf admits. But 20 years and 450 games later, Dave is hanging up his whistle

after chalking up 330 career wins with the Eagles. The first 10 years, Westendorf's children were too young to play, but the past 10 years, he was blessed to coach all three of his children.

Westendorf also credits his wife, Amy, with much of his success. "Amy was amazing," he said. "She ran all the other things in our lives so I could coach."

Westendorf also coached football at St. Jude for eight years, was part of the Central Catholic Football Formation Committee and served as head coach this past year for the newly formed squad.

"It was a really neat experience getting to work with the Central Catholic Alumni Association and honor the school that started Catholic football in Fort Wayne,"



PROVIDED BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Dave Westendorf, a St. Jude Eagles' coach for 20 years, shown during a pep talk with his St. Jude basketball team, is hanging up his whistle after chalking up 330 career wins with the Eagles.

the long-time volunteer detailed.

Westendorf lists the eight CYO championship tournament experiences as his most memorable games. "The player introductions, National Anthem and overall 'big stage' atmosphere is so exciting for the players," recalled Westendorf, who also served as athletic director the past five years at St. Jude before stepping down because of his increased day job commitments.

While game memories are special, Westendorf cherishes off-the-court moments most. "When it was just our team — practices goofs, locker room pep talks, thrills after victories and disappointments after defeats — that's when you really develop a special bond," he noted.

The mentor continued, "What I will miss the most is definitely the kids, the special people in the CYO and those I have coached with and against. Coaches have a special opportunity to get to know kids and interact with them in a special way, away from social pressures, schools problems and family concerns."

He feels it is such an honor and privilege to see a former player compete at the high school level, be named to the honor role, make college choices or land a job at a local business. And he is especially proud of three of his prodigies (Kyle Hartman, Ryan Christman and Marcus Stepp) making their second straight post-season run with the Bishop Dwenger basketball team.

### PRINCIPAL St. Pius X School, Indianapolis

St. Pius X School on the Indianapolis northside, invites qualified applicants to apply immediately for the position of principal. St. Pius has a current enrollment of over 400 students, K-8. The school offers a quality Catholic education, has a strong faculty and a supportive parish community. Please refer to Office of Catholic Education's website for further details.

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Office of Catholic Education  
1400 North Meridian Street,  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367  
[rrash@archindy.org](mailto:rrash@archindy.org)



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

**Bishop Luers presents 'Bye, Bye Birdie'**  
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Drama Department will present "Bye, Bye Birdie," on Friday, April 24, through Sunday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. in Bishop Luers gymnasium. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 by contacting Pat Shifley 260-456-1261 ext. 3162.

**Haven for Healing ministry begins**  
South Bend — A Haven for Healing is a local Catholic ministry offering hope and healing to women who have undergone an abortion. Women of all faiths are welcome. An ongoing support group for those who have completed a spiritual recovery program after an abortion will be offered on the second Monday of each month, beginning April 13 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For location and information call the confidential phone line 574-514-7471.

**Experience the Crucifixion...**  
Fort Wayne — Mary Hilger will be inspired during John Hilger's dramatization of the Crucifixion with a live chalk drawing on Good Friday, April 3, at 6 p.m. at Queen of Angels Church, 1500 West State Blvd. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7 p.m.

**Easter bake sale**  
Monroeville — The St. Rose of Lima Parish Altar and Rosary Sodality will have an Easter bake sale on Saturday, April 4, from 9 a.m. to noon at the fire station, 205 W. South St.

**Day of Reflection**  
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, April 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Seeking Joy." Bring a Bible. The cost of

the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register by April 3 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

**Spaghetti dinner supports St. Vincent de Paul**  
Elkhart — The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will have a spaghetti dinner Wednesday, April 8, from 5-7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 112 E. Lexington Ave. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6 to 12 and free for children 5 and under.

**LuersKnight and preview party**  
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will offer a Preview Knight on Thursday, April 16, from 7-9 p.m., for a sneak peek to LuersKnight. Items will be available to bid on and take home. Admission is \$5. The 35th annual LuersKnight will be Friday, April 17, with doors open at 5:30 p.m. For tickets call Kathy Skelly at 260-456-1261, ext. 3142.

**Rummage sale planned**  
New Haven — St. Louis Besancon Parish will have a spring rummage sale in the parish hall on Friday, April 24, from 9 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to noon with fill a bag for \$5 all day.

**Legacy dinner planned to support St. Vincent de Paul Society**  
South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County will be hosting the Legacy Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn, Gillespie Center, on Wednesday, April 29, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$125 per person, \$1,500 for a table of ten. For information contact Anne Watson, executive director, 574-234-6000, ext. 12113 or anne.watson@svdpsb.org.

**Fish fry**  
Yoder — St. Aloysius Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 27, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 6-11 and children 5 and under free.

**Jonah fish fry**  
South Bend — Christ the King Parish, 52473 State Route 933, will host a Jonah Fish Fry on Friday, March 27, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$9, children \$5. Dine in or drive-through.

**Choral presentation planned**  
Fort Wayne — "Prayers of the Cross," a choral presentation through Scripture and music reflects on the Lord's Passion and will be presented by the St. Charles adult choir on Sunday, March 29, at 7 p.m. in the church. Admission is free.



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## REST IN PEACE

<p><b>Angola</b> Marilyn Carrigan, 76, St. Anthony of Padua</p> <p>Peter G. Hess, 66, St. Anthony of Padua</p> <p><b>Columbia City</b> Edith Irene Cayot, 91, St. Catherine, Nix Settlement</p> <p><b>Donaldson</b> Sister Barbara Bruns, PHJC, 95, Catherine Kasper Home Chapel</p> <p><b>Elkhart</b> Donald L. Peterson, 77, St. Thomas the Apostle</p>	<p><b>Fort Wayne</b> Lois Eldora Herber, 86, Most Precious Blood</p> <p>E. Joan Sult, 85, St. Jude</p> <p>Glen Edward Greaf, 89, St. Therese</p> <p>Rose Ann Eichman, 80, Sacred Heart</p> <p>Armando Perez, 75, St. Patrick</p> <p><b>Mishawaka</b> Raymond R. Banke, 72, Queen of Peace</p> <p>Joseph Calderone, 87, St. Bavo</p> <p>George Drake, 87, Queen of Peace</p>	<p>Sister M. Cecelia Erpelding, OSF, 79, St. Francis Convent</p> <p><b>Notre Dame</b> Barbara M. Cichocki, 80, Our Lady of Loretto</p> <p><b>South Bend</b> Rosemary F. Nyerges, 88, St. Matthew</p> <p>Ronald William Przybylinski, 61, St. Hedwig</p> <p>Rosemary A. McColley, 84, St. Matthew</p> <p>Dorothy Stalbaum, 88, St. Jude</p>
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**Homeschool curriculum share offered**  
Fort Wayne — Join the Northeastern Indiana Catholic Home Educators (NICHE) for an annual curriculum share evening at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 17, at Our Lady of Good Hope, 7215 St. Joe Rd. Beth Matthews, a seasoned homeschooling mother of 12 and author of the book "Precious Treasure," will be the featured speaker. Childcare will not be available. For information, contact Jenn MacDonald at 260-485-8828 or jenn@highlanddove.org.

**World Youth Day information session for young adults**  
Fort Wayne — An information session about World Youth Day will be Saturday, March 28, from 6-7:30 p.m. at Fortezza Coffee, 819 S. Calhoun St. Learn more about "Mercy," the theme Pope Francis has chosen for 2016 and hear testimonials of past WYD participants. For more information visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/yam-fw](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/yam-fw).

**Adult classes set to begin**  
Fort Wayne — The Adult Learning Center, St. Joseph Parish, 2213 Brooklyn Ave., will

offer free adult classes beginning the week of April 7. Classes offered day or evening in home maintenance, citizenship, computer skills (English and Spanish), ESL (English as a second language), Bible study, Spanish language and more. Child care is not available. To request a schedule and to register, contact Terry Stuczynski at 260-432-5113 ext. 355 or [tstuczynski@saintjosephfw.org](mailto:tstuczynski@saintjosephfw.org).

**Formula for Life 5k run/walk**  
Fort Wayne — A 5k run/walk will be Sunday, April 12, at 1 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis. Organized by students, all proceeds benefit orphanage construction in Haiti. Registration is \$15, \$12/person family rate, silent auction, light lunch, live music, event T-shirt. Online registration at [RunReg.com](http://RunReg.com).

**Living stations planned at St. Anthony**  
Angola — The Spanish community of St. Anthony of Padua Parish and St. Paul Chapel will have Via Crucis: A Living Stations of the Cross Good Friday, April 3, at 3 p.m. just outside of the parish hall in the parking lot at St. Anthony Church.



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## HOLY STAIRS AT PONTIFICAL SANCTUARY OF THE HOLY STAIRS IN ROME



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

People pray on the Holy Stairs at the Pontifical Sanctuary of the Holy Stairs in Rome March 10. Tradition maintains that Jesus climbed the stairs when Pilate brought Him before the crowd. It's believed that Constantine's mother, St. Helen, brought the stairs to Rome from Jerusalem in 326.

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### FRIDAY, APRIL 10

6:30 to 9:00 p.m. EDT  
Young Adult Gathering  
St. Pius X Parish • Granger, Indiana

### SATURDAY, APRIL 11

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Reunion for former Poor Handmaids and  
Ancilla Domini High School Alumnae at  
Marian High School • Mishawaka, Indiana

2:00 to 5:00 p.m. – Festival at Marian High School

### SUNDAY, APRIL 12

9:00 a.m. – Prayer Service at  
Catholic Cemetery,  
Jefferson and Liberty • Mishawaka, Indiana

10:30 a.m. – Eucharistic Liturgy,  
Bishop Crowley Activity Center  
Marian High School

12:00 p.m. – Brunch and  
PHJC Past, Present and Future presentation,  
Main Gym • Marian High School

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