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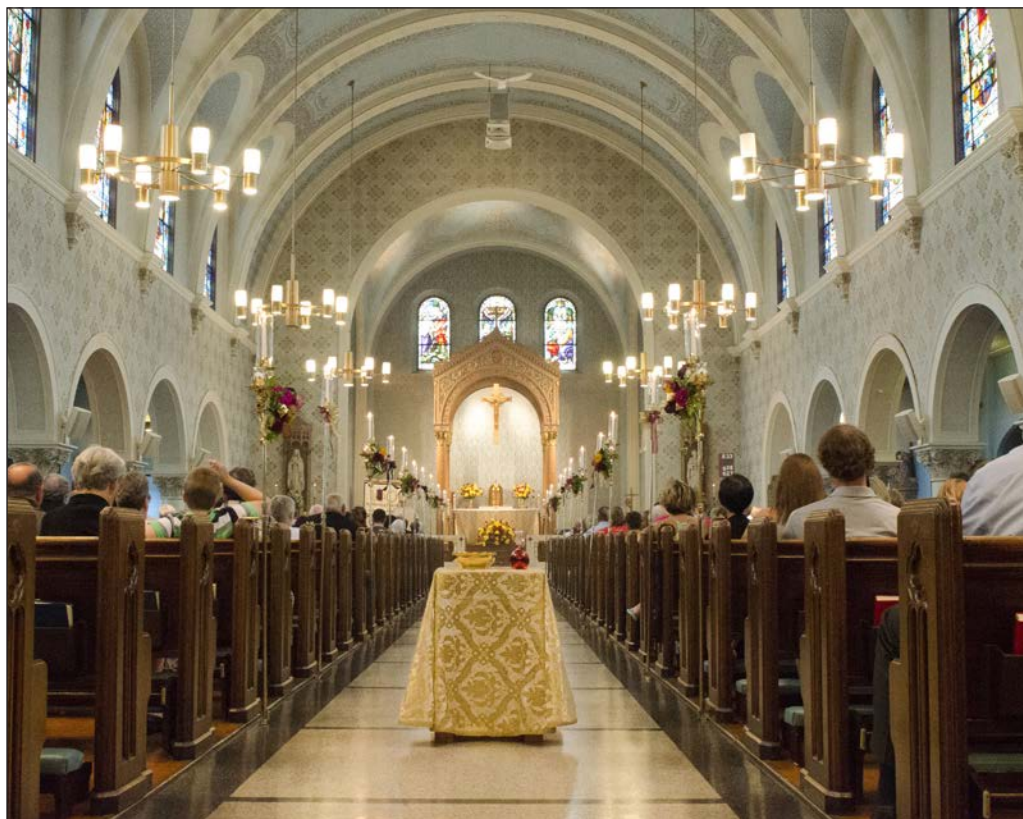
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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## St. Monica Parish celebrates 100th anniversary, looks to future with hope

BY ANN CAREY



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass Sunday, Aug. 30, at St. Monica Church in Mishawaka celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish.

MISHAWAKA — The celebration of the 100th anniversary of St. Monica Parish culminated in a joyful 1 p.m. Mass on Sunday, Aug. 30. The Mass took place just three days after the Aug. 27 feast of St. Monica, so readings for the Sunday liturgy were taken from her feast day.

Colorful fall mums climbed the stairs of the church's main entrance on Mishawaka Avenue, and center aisle candelabra decorated with floral arrangements provided a festive setting for the centennial Mass celebration. A large number of parishioners and friends nearly filled the historic church, which was built in 1927 to accommodate the growing parish.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was the main celebrant for the anniversary Mass. Joining him as concelebrants were: Msgr. Bruce Piechocki, St. Monica pastor; Father Bill Sullivan, pastor of St. John the Baptist Church in New Haven, who had been pastor of St. Monica for 12 years; and Father Barry England, who retired in June after being pastor at neighboring St. Bavo Church in Mishawaka for 15 years.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades traced the rich history of the parish, which was established by Bishop Herman J. Alerding in 1915. The first church

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## St. Stanislaus made a 'personal parish'

BY TIM JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — St. Stanislaus Parish in South Bend will become a "personal parish," serving the faithful who worship according to the extraordinary form of the Latin rite. The parish will continue to offer Mass in English as well. This change of canonical status will take effect Sept. 8, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, according to a decree issued by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Aug. 21.

In a letter dated Aug. 20, Bishop Rhoades thanked St. Stanislaus parishioners who attended an Aug. 8 meeting and said, "I was happy to receive your support for my plan to preserve St. Stanislaus Parish and Church by altering its status from that of a 'territorial parish' to a 'personal parish' that will also serve the spiritual and pastoral needs of the Latin Mass community in South Bend. I expect that this will bring an influx of new members to the

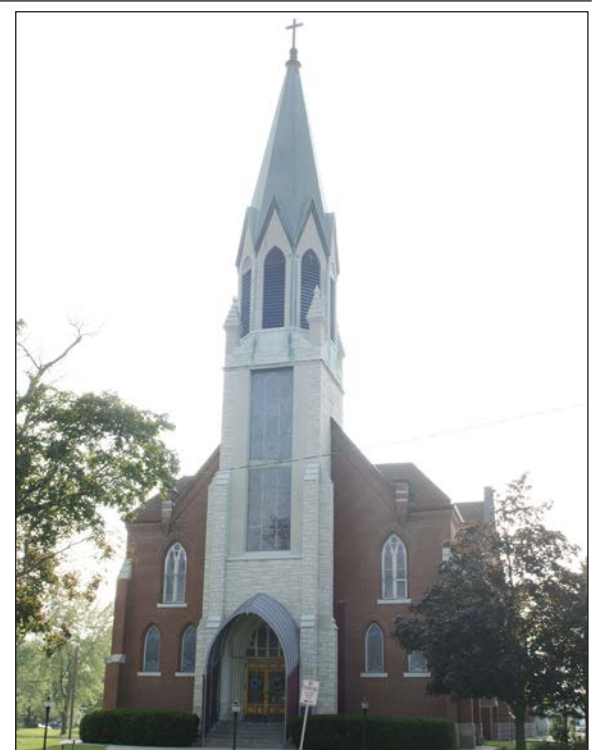
parish, thus enabling the parish to survive and grow, with the necessary income for ordinary and capital expenses."

According to canon law, "As a general rule a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the Christian faithful of a certain territory. When it is expedient, however, personal parishes are to be established determined by reason of the rite, language or nationality of the Christian faithful of some territory, or even for some other reason." — Canon 518.

Msgr. John Fritz of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter and the chaplain for the past 15 months of the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Latin Mass Community in South Bend will become the pastor of St. Stanislaus effective Sept. 8.

"I know that the present parishioners of St. Stanislaus will extend a warm welcome to the new parishioners from the Latin Mass

STANISLAUS, PAGE 3



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has made St. Stanislaus in South Bend a "personal parish" effective Sept. 8.

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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# A Retreat with the Carmelite Saints



IN TRUTH  
AND  
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Last week, I attended the annual spiritual retreat of the Bishops of our region (Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin) that was held at the Cardinal Stritch Retreat House on the campus of Our Lady of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois. It was a grace-filled time of prayer, rest, and fraternity with brother Bishops.

Retreats are wonderful opportunities to draw apart from our normal routine to be with the Lord, to take stock of our life, and to be renewed in spirit. We can think of Jesus who drew apart from the crowds, and even from the apostles, to be with His Father, to pray in solitude. Such withdrawal from the world is not an escape from the world: it is a way to enter more deeply into life, to encounter Christ anew, to drink of the living water He gives us to satisfy the thirst of our soul. Even if it is not possible to go on a retreat, we all need the spiritual refreshment that comes from prayer.

Last week's retreat was truly spiritual refreshment for me. The retreat director was a Discalced Carmelite priest who shared with us beautiful and practical meditations and insights from three great Carmelite saints and doctors of the Church: Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, and Therese of Lisieux. His talks brought back wonderful memories for me since the spiritual writings of these three saints were favorites of mine as a seminarian. Also, when I was a deacon, I lived and served two months in Salamanca, Spain, where I was able to visit Avila and other towns and cities where Teresa and John of the Cross lived and carried out the great reform of the Carmelite order.

Saint Teresa of Avila has always been one of my favorite spiritual masters. She was a great mystic, yet she was so very human. She is forthright, candid, transparent, and practical in her writings. Her Autobiography is a classic, along with her other writings: *The Way of Perfection*, *The Interior Castle*, and other smaller works. Our retreat director last week often cited *The Interior Castle*. In this work, Saint Teresa uses the analogy of a castle with seven dwellings or "mansions", each one closer to the heart of God who dwells as the King in the center of the castle. Through each mansion, one moves closer to God and further away from attachment to the things of this world. In each mansion, there are blessings and struggles.

Saint Teresa's *Interior Castle* is filled with spiritual wisdom. Writing about the first mansion, Teresa says: "It seems to me that we will never know ourselves unless we seek to know God. Glimpsing His greatness, we recognize our own powerlessness; gazing upon His purity, we notice where we are impure; pondering His humility, we see how far from humble we are."

The first mansion is the one where the soul recognizes that there indeed is a castle to be explored. One enters its doors by prayer. The first mansion is still a very



CNS/CROSIERS

**St. Teresa of Avila, mystic, founder of the Discalced Carmelites, and the first female declared a doctor of the Church, is depicted in a church in Troyes, France. St. Teresa was born in Spain in 1515 and is the patron saint of the country. March 28 was the 500th anniversary of her birth.**

exterior place where one can be easily distracted by the world's temptations. But as one enters the second mansion, one begins to hear the voice of God calling. In the third mansion, one moves and progresses to humility and submission to God's will. In the fourth mansion, the soul begins to experience the supernatural: consolations in prayer and what Teresa calls the "Prayer of Quiet." The fifth mansion is where the soul experiences the "Prayer of Union," the sixth the desire to be with God and leave the world behind; the seventh is where the soul finds rest in the presence of the King.

In the *Interior Castle*, as in her other writings, Saint Teresa of Avila teaches us to feel the thirst for God in our hearts and the deep desire to be with God, to converse with Him, to be His friends.

She, like so many other great saints, teaches us that it is in friendship with Christ that we find true peace and joy. How important it is that we make time for prayer, to grow in this friendship! It is not time wasted. Teresa had a true human friendship with God. This friendship, if authentic, produces fruits in our lives. From union with Jesus flows love of neighbor. As I said, prayer is not an escape. Good works are the fruit of prayer, the criteria of authentic

prayer. The authenticity of prayer is not judged by visions and ecstasies, the mystic Teresa teaches us, but by the conformity of our lives to the life and teaching of Jesus, conformity to God's will. True perfection is love of God and love of neighbor.

While reflecting last week on the rich insights of Saint Teresa of Avila and Saint John of the Cross, I was reminded also of the following words of Pope Francis about prayer: "How good it is to stand before a crucifix, or on our knees before the Blessed Sacrament, and simply to be in His presence! How much good it does us when He once more touches our lives and impels us to share His new life!"

I leave you with a quote of Saint Teresa of Avila, her definition of contemplative prayer: "Mental prayer in my opinion is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us."

And finally, Saint Teresa's poem of trust in God, even in adversity:

"Let nothing trouble you / Let nothing frighten you.  
Everything passes / God never changes  
Patience / Obtains all  
Whoever has God / Wants for nothing  
God alone is enough."

# STANISLAUS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

community,” Bishop Rhoades shared in his letter. “I learned at the Aug. 8 meeting that many present parishioners may be interested in attending the Latin Mass on occasion. Some may prefer to attend only the English Mass. There may be some parishioners who choose to transfer their membership to Holy Cross or another parish. My sense from our meeting was that the great majority will choose to remain parishioners of St. Stanislaus.”

In the decree of alteration, Bishop Rhoades noted, “I have made this decision in order to preserve St. Stanislaus as a parish. It is clear that the present parishioners, who have diminished in numbers through recent years, are unable to provide the financial income for the operations and capital needs of the parish. Making St. Stanislaus a ‘personal parish’ will add parishioners of the Latin Mass community, thus providing additional income and support for a sustainable parish.”

“At the same time,” the bishop added, “the Latin Mass community, which has been worshipping at St. Patrick Church in South Bend, has desired a parish of its own. This community should grow by having its own parish with the opportunity to increase its spiritual, charitable and educational activities and programs.”

He said, “I believe the alteration of St. Stanislaus Parish will promote the future growth of the parish, allow the continued upkeep and use of St. Stanislaus Church, and provide for the spiritual needs of the Latin Mass community as well as for those who worship according to the ordinary form of the Roman Rite. Regarding the latter, the pastor will ensure the provision of the ordinary form by enlisting the service of priests outside the parish.”

Holy Cross Father Robert Epping, who has been the pastor of St. Stanislaus and Holy Cross parishes in South Bend since 2013, told *Today's Catholic*, “Bishop Rhoades has asked the priests serving at Holy Cross Parish and who have been entrusted with the pastoral care of St. Stanislaus since the combination (since 2001) to continue providing assistance by celebrating the Saturday Vigil Masses at 4:30 p.m. in English.”

The priests who currently serve at Holy Cross include Father Epping and Holy Cross Father Edmund Sylvia and Holy Cross Father Vincent Coppola. They will all be assisting at St. Stanislaus with Masses.

“Besides the Masses for Sunday, we will be available at the invitation of the new pastor to assist with other liturgical services like funerals and weddings, etc. that the faithful of St. Stanislaus ask to be celebrated in English according to the Ordinary Rite of the Mass,” Father Epping said.

Appointed pastor Msgr. Fritz told *Today's Catholic*, “A ‘personal parish’ is a unique challenge, and the situation that will be at St. Stanislaus will be even more so. Since a per-

sonal parish does not have boundaries like most parishes, which are territorial, it will be a pastoral challenge for me to minister to the people who will be under my care. But this is a very welcome challenge.”

“This arrangement will have a stabilizing effect on the community and will definitely help it grow and thrive,” Msgr. Fritz continued. “Every family needs a certain level of stability and consistency in which to achieve its potential — a parish family is no different.”

“I am excited for the people that will have a legacy preserved and a parish home,” he said. “For myself, I am excited as this is my first appointment as a pastor. I take the responsibility of the pastoral care of souls very seriously — so please pray for me that I might be a shepherd after the heart of Christ.”

Msgr. Fritz described the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Latin Mass community in South Bend as “a very small community, but growing.”

“On average we have about 140 people at Mass on Sunday, and have even had 180 or 200 on occasion,” he said. “Although there are people of every age that attend, a large percentage of our community is comprised of families with young children — and that is where much of our growth lies.”

Most are from the immediate South Bend area, he said, “but we have some that come all the way from LaPorte, Bremen, Goshen and even a few from points in Michigan.”

Since its founding in 1899, St. Stanislaus has been served by the Congregation of Holy Cross.

“I am deeply grateful to Father Epping and to the Congregation of Holy Cross for their pastoral care of St. Stanislaus Parish through the years,” Bishop Rhoades wrote in his letter to parishioners.

Father Epping noted that in the last decades, extensive economic, ethnic and demographic changes have drastically changed the neighborhood population around St. Stanislaus. The number of registered parishioner households has diminished to slightly more than 100, many of whom are single or widowed persons.

“Many also have moved from the area but still fiercely maintain their loyalty to the parish,” Father Epping said. “There are few young families who belong to St. Stanislaus.” He said, “Becoming a ‘personal parish’ entrusted to the pastoral care of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter and moving the Latin Mass community, who gather and celebrate liturgy at St. Patrick’s Parish to St. Stanislaus, provides a ‘home’ for an exciting and potentially growing community of many younger families to the membership of the parish.”

“It is anticipated that new life and new energy will effectively resur-

rect parish life and provide for the extended life-line of the parish and the rich and vibrant use of the parish facilities that otherwise may continue to deteriorate,” Father Epping said. “I don’t know if I would use the word ‘save’ but rather extend the life of the parish. The other alternative seemed to be to close the parish and sell or demolish the property of a very beautiful church with a long and revered history.”

St. Stanislaus parishioner Phyllis Largey, who has served on the Holy Cross-St. Stanislaus Pastoral Council, spoke to *Today's Catholic* about the benefits of the alteration.

She said, “St. Stanislaus Church will remain open. The long-time parishioners will continue to have St. Stan’s as their spiritual home. We will have a significant increase in parish members as we welcome the members who worship in the Latin rite. We will also have the opportunity to look to the future for increased activities within the parish and hopefully be able to build the cash necessary to maintain the physical plant.”

Another pastoral council member, parishioner Tom Cleveland added, “The older parishioners will still be able to be buried out of their church since we are being given a reprieve from being closed and we will be standing on our own again. That’s what is important to them.”

Stephen and Suzanne Judge, who are active in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Latin Mass Community, said, “Our family is extremely grateful to Bishop Rhoades and thrilled about the move to St. Stanislaus.”

“St. Patrick’s is a beautiful church and the pastor and parish have been gracious to host us. We will always remember our time there — which has included three Baptisms and two first Holy Communions — with fondness and tremendous gratitude,” Stephen Judge said.

“But we are excited that the community will now have its own home to grow into and greater control over its own future,” he added. “We hope the move will not only provide greater stability for those, like ourselves, attached primarily to the extraordinary form, but will also help share the beauty of the older form to those outside our community.”

Bishop Rhoades, in his letter to parishioners of St. Stanislaus, noted, “A similar alteration of a parish in Fort Wayne a few years ago saved that parish, which had been unable to remain viable until it was made a ‘personal parish’ for the Latin Mass community in Fort Wayne. Today the parish is doing well as parishioners who attend the English Mass and those who attend the Latin Mass work together as one for the good of the whole parish. I am hopeful that this will also happen at St. Stanislaus.”

**The first Latin Mass at St. Stanislaus will be Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. for the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It will be a sung Mass with incense in thanksgiving to Almighty God and the intercession of Our Lady.**



## PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Sept. 6, 4 p.m. — Meeting with Militia of the Immaculata, University of Notre Dame
- Sunday, Sept. 6, 10 p.m. — Mass at Alumni Hall, University of Notre Dame
- Monday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m. — Mass and Dedication of Altar at Breen Phillips Hall, University of Notre Dame
- Tuesday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop’s Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, Sept. 9, 12 p.m. — Mass and Meeting with Catholic Community Foundation, St. Martin de Porres Church, Syracuse
- Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Review Board, Holiday Inn, Warsaw
- Thursday, Sept. 10, 10:30 a.m. — Meeting with Presbyterate of the Diocese, Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw
- Saturday, Sept. 12, 11 a.m. — Mass at Confirmation Rally, Marian High School, Mishawaka
- Sunday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m. — Mass at St. Gaspar del Bufalo Church, Rome City
- Monday, Sept. 14, 11 a.m. — Meeting of USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, Washington, D.C.
- Wednesday, Sept. 16, 3 p.m. — Meeting of Catholic Relief Services Overseas Operations Committee, Baltimore, Maryland
- Thursday, Sept. 17, 9 a.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services, Baltimore, Maryland



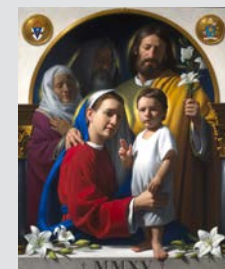
## Priest appointment

The Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following appointment:

• **Msgr. John C. Fritz, FSSP**, as pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish, South Bend, effective Sept. 8, 2015.

## LOVE IS OUR MISSION

During the World Meeting of Families, 2015, you are cordially invited to attend Mass and Reception honoring the gifts of persons with Disabilities, the Deaf Community, family, friends and caregivers.



WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 24, 7 P.M.**  
**THE SHRINE OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN**

1019 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Philadelphia, PA 19123

**Principal celebrant: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades**  
**Homilist: Father Mike Depcik, OSFS**

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 26, 8:30 A.M.**  
**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**

21 S. 13<sup>th</sup> St., Philadelphia, PA 19107

**Principal celebrant: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades**

# Family prayer time can start with small, simple gestures, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Parents who juggle packed work and family schedules deserve a Nobel Prize in mathematics for doing something not even the most brilliant scientists can do: They pack 48 hours of activity into 24, Pope Francis said.

"I don't know how they do it, but they do," the pope told thousands of people gathered Aug. 26 for his weekly general audience. "There are moms and dads who could win the Nobel for this!"

Focusing his audience talk on the family and prayer, Pope Francis said he knows modern life can be frenetic and that family schedules are "complicated and packed."

The most frequent complaint of any Christian, he said, is that he or she does not have enough time to pray.

"The regret is sincere," the pope said, "because the human

heart seeks prayer, even if one is not aware of it."

The way to begin, he said, is to recognize how much God loves you and to love Him in return. "A heart filled with affection for God can turn even a thought without words into a prayer."

"It is good to believe in God with all your heart and it's good to hope that He will help you when you are in difficulty or to feel obliged to thank Him," the pope said. "That's all good. But do we love the Lord? Does thinking about God move us, fill us with awe and make us more tender?"

Bowing one's head or "blowing a kiss" when one passes a church or a crucifix or an image of Mary are small signs of that love, he said. They are prayers.

"It is beautiful when moms teach their little children to blow a kiss to Jesus or Mary," the pope said. "There's so much tenderness in that. And, at that moment, the heart of the child is transformed



Pope Francis prays as he leads his weekly audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Aug. 26.

CNS PHOTO/ETTORE FERRARI, EPA

into a place of prayer."

"Isn't it amazing that God caresses us with a father's love?" he asked the crowd in St. Peter's

and awaited the results. Instead, God did and does infinitely more than this. He accompanies us on the path of life, protects us and loves us."

If you learn as a child to turn to God "with the same spontaneity as you learn to say 'daddy' and 'mommy,' you've learned it forever," he said.

By teaching children how to make the sign of the cross, to say a simple grace before meals and to remember always that God is there and loves them, he said, family life will be enveloped in God's love and family members will spontaneously find times for prayer.

"You, mom, and you, dad, teach your child to pray, to make the sign of the cross," Pope Francis said.

The simple little prayers, he said, will increase family members' sense of God's love and presence and their certainty that God has entrusted the family members to one another.

## NOTRE DAME FORUM 2015-16 PRESENTS:

# Catholic Freedom and Secular Power:

## How the Religious Liberty Debate Has Changed Since Vatican II

Wednesday, September 16  
4:00 p.m.

University of Notre Dame  
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NY Times Columnist  
Ross Douthat

The 2015-16 Notre Dame Forum on "Faith, Freedom and the Modern World: 50 Years After Vatican II," commemorates the 50th anniversary of the publication of pivotal documents of the Second Vatican Council that have particular significance today.

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## Confirmation Mass schedule for fall 2015

All Masses celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades unless noted

- Sunday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Matthew, South Bend
- Friday, Oct. 2, 6 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Patrick, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m. — Confirmation, St. Joseph, South Bend (Visiting Bishop)
- Friday, Oct. 30, 7:30 p.m. — Confirmation, Corpus Christi, South Bend
- Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m. — Confirmation, St. Mary, Bristol
- Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m. — Confirmation, St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne
- Friday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m. — Confirmation, Christ the King, South Bend
- Saturday, Nov. 7, 4 p.m. — Confirmation, Holy Cross, South Bend
- Sunday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. — Confirmation, St. Jude, South Bend
- Sunday, Nov. 8, 4 p.m. — Confirmation, St. Anthony, South Bend
- Sunday, Nov. 22, 10:30 a.m. — Confirmation, St. Michael, Waterloo
- Sunday, Dec. 6, 11:15 a.m. — Confirmation and Full Communion, Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame
- Sunday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. — Confirmation — Latin Rite, Sacred Heart, Fort Wayne

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NOTRE DAME FORUM 2015-16

**FAITH  
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50 YEARS  
AFTER VATICAN II

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# Lessons from South America: How to greet and understand Pope Francis

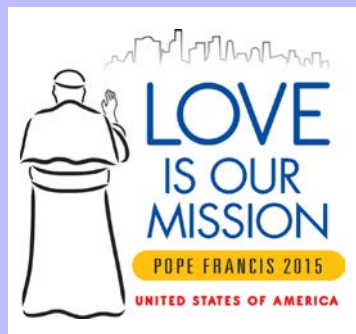
BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — People make special preparations for welcoming a special guest, and watching what worked and did not work in Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay may help people preparing for Pope Francis' visit to the United States in September.

Some of the plans, however, will require common-sense adjustments, especially because the U.S. Secret Service is likely to frown on certain behavior, like tossing things to the pope — a phenomenon that occurs much more often with Pope Francis than with any previous pope. At the Vatican, the items tend to be soccer jerseys and scarves; in Ecuador, it was flower petals — lots of them.

Watching the pope July 5-12 in South America it is clear:

- Pope Francis loves a crowd. He walks into events with little expression on his face, then lights up when he starts greeting, blessing, kissing and hugging people. Persons with disabilities, the sick and squirming babies come first.
- The pope does not mind being embraced, but he does not like people running at him. As a nun in Our Lady of Peace Cathedral in La Paz rushed toward Pope Francis July 8, the pope backed up and used both hands to gesture her to calm down and step back.
- At Mass, Pope Francis tends



to be less animated. His focus and the focus he wants from the congregation is on Jesus present in the Eucharist. At large public Masses on papal trips, he sticks to the text of his prepared homilies, although he may look up and repeat phrases for emphasis.

• A meeting with priests, religious and seminarians is a fixture on papal trips within Italy and abroad; in Cuba and the United States, the meetings with take place during vespers services, Sept. 20 in Havana and Sept. 24 in New York. At vespers, like at Mass, Pope Francis tends to follow his prepared text.

However, when the gathering takes place outside the context of formal liturgical prayer, he never follows the prepared text, even if he may hit the main points of the prepared text as he did in Bolivia July 9.

• Pope Francis has said he needs a 40-minute rest after lunch and his official schedule always includes at least an hour of down

time. However, like his “free” afternoons at the Vatican, the pope often fills the breaks with private meetings with friends, acquaintances or Jesuits. In fact, his trips abroad have always included private get-togethers with his Jesuit confreres, although in South America one of the meetings — in Guayaquil, Ecuador — was a luncheon formally included in the itinerary. But he also spent unscheduled time with Jesuits at Quito's Catholic university the next day. In Paraguay, he made an unscheduled visit to 30 of his confreres in Asuncion and then went next door to their Cristo Rey School to meet with more than 300 students from Jesuit schools.

• In South America, Pope Francis specifically asked that his meetings with the bishops be private, informal conversations — similar to the way he handles the regular “ad limina” visits of bishops to the Vatican to report on the state of their dioceses. For the “ad limina” visits, he hands them the text of a rather general look at their country and Catholic community, then begins a discussion. But when he makes a formal speech to a group of bishops, his words can seem critical. But, in fact, the tone tends to be one of addressing his “fellow bishops” and his words are more of a collective examination of conscience than a scolding.

• Pope Francis' speeches in general — whether to presidents, civic



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis greets the crowd as he arrives to celebrate Mass in Los Samanes Park in Guayaquil, Ecuador, July 6.

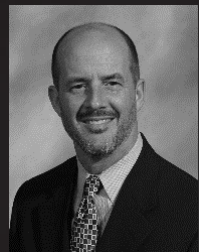
and business leaders, young people or even, for example, the prisoners in Bolivia — acknowledge what is going well and being done right, then seeks to build on that. It's a combination of a pat on the back and a nudge forward. While Bolivia's Palmasola prison is notorious for its difficult conditions and while the pope pleaded for judicial reform in the country, he also told the prisoners: “The way you live together depends to some extent on yourselves. Suffering and deprivation can make us selfish of heart and lead to confrontation.”

• Since the days of the globe-trotting St. John Paul II, the nunciature stakeout has been a staple of papal trips. In fact, anywhere a pope sleeps, people will gather — shouting and singing — in the hopes that the pope will make a special appearance. St. John Paul, retired Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have all obliged on occasion. The three nights Pope Francis stayed there, he came out to say good night. Increasingly his tone was that of a dad who had already told his children five times to go to bed.

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# Iraqi archbishop: Plight of fleeing Christians has challenged his faith

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Bashar Warda of Irbil, Iraq, placed his face in his hands when asked how his faith has been challenged and changed in the crisis he has helped manage over the past year.

He said he has outwardly encouraged the Christians whom he welcomed to Irbil when they fled Islamic State, but within his heart he would frequently “quarrel with God.”

“I don’t understand what He is doing when I look at what has happened in the region,” Archbishop Warda said. “I quarrel with Him every day.”

However, the arguments take place within his intimate relationship with God, one that, with the help of grace, withstands even the previously unimaginable challenges to his faith that he has faced over the past year.

“Before going to sleep, I usually hand all my crises, wishes, thoughts and sadness to Him, so I can at least have some rest,” Archbishop Warda told *The Criterion*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. “The next day, I usually wake up with His providence that I would never dream about.”

Looking back over the year since more than 100,000 Christians and other minorities sought refuge in Irbil, Archbishop Warda said he sees

the care of God coming to suffering believers more effectively than he could have ever devised himself, in part through local lay and religious Catholics and organizations like the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Relief Services, the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and Aid to the Church in Need. His archdiocese in the Kurdistan region of northern Iraq has, with the help of Catholic relief agencies, provided shelter, food, medical care and educational services to the displaced.

“(God) did it in a way that a state could not really offer to its citizens in such a situation,” Archbishop Warda said. “He did it through the Church and through the generosity of so many people.”

His own faith is bolstered as well when he sees the undaunted faith of displaced Christians.

“People come and tell their stories of persecution and how they were really terrified, having to walk eight to 10 hours during the night,” Archbishop Warda said. “In the end, they would tell you, ‘Thank God we are alive. Nushkur Allah. We thank God for everything.’ That’s the phrase they end with. That’s strengthening, in a way.”

In contrast to the goodness he sees in the suffering faithful that have filled Irbil, Archbishop Warda recoils when he describes the Islamic State, which he often refers to by its Arabic “criminal name,” “Daesh.”

“Daesh is evil,” he said. “The way



CNS PHOTO/SEAN GALLAGHER, THE CRITERION

**Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Bashar Warda of Irbil, Iraq, concelebrates an Aug. 23 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. The archbishop visited several U.S. cities and discussed his experience with the flood of Christian refugees to Irbil following the Islamic State’s capture of Mosul and the Ninevah Plain.**

they slaughter, the way they rape, the way they treat others is brutal. They have a theology of slaughtering people.”

And he knows that the evil that overtook Mosul could also strike Irbil. “It’s quite possible, but the coal-

ition, led by the Americans, has stopped Daesh from advancing,” Archbishop Warda said. “This has given some sense of security to the people. But Daesh is just 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Irbil. It’s not far away. Anything could happen.”

This uncertainty and the horrific experiences of the past year have led many Christians who fled to Irbil to move on to refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey with the intention of emigrating for good — something that saddens Archbishop Warda.

“They lost trust in the land and their neighbors,” he said. “Everyone has betrayed them and treated them as a treasure to be stolen, took their houses and property. Their daughters were under threat at any time.”

The thousands who remain in Irbil have moved from makeshift shelters on Church properties and in public schools to prefabricated houses and pre-existing homes provided or rented by the Church. Some want to stay in the region and are seeking jobs to support their families.

“All of them are waiting for Mosul to be liberated so that they can go back again and start their life again,” Archbishop Warda said.

An important step that he thinks will help galvanize the international community to help Iraqi Christians is for national leaders to join with Pope Francis and recognize what is happening there as a genocide. He spoke of this in Indianapolis — where he visited his fellow Redemptorist, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin — and in Washington.

“It’s genocide. It has all the facts, events, stories and experiences to meet the definition of genocide,” Archbishop Warda told *The Catholic Standard*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Recognizing the genocide would mean “those people are not forgotten,” the archbishop said. “They are remembered and acknowledged. Their sacrifices and experiences are not forgotten. We’d be giving them just status, to help the world not repeat (this).”

“Do not wait another 20 years and look back to what happened and say, ‘Well, I’m sorry that we did not do something really decisive,’” he told *The Criterion*.

## Are you celebrating your 25th, 50th or 60th Wedding Jubilee in 2015?

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate two Wedding Jubilee Masses

In Fort Wayne, the Mass will take place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. with a reception to follow at St. Mary’s at Jefferson and Lafayette.

In South Bend, the Mass will take place at the Cathedral of St. Matthew, Sunday, October 18, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow at St. Matthew School.



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We will attend Mass in  Fort Wayne  South Bend Attend Reception?  YES  NO

Number of family members attending reception with us  Marriage Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

R.S.V.P. no later than October 5, 2015 for Fort Wayne and October 12, 2015 for South Bend.

## Eco-friendly parenting showcase offered

MISHAWAKA — Saint Joseph Health System Mishawaka Medical Center invites the Michiana community to attend Pure Parenting, a free event showcasing eco-friendly and natural products for growing families.

Pure Parenting will take place from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, in the Education Centers at Mishawaka Medical Center.

Eco-friendly products and services will be on display throughout the event. Attendees will be able to speak with experts about how they can raise a family the "green" and healthy way.

In addition to educational displays, products and experts, SJHS physicians and staff will also speak on the following topics: "Fertility Care: Going green with organic family planning" — Dr. David Parker and Suzy Younger, SJHS FertilityCare at 11 a.m.; "Food for thought: Why breast is best" — Dr. Lia Faase at noon; "Well-child visits: Why they are so important" — Dr. Karen Davis at 1 p.m.; "What to expect when you are testing: Genetic screening options" — Dr. Asad Sheikh and Dr. Melissa Gillette at 2 p.m.

Beyond Zen Studio will offer a free prenatal yoga class at 10 a.m. The first 200 participants will receive complimentary fruit infusion water bottles. Door prizes will be available, including car and booster seats.

## Future Business Leaders of America attend conference

SOUTH BEND — Six members of the Saint Joseph High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter attended the National FBLA Leadership Conference in Chicago this summer. Over 10,000 attendees came from across the U.S. and other countries. Student Mitch Murphy placed sixth nationally in the economic competition.

Indiana has not had anyone place in the top 10 in any competition in seven years. There were over 13,000 students and advisors in attendance at this conference from all 50 states. The students that attended and their competitions were Mitch Murphy, economics; Aidan Gonzales, business calculations; Garrett Loitz and Stephen Grissoli, digital design and promotion; Scott Coyne and Colin Mackey, e-business.

## Katherine Frazier enters Adrian Dominican Congregation

ADRIAN, Michigan — The Dominican Sisters of the Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary, the Adrian Dominican Sisters, celebrated the Rite of Entrance into Candidacy for Katherine Frazier



KATHERINE FRAZIER

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## BISHOP DWENGER BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW CHAPEL



TIM JOHNSON

Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne held a groundbreaking celebration Aug. 21 for the new Mary, Queen of All Saints Chapel that will be built on the site. Bishop Dwenger Principal Jason Schiffli said the new chapel will be a prominent and central sacred place at the school. The space, he said, is intended for the entire Bishop Dwenger community "because we have a larger, beautiful place of worship." Dignitaries in the photo, from left, are students Thomas Koehl and Grace Garrett; Tom Kenny, theology department chair; Amy Johns, assistant principal, curriculum; Chris Svarczkopf, assistant principal, dean; Father Joe Gaughan, region vicar and Bishop Dwenger Class of 1980 graduate; Jason Schiffli, principal; Marsha Jordan, superintendent of Catholic Schools; Rick Donovan, school board co-president; Katie Burns, development and alumni director; and students Claire Manning and John Landrigan.

on Aug. 8, during a special liturgy marking the feast of St. Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers.

Frazier, the older of two daughters of Lee and Lynne (McKenna) Frazier, of Fort Wayne, had spent the past year as a pre-candidate of the Adrian Dominican Sisters. While continuing her ministry as coordinator of the Bishop Donald Trautman Catholic House at Gannon University, Erie, Pennsylvania, Frazier also focused on coming to know the Adrian Dominican Sisters better. As the first to enter the congregation's new pre-candidacy program, Frazier also spent the year in discerning her call to religious life and her readiness and capacity for ministry and community life.

The Aug. 8 rite signified the next step in the initial formation process for Frazier. After Dominican Sister Maribeth Howell, former formation director, formally testified as to Frazier's readiness for the next step, Dominican Sister Attracta Kelly, prioress of the congregation, called her forward.

"In faithfulness you have listened to God's call and have responded with a 'yes' to continue in a relationship of mutual discernment for vowed membership," Sister Attracta told Frazier. "We welcome you into our midst to share faith and life with us."

Sister Attracta presented Frazier with a copy of the Adrian Dominican Sisters' Mission Statement, as well as the image of her name's sake, Dominican mystic and Church reformer St. Catherine of Siena.

Frazier holds a bachelor's degree from Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame, and an MPhil in world archeology from the University of Cambridge in Cambridge, England. As a candidate, she will live in Siena House, the formation house, study the identity and history of the congregation and serve in ministries on the motherhouse campus.

## Joseph Trout professes vows of Dominican brothers

ST. LOUIS, Missouri — Joseph M. Trout, along with four other Dominican friars, will make a solemn profession of vows as a brother to the Dominican order received by Dominican Father James V. Marchionda, prior provincial of the Province of St. Albert the Great, at St. Pius



JOSEPH M. TROUT

V Church in St. Louis, Missouri, on Sept. 5 at 10 a.m. A reception will follow at St. Dominic Priory. Trout's home parish, St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, will host a reception on Sept. 19 from 2-5 p.m. Trout, a 2004 graduate of Bishop Dwenger and graduate of Purdue University, plans to pursue studies for the Priesthood. He made his first temporary vows on Aug. 15, 2011, which mark his permanent date for Dominican anniversaries. He teaches theology at Fenwick, the Dominican high school in Chicago.

## USF to present 'Jesus Christ Superstar'

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts will present the rock opera, "Jesus Christ Superstar," during the fall semester as part of the university's 125th anniversary celebration. An open audition for the musical will be held on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 2 p.m. at the USF North Campus in room 137, with call backs taking place on Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m.

The USF School of Creative Arts is inviting all interested individuals to audition as this is a large

production. Those auditioning are asked to prepare and memorize one verse of a song, which best demonstrates their vocal ability. Standard Broadway show tunes are preferred and sheet music will be required as an accompanist is provided, but producers are also looking for performers who can handle the "rock and roll feel" of this high-energy musical.

Performances will be presented Friday through Sunday, Nov. 6-8 and 13-15, at the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center, 431 W. Berry St., Fort Wayne.

Tickets are available through ArtsTix Community Box Office at 260-422-4226 or online anytime at tickets.artstix.org.

## 'Peace is Always Possible' meeting at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — For nearly 50 years, members of the Community of Sant'Egidio have responded to the needs of their cities and the world through prayer, friendship with the poor and the promotion of peace through dialogue. On Sept. 9-10, the Community of Sant'Egidio and the University of Notre Dame will offer two moments of prayer and dialogue called "Peace is Always Possible."

A plenary session will be held Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. with the topic "Peace Is Always Possible: Reflections from Proven Peacemakers," which will include an interfaith dialogue panel at McKenna Hall, University of Notre Dame.

On Thursday, Sept. 10, at 7:30 p.m., the topic "Ecumenical Prayer for Peace in all Lands" will include a candlelight procession, and signing of the Appeal for Peace at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame.

During this week, Sept. 6-13, there will also be several opportunities of dialogue, prayer and service. Visit [www.santegidiosa.org/american-meeting-for-peace](http://www.santegidiosa.org/american-meeting-for-peace).

## Spanish Adult Education program begins classes Aug. 15

GOSHEN — The diocese began the "Educación Para el Ministerio" program. The classes will be held at St. John Evangelist Parish Gym in Goshen every third Saturday of the month. The program is held by a diverse group of professors in the Spanish language. Each parish with Hispanic Ministry has been given the registration forms. For information call 574-259-9994 ext. 217

Una vez más es tiempo para el Programa de Educación Para el Ministerio. El 15 de agosto del 2015, comenzaremos el programa de Educación Para el Ministerio. Las clases van a ofrecerse cada tercer sábado del mes. El programa es presentado por un grupo diverso de Profesores Católicos en el lenguaje español. Se ha facilitado las formas a las parroquias con Ministerio Hispano para que los prospectos participantes se inscriban. Para más información por favor llame 574-259-9994, ext. 217.

## SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH BEND PRESENTS CHECK FOR SEMINARIANS



PROVIDED BY THE SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

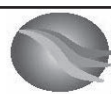
Representatives of the Serra Club of South Bend, Susan and Ray Vales and Frances Sain, met with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to present a check for \$3,000 raised through the sale of Father's Day cards in several of the South Bend and Mishawaka parishes and will be used for the education of diocesan seminarians. The Serra Club is an organization that prays for, supports and promotes vocations to the Priesthood and religious life. The Vatican has designated Serra as the global lay apostolate for vocations in the Catholic Church. Serra clubs are named after their patron, Father Junipero Serra who founded missions along the California coast and evangelized thousands. The canonization of Father Serra by Pope Francis will take place on Sept. 23 at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Serra Club of South Bend meets twice a month at the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka. The Serra Club is open to all Catholics and new members are always welcome. For more information call Ted Niezer at 412-328-5351 or Frances Sain, president, at 574-272-1989.

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## CENTRAL CATHOLIC MEMORIAL NEARING COMPLETION

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — The “Christ of Lewis Street” statue that once stood atop the Fort Wayne’s Central Catholic High School building with arms outspread in a permanent and protective gesture now stands as part of Central Catholic Memorial Place at the corner of Lewis and Clinton streets, where the school stood. A path of memorial bricks leads from the corner where shrubs, trees and memorial benches will be placed all focused on the statue of Jesus and bronze plaques touching on “CC” history, which stretched from 1938 to 1972, graduating 9,998 students. When Central Catholic closed it gave way to two new high schools — Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers — in north and south locations in Fort Wayne.

The cost of the project is approximately \$90,000, some of which has been covered by the sale of 360 engraved bricks at \$50 each and benches at \$1,000 and trees at \$300.

It is hoped that 2,000 bricks will be sold.



JERRY KESSEN

Central Catholic Alumni Association officers, President Leanne Mensing and Treasurer George Haggengjos, check blueprints near a base that will bear a 4x6 foot piece of black granite with a photo of Central Catholic High School. Mensing graduated in 1958 and is a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo in Fort Wayne. George Haggengjos was in the class of '48 and attends St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Columbia City.

### Two to profess final vows, ordained deacons in Holy Cross

NOTRE DAME — The Congregation of Holy Cross celebrated the final profession of vows of two men at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame.

Holy Cross Father Thomas J. O'Hara, provincial superior of the Congregation of Holy Cross, U.S. Province of Priests and Brothers, presided at the Mass and received the vows of Holy Cross Deacons Matthew E. Hovde and Dennis A. Strach II.

Holy Cross Deacons Matthew Hovde and Dennis Strach II took the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience according to the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross. For the past several years, they have been in a period of temporary vows, which they renewed annually. On Aug. 29, they committed their lives and work to the communal life and ministry of Holy Cross.

They were ordained to the Order

of the Deacon at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, in the Moreau Seminary Chapel by Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, bishop of the Peoria Diocese.

Matthew Hovde is the youngest of three children of Robert and Cynthia Hovde of Miami, Florida. He graduated with a bachelor's in history/theology from the University of Notre Dame in 2011, where he earned a Master of Divinity in 2015. Hovde entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in 2007 as an Old Collegian. He made his first profession of vows on July 28, 2012.

During his formation, Hovde served at the Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, (2012-2013); at St. Joseph Parish (Summer 2013); St. Pius X Parish (2013-2014); the Shrine of Basil Moreau, LeMans France (Summer 2014); and as assistant director of the Old College Undergraduate Seminary, Notre Dame (2014-2015).

Matthew will serve his diaconate year as assistant rector of Sorin College, University of Notre Dame and in Campus Ministry, University of Notre Dame.

Dennis Strach II is the only son of Dennis and Carla Strach of

Rochester Hills, Mich. He graduated with a bachelor's from Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan, in 2010, pursued graduate studies at the University of Notre Dame in 2010-2011 and earned his Master of Divinity from the university in 2015. He entered Holy Cross in August 2010 as a postulant and made his first vows on July 28, 2012.

During his formation, Strach served in Confirmation prep at the Office of Campus Ministry, University of Notre Dame (2010-2011); completed a summer assignment at St. Adalbert Catholic Church (summer 2011); served as chaplain of spiritual care at the Penrose and St. Francis Hospitals, as well as the Namaste Alzheimer Center his novitiate year (2011-2012). Strach then served at La Casa de Amistad, South Bend (2012-2013); Fe y Alegria School, Canto Grande, Peru (summer 2013); Marian High School, Mishawaka (2013-2014); and served in marriage preparation at the Office of Campus Ministry, University of Notre Dame (2014-2015).

Strach will serve as a deacon at St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church in Austin, Texas.

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# Exciting turnout for residence hall blessing ceremony

DONALDSON — Rain did not turn away a group of nearly 200 gathered on County Road 9B for the new residence hall open house at Ancilla College Tuesday, Aug. 18.

Dignitaries mingled with students, faculty, staff and members of Ancilla's board of trustees and offered support for the private, two-year college.

Sister Judith Diltz, of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, was one of the first to offer words at the event. "Today we celebrate new doors opening. Doors for

100-plus students whose minds will expand with new information, whose hearts will grow in the relationships created on our intergenerational campus, whose values will be informed in our Christian climate, and whose lives will change."

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed the facility. After speaking, Bishop Rhoades walked through the building blessing rooms while guests were encouraged to peruse the floors of the recently occupied structure.

The hall, now booked to



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ANCILLA COLLEGE

The exterior of the new residence hall at Ancilla College in Donaldson is shown in this photo. The hall, now booked to capacity, will become home to more than 100 new freshmen, many of whom come from farther than the school's traditional commuter range.

capacity, will become home to more than 100 new freshmen, many of whom come from farther than the school's traditional commuter range.

The three-story hall was designed and constructed by Michael Kinder and Sons, Inc., of Fort Wayne.

Ancilla College President Ken

Zirkle said, "This hall is changing the face of Ancilla College and, therefore, changes the Marshall County community. Great things are happening at Ancilla College and we hope to bring the entire area along with us."

Ancilla College (www.ancilla.edu), part of The Center at Donaldson, offers 18 associate

degrees and 14 athletic programs. Since 1937, the college has been a sponsored ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. It is a small, private, liberal arts school in Donaldson, Indiana, located two miles south of U.S. 30 on Union Road near Plymouth.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, accompanied by Ancilla College President Ken Zirkle, left, blesses the new residence hall at Ancilla College in Donaldson on Aug. 18.

## USF announces Brookside Ballroom Lecture Series

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis Department of Philosophy and Theology has announced the dates and speakers for its 2015-2016 Brookside Ballroom lecture series. All events, except for the Sept. 23 lecture, will take place in the ballroom of the Brookside building on the USF campus, 2701 Spring St.

- Sept. 23, at 7 p.m. — "Catholic Teaching on Marriage, Divorce and Annulments" featuring Father Mark Gurtner (Achatz Hall of Science, 2701 Spring St.)

- Oct 11, at 3 p.m. — "Isaiah 40-55: The Book of Consolation" featuring Sister Felicity Dorsett, OSF

- Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. — "Eastern Christians and Islam" featuring Dr. Adam DeVille

- Feb. 7, 2016, at 3 p.m. — "Living an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy" featuring Sister Jacinta Krecek, OSF

- March 6, 2016, at 3 p.m. — "Religious Freedom" featuring Dr. John Bequette

- April 6, 2016, at 7 p.m. — "Emmanuel Levinas on Ethics as First Philosophy" featuring Dr. Vincent Wargo

- April 17, 2016, at 3 p.m. — "What's This Nonsense About

Values?" featuring Dr. Earl Kumfer  
These lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Emily Lautzenheiser at elautzenheiser@sf.edu.

## Local middle schoolers nominated for Broadcom MASTERS competition

Jessica Hartmus, an eighth-grader at Huntington Catholic School, has been named one of 300 Broadcom MASTERS semifinalists for her engineering project "Untouchable Music: A Study of the Theremin." Her second-place finish at the Northeast Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair (NEIRSEF) in March earned her a nomination to apply to the fifth annual Broadcom MASTERS — the nation's most prestigious Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) competition for middle school students.

Two other nominees have also been named semifinalists — a brother and sister team, Eric and Dahlia Cobos of St. Jude School in Fort Wayne, tied for second place with their environmental science project titled, "The Evil Twin."

Thirty finalists were named Sept. 2 and competition, which includes a top prize of \$25,000, will be held Oct. 1-7, in San Jose, California.



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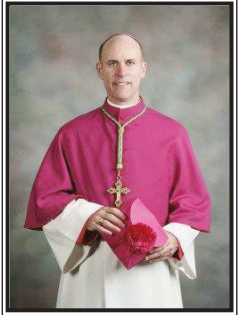

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## The World Apostolate of Fatima's Fort Wayne-South Bend Division invites everyone to their annual BREAKFAST and CELEBRATION!

**Saturday, October 3, 2015**

*beginning at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception*

- 8:00 a.m. - First Saturday Devotions
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass - Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Celebrant

*With a Marian Procession to the Grand Wayne Center*

- Guest speaker: Sister Angela Coelho, Medical Doctor and Postulator for the Cause of Canonization of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta
- Catered breakfast

*Pre-paid breakfast reservations required by Friday, September 25*

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# St. Monica Parish celebrates its centennial

Parishioners of St. Monica recall fond memories of their beloved pa

BY MOLLY GETTINGER

MISHAWAKA — The area surrounding the St. Joseph River in Mishawaka has always been a hub of commerce and activity. From the Ball Band/Uniroyal industries of old to the new River Walk, this area of the city is flourishing with history and culture. This rich past and bustling present is especially evident in the community of St. Monica Parish.

Founded in 1915 by German immigrants who petitioned for a church to be built on the north side of the river, the past 100 years of this parish and school have been filled with trial and triumph. From the construction of two new church and school buildings to adapting to historical events — such as supporting the war effort in World War II, and coping with things such as the 1950s and 1960s polio outbreak — this has been a parish meeting the needs of its times.

Today, a centennial after its first dedication, St. Monica Parish is a shining example of a parish community, bringing the light of Christ into the heart of Mishawaka.

St. Monica Parish finds its founding in 1908 with eight men who petitioned Bishop Herman J. Aldering for a parish to be built north of the river. With the growing factories, the population on the north side of the river was booming, and there was a need for a place for Catholic immigrants, largely German in origin, to worship.

In 1915, Father John Bleckmann was appointed pastor, and, on Oct. 17, 1915, St. Monica Parish was dedicated. Within two years, the parish had grown so large that another building had to be built. With burgeoning numbers of parishioners, the church and school were re-built into their current form in 1927.

Today, St. Monica Parish is filled with over 700 families. One such parishioner, Marilou Schroeder, is passionate about the importance of the parish's history: "Here at St. Monica, our early priests were faced with some real problems. At that time, there were some extraordinarily anti-Catholic groups, including the Know Nothing Party and the KKK. Many parishioners were German and Italian immigrants who faced lack of funds: families didn't make much. The average annual income in the 1920s was \$5,000. And yet, look at our parish community. We kept growing. The people rallied around supporting their parish."

Stories of St. Monica Parish's history include the tales of individuals like parishioner Richard Shroeder, who has been a member of the parish since birth. He remembers being involved in the parish as a youth: "We had ropes for ringing the bell: we would just fly in the air and swing back. I had almost an all day job there. During sixth, seventh, eighth grades, I served Mass. I always overslept, and sister would call me telling me to come to church. One of our beloved priests, Father Badina, always had a gold watch, and he'd always give it to the Mass server to keep time throughout Mass. That was the neatest thing as a kid. I was involved."

Since its founding in 1915, St. Monica School has been academically educating and spiritually forming the youth of the community. Marilou told tales of the second church, where students had to keep their feet from shuffling on the floor, lest they disrupt Mass being celebrated in the basement.

Richard remembered recess as a youth,

when kids used to play in the gravel parking lot, going home after school with dirt-covered and occasionally ripped jeans. Father Kohl, pastor, used to stop into the classes often and quiz students, much to their delight.

The school has been and continues to be a place where social, academic and spiritual growth is challenged. In 2011, St. Monica Parish and School became part of Mishawaka Catholic Schools, and began educating the sixth- through eighth-grade students.

Besides the school, St. Monica Parish houses many ministries — St. Vincent de Paul Society, WHY Catholic groups, Rosary Society, Eucharistic Adoration and more — but if one asks any St. Monica parishioner to share about their parish, one is bound to hear about their choir, which, according to them, is the best of the best. Msgr. Bruce Piechocki tells of "piano, organ, string, flutes, occasionally other brass. The style is very eclectic."

Today, St. Monica Parish finds itself yet again immersed in development, as the city builds the new River Walk. Nancy Olsen, parishioner, says: "We're in a unique position to be an old church immersed in new development. The city has been doing a number of things encouraging development. We are across from the park, on the River Walk, and there is more development in the planning. We have a quite unique opportunity to be able to evangelize in Mishawaka."

St. Monica Parish and School have a centennial of history and truly lives up to their motto: "Building our Future on the Faith of Our past."



MOLLY GETTINGER

St. Monica Church interior



MOLLY GETTINGER

St. Monica Church as it stands today.



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass Sunday, Aug. 30, at St. Monica Church in Mishawaka celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish.



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

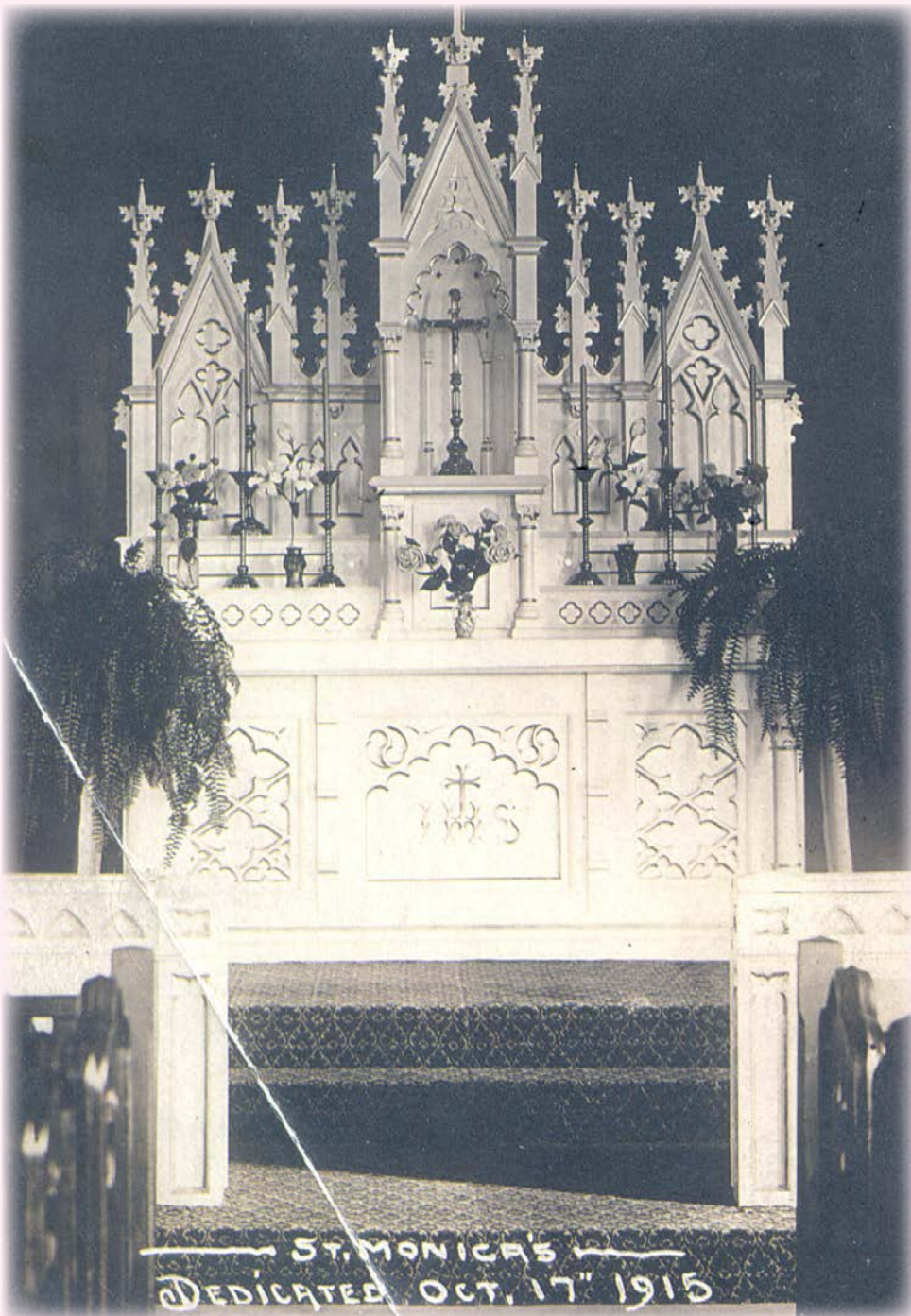
A dinner with guest Father Derrick Sneyd, a former pastor, was part of the festivities to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Monica Parish at Riverside Terrace in Mishawaka on Aug. 30.

Parish



PROVIDED BY ST. MONICA CHURCH

The sanctuary is shown from when Mass was celebrated in the basement in the second building (1917-1927).



PROVIDED BY ST. MONICA CHURCH

The original altar of St. Monica Church (1915-1917) is shown in this photo.

## 100 years at St. Monica Parish

- 1908, June — Five Mishawaka men petitioned Bishop Herman J. Alerding for permission to establish a church on the north side of the St. Joseph River.
- 1915, July 14 — Father John H. Bleckmann was appointed to form a congregation of this newly forming parish.
- 1915, September — Old Baptist church property was purchased.
- 1915, Oct. 17 — Bishop Alerding dedicated the church under the patronage of St. Monica. This church served 150 parishioners, largely consisting of German immigrants.
- Fall 1915 — The school served 120 children.
- 1916 — With the church and school rapidly growing, lots were purchased for the construction of a new building and construction was begun. Estimated cost: \$42,000.
- 1917, May 13 — The new chapel and school were dedicated.
- 1918, Nov. 26 — Father Bleckmann passed away from Spanish flu at the age of 36.
- 1918, Dec. 6 — Father John F. Kohl was appointed pastor of St. Monica.
- 1925 — Parishioner numbers have grown to well over 275 families, and lots were purchased for the construction of a larger church.
- 1926, May — Ground was broken for the new church.
- 1927, Oct. 2 — Bishop John F. Noll dedicated St. Monica Church as it stands today.
- 1929, April 2 — Father Kohl died unexpectedly due to complications from a surgery.
- 1929, Aug. 14 — Father Anthony Badina was appointed pastor of St. Monica, a position he held for 22 years.
- 1929, April 18 — An explosion and fire killed six members of the Harvey Purucker family, involved members of the parish.
- 1932 — Father Jerome Bonk was named assistant pastor of St. Monica.
- 1930s — Italian immigrants settled in neighborhoods surrounding St. Monica and became parishioners.
- 1950, Oct. 4 — Father Badina was elevated to the rank of monsignor.
- 1951 — Msgr. Badina retired and remained involved in the parish.
- 1951 — Rev. Joseph Hennes was appointed pastor, and Father Bonk remained assistant pastor. Shortly after, Father Hennes fell ill.
- 1951 — Father Bonk was assigned to organize a new parish, St. Anthony, where he remained until his retirement.
- 1954 — Father Hennes retired, and Father Milton Bell was appointed pastor.
- 1956 — Father Bell was assigned to organize Queen of Peace Parish.
- 1956 — Father Leo A. Hoffman was appointed pastor.
- 1957 — A church census revealed parish membership of 878 families, 3,163 individuals. The school housed 516 first- through eighth-grade students.
- 1964 — Father Hoffman was appointed monsignor.
- 1970 — Msgr. Hoffman was transferred, and Father William J. Gieranowski was appointed pastor.
- 1970s — The parish underwent its first renovations since it was built nearly 50 years earlier.
- 1978 — Father Gieranowski retired, and Rev. Thaddeus A. Kwak (“Father Ted”) was appointed pastor.
- 1987 — Father Ted transferred, and Father William Sullivan was appointed pastor.
- 1999 — Father Derrick Sneyd was appointed pastor.
- 2002 — Father James Stoye was appointed pastor.
- 2004 — Father Jeffery Largent was appointed pastor.
- 2011 — Msgr. Bruce Piechocki was appointed pastor.
- 2001, September — St. Monica School merged with St. Bavo and St. Joseph to form Mishawaka Catholic Schools.

*In the spirit of celebrating a century  
of serving the faithful of Saint Monica,  
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best wishes and congratulations  
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the faithful who celebrate  
the centennial  
of St. Monica Parish.*



Jim and Colette Russell

*With prayerful best wishes to the staff,  
parishioners and all who share the joy of  
this 100th anniversary of St. Monica parish.*



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## MONICA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

building had been a Baptist church on Mishawaka Avenue built in 1868, which was purchased and remodeled for Catholic liturgy. However, the congregation quickly outgrew that building

"So those first parishioners, who were filled with a lot of faith and were so generous," built a two-story school with the church in the basement that was dedicated on May 13, 1917, Bishop Rhoades explained. It was on that same day that Our Lady first appeared to the children at Fatima, Portugal, he noted.

Within seven years, the parish had erased its building debt, he recounted. As the parish grew, parishioners came together to fund a new church building that was dedicated in 1927, and even during the Great Depression, parishioners reduced the debt and raised funds to add the beautiful stained glass windows, Stations of the Cross, furnishings and altar, Bishop Rhoades said.

He observed that the people of St. Monica face financial challenges today not unlike those of the early parishioners, and he expressed confidence in their dedication and ability to address those challenges.

"I have been so impressed, meeting with Msgr. Bruce (Piechocki) and parish lay leaders, by your renewed determination to move into the future with hope. This requires much sacrifice and generosity, but I believe that you are up to the task. I want St. Monica's to continue, to thrive and to grow," Bishop Rhoades said.

"I wish to encourage you in your



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

**Msgr. Bruce Piechocki, pastor of St. Monica Parish, is shown in the photo.**

endeavors and thank you for all you are doing to preserve this great parish."

Bishop Rhoades also encouraged the parishioners to continue the mission of the parish: works of evangelization, welcome of new parishioners, support of education, outreach to the poor and needy and care for the sick and homebound. And he encouraged the parish to begin its second century by reflecting on the upcoming Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Many second and third generation parishioners attended the anniversary Mass. James Mahler has been a lifetime parishioner, and he and his wife, Carol Ann, were married at St. Monica. The names of two of his relatives are on one of the stained glass windows as donors, for a cousin had collected tin cans during the Great Depression to make money to pay for a window.

Mary Ann DelPrete was raised in St. Monica Parish, as was her mother, and both attended the parish school. She and her husband, Lou DelPrete, were married there. Their five children also attended school at St. Monica, with their youngest being an altar server for the anniversary Mass.

"My whole family has been a part of this parish," Mary Ann DelPrete said. "The parish is part

of my life, my history, my family. I have a lot of memories here. It's part of my extended family now: losing my parents — everybody here has helped me through everything. We all watch out for each other; we all love each other."

Barbara Horvath, a parishioner for close to 50 years, echoed that sentiment.

"I like it because it's friendly; Father's always out here greeting us after Mass, and a lot of people stop and talk and visit," said Horvath, who for 20 years had been a volunteer track coach at the school, along with her late husband, Richard.

Even parishioners with a shorter tenure at the parish spoke in glowing terms about St. Monica. Lenny Sailor said that he was attracted to the parish after attending a friend's wedding there, so he joined in 1990 and a few months later, met his wife, Pam, there. The two were married at St. Monica in 1993 by then-pastor Father Bill Sullivan.

"So this is such a treat today, to celebrate this (anniversary) and see Father Bill again," Sailor said, adding that the parish appreciates the support of Bishop Rhoades.

The 100th anniversary celebration concluded with a parish dinner at Riverside Terrace after the Mass.

Saint Joseph, founded in 1848,  
wishes our daughter parish,



Saint Monica,  
a Happy 100th Birthday.



# Hospitality, welcoming the stranger, 'stretches into the fields' for Lomont family

## Farm chosen to host 2015 Farm Tour concert

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

NEW HAVEN — Whether he is feeding the hungry, burying the dead or visiting the imprisoned, Mick Lomont has long been known for his care of others. He has welcomed many a stranger into his home. Later this September he will be welcoming 20,000 music fans to his farm as he hosts the Country Music Entertainer of the Year Luke Bryan for a sold-out 2015 Farm Tour concert.

The 75-year old, lifetime member of St. Louis Besancon Catholic Church, New Haven, Lomont dug his first grave at its cemetery around age of 17 and has been performing this duty ever since. Lomont is also the building and grounds coordinator and served as one of the parish "go-to guys" for many years.

Outside of his parish, Lomont is very active serving weekly in the jail ministry at the Allen County Jail. Mick and his wife of nearly 50 years, Jane, were once recipients of the Associated Churches Barnabas Award, recognizing their "outstanding commitment to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a manner exemplary for all Christians."

Jane, too is committed to parish life and has been the church organist since moving to New Haven from her Ottawa, Ohio, home where the two were married. Jane taught religious education in East Allen County Schools and at St. Louis Parish for decades.

The Lomonts have had an open door policy and are well-known for their hospitality. The parents of six children, the Lomonts always had extras at their dinner table.

"Our friends loved to hear dad tell stories and eat mom's sausage rolls,"



PROVIDED BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Mick, left, and Jane, right, Lomont are shown with country music entertainer Luke Bryan. The Lomonts met Bryan for the first time at his show in July at the Klipsch Music Center. The Lomonts will host country music's Luke Bryan's 2015 Farm Tour concert on their farm on Sept. 30. Tickets for the concert went on sale July 10 and the New Haven show sold out (20,000) in six hours — a record in the seven-year history of the concert.

boring homes.

"It's all pretty exciting to think about and we are just praying for no rain that week," Lomont quipped.

Bryan's original request was a 120 acre wheat field somewhere in Allen County, but when none could be found, it was decided more ideal to split the plot on both sides of Girard Road in rural eastern Allen County. Gates to the stage area will be across from the Lomont's driveway with parking in the field surrounding their family home of over 40 years.

Tickets for the concert went on sale July 10 and the New Haven show sold out (20,000) in six hours — a Farm Tour record. A portion of the ticket proceeds are granted to a local college for students from a farming family within the communities the tour plays — another plus in Lomont's eyes.

daughter Ellen Oberley detailed.

It was not unusual for Lomont to invite a homeless man to Thanksgiving dinner or give an ex-offender part-time work on the farm.

"Growing up, someone was always stopping by to borrow something from dad," Oberley continued. "He was happy to help the neighbors out by letting them use his truck or many times would give someone gas money along the highway or drive them to their destination himself if they were hard up."

Lomont's farming operation consists of corn, soybeans and wheat. And it's one of his wheat fields that will be the site for the first stop on Luke Bryan's 2015

Farm Tour.

"I was impressed that a big star would go back to his roots and do a show in the middle of a field to benefit agriculture in small communities," Lomont said of his decision to host the concert.

On several different occasions, Lomont and Luke Bryan's location

manager have met with personnel like city, county and state law enforcement, fire and board of health.

Between now and concert time, Sept. 30, Lomont will be busy preparing the site by planting a rye grass cover crop after the wheat harvest, putting in access driveways for parking and fencing off the neigh-

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# Changing hearts and lives through jail ministry and beyond

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — As corporal works of mercy are performed regularly throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, especially with the upcoming Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, a group of volunteers are literally visiting the imprisoned at the Allen County Jail in Fort Wayne. Allen County is one of four counties in the diocese (along with St. Joseph, Kosciusko and Huntington) whose parishioners have come together to form a team of volunteers who aim to learn from the experiences of those in jail, and how incarceration affects the community.

Under the direction of Audrey Davis, Social Justice Ministries Coordinator, committed Catholic volunteers have begun to be seen by the jail chaplaincy staff as co-laborers in the field, holding Bible studies for inmates, teaching life skills classes, delivering appropriate reading materials with the occasional opportunity to enter into prayer and conversation on each cellblock, procuring undergarments and other needed materials for the inmates, and helping more parish priests become familiar with their county jail and gain the clearance needed for making pastoral visitations.

Two volunteers, Bob Brown, parishioner of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, and St. Vincent de Paul Parish member Carl Hoffman have teamed up to serve in the jail ministry after meeting at an informational gathering in spring of 2014. Hoffman felt called to the ministry after his parish ARISE faith-sharing group studied the corporal works of mercy and realized none of its members had ever visited the imprisoned. "I didn't have an excuse not to go and I had the time," says Hoffman humbly. Brown agreed.

Following acceptance into the ministry after the rigorous application process, both men signed up to teach a life skills class once a month offering job interviewing skills, resume writing and more for male inmates who were nearing the end of their sentence. During the class the team offers suggested reading materials and information on Blue Jacket, an organization that provides a four-week employment preparation program and a store providing donated business attire for those seeking employment.

They also team weekly to deliver books on the book cart to five different cellblocks. The books, Hoffman says, are donated from a variety of sources, including from his own wife Carole and her friends who have purchased many at garage sales.

In the months this dynamic duo has ministered in the jail, they have come to learn that



KAY COZAD

**Carl Hoffman, left, and Bob Brown team up to minister to inmates at the Allen County Jail in Fort Wayne as part of the jail ministry of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.**

underlying the need to learn new skills for a better life following release, the inmates also hunger for meaning and purpose in their lives. Self worth is learned, says Brown, who was once a teacher and coach, as well as a businessman. He notes that before a person can learn a new skill he or she must "know they are special — that there is a future."

One inmate Hoffman became acquainted with typically displayed a peace-filled attitude. "He usually had a smile on his face," says Hoffman, adding, "He never seemed down." When asked about his cheerful demeanor, the inmate simply responded that he accepted his incarceration as justice for his wrongdoing and was moving on.

Following the arrival of a new inmate demonstrating a high level of stress, Hoffman suggested that the upbeat inmate minister to him in his angst. "I asked him to look after the young guy. I told him to practice being a leader here," says Hoffman, who notes that having a purpose keeps the men from being so influenced by the negatives around them. "He did it," says Hoffman, "It just warmed my heart."

In the ministry, Hoffman and Brown noted that a number of inmates who attended life skills class while in jail were rearrested following their release and incarcerated once again. Frustrated with the high rate of recidivism at the Allen County Jail the two, who are passionately committed to the jail ministry and the men it serves, embarked on a brainstorming venture to address the need for additional life skill building for inmates who are released from jail.

Brown says, "We started looking at post release, and how to spend time with the men."

The two have begun organizing the book "University of Success" by Og Mandino into a 13-week course, creating a pro-

gram that may provide an opportunity for newly released inmates, their family members and other struggling members of the community.

The program, titled "Character and Personal Development," will be held at St. Henry Church on the southeast side of Fort Wayne. Brown hopes to hold two classes each week for 13 weeks with the first class scheduled for 9 a.m. on Sept. 2. Each class will cover two chapters of "University of Success," and upon successful completion of the program participants will receive a certificate. Even more importantly, they will have gained a few extra friends who can continue thereafter as changing habits and discovering a new definition of success can be difficult for anyone.

The program, which will be led by Brown and jail ministry member Dan Fogarty, is open to any interested inmate released from the Allen County Jail, those who participate in the area food stamp program, their family members or anyone just needing a second chance.

This nascent program is one example of what members of the Body of Christ can do when they are attentive to the Holy Spirit, and take things one step at a time. "The first training session will be a success," Fogarty believes, "if we can learn from those who have experienced these issues, what they need in order to realize their immense intrinsic value. If supported and challenged, the participants could even put us out of a job, or at least we can all work together in helping others."

Brown, Hoffman and Fogarty hope that the pilot will be informative for how to develop the program, and that more parishioners will come forward to offer their gifts and talents. For more information on how to volunteer, contact Dan Fogarty at danrfogarty@gmail.com.

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# The pope's ravioli story: asking questions that unlock wisdom

I'm reading a book that speaks to me as a journalist, Brian Grazer's 2015 release "A Curious Mind: The Secret To A Bigger Life." In it, the 64-year-old Emmy-winning movie producer recounts his practice of conducting "curiosity conversations" twice a month for the past three decades to fill up his knowledge reserve and walk in someone else's head.

The book is part memoir, part how-to, urging readers to unleash the power of curiosity in daily life — in the break room, on the bleachers — by asking, in essence, "What is it like to be you?" It's an ode to the power of learning, to the joy of being surprised and making connections.

"We are all trapped in our own way of thinking," writes Grazer, "trapped in our own way of relating to people."

The reporter's way as a lifestyle strikes me as an inherently Christian proposal. It suggests that everyone we encounter — from stranger to spouse — possesses wisdom that could be acquired if only we care enough to ask. It hints at the bedrock of Catholic social teaching, human dignity, each of us created in the image and likeness of God. It submits that an understanding of

the world comes not from pedigree but from shoe-leather reporting — listening, observing, leaning in and following up.

Pope Francis conducted a curiosity conversation last month, as reported in a quiet, six-sentence Associated Press story. During an audience in St. Peter's Square, the pope made his driver stop the pope-mobile so he could talk to "a tiny granny with shining eyes."

There was something in her eyes that captivated him, whispering of secret knowledge: an old body, a childlike light.

He had to ask her: "Tell me your recipe" for joy.

Her response surprised him. "I eat ravioli," she said. "I make them."

It was such a concrete answer to an abstract question, its simplicity blanketing layers of meaning: a woman who has learned to sustain herself as she cares for others, gathering them around her table, warming bellies and doling out love in little pockets of pasta.

It makes me wonder what wisdom figures are right under my nose, masquerading as bank tellers and mail carriers, as the familiar or the strange, as the young or the old.

This month I went to a 50<sup>th</sup>



## TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

anniversary party in a packed church gym, where the bride's \$90 satin gown was fluffed up on a mannequin, beckoning from the past. More than 500 people were there, but one niece and her fiancé couldn't be there due to their pre-Cana formation. Ironic, I thought, to attend formal marriage prep and, as a result, miss out on the chance to learn from these experts.

And so I started asking. I started assuming the people in my path are generous and wise, and, borrowing from Pope Francis, I started asking for their recipes for joy. The cashier at a McDonald's drive-thru, the cart pusher at my local grocery store, whomever I could manage.

I found myself in the speckled shade of an oak on a Thursday afternoon, handing over a dollar

CAPECCHI, PAGE 16

# Examining our aspirations

While reading a United Nations Development Program report on violence in Latin America, I encountered the term "aspirational crimes," used to explain the tragic acceleration in crimes on and by young people. The term refers to crimes motivated by money and the irresistible desire for consumption. Partly, this is to support one's family in situations where poverty is intolerable. But a large part is for the "cool" gadgets, shoes, clothes, electronics, etc., that swell a young man's swagger and elevate his position within a gang, mark his achievement and anesthetize his misery for the moment.

The term is chilling to me because "aspiration" is such a positive word, embraced for its energy and rewards. It guides what we do, how we work, what we dream about and how we look at ourselves. It is compass, creed, mirror and destination. Yet this report showed how aspiration can wreak such havoc, totally consuming the self and diminishing the others in our lives. While the violence in Latin America is an unmatched tragedy, we must not deny the potential dark side of our aspirations. These may not be murderous or criminal, but depending on what they are and how we approach them, they can



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CAROLYN WOO

certainly be corrosive of our soul and integrity.

A report by the World Anti-Doping Agency estimates that 1 in 10 athletes who compete internationally engage in doping. The International Center for Academic Integrity says that of over 70,000 undergraduate students surveyed, 39 percent reported cheating on a test and 62 percent reported cheating on a written assignment. In a 2003 survey of 2.6 million job applicants, reported *The CPA Journal*, 44 percent indicated they lied on work experience and 41 percent said they lied on education. Another 23 percent said they falsified their credentials.

What we may embrace as our light may actually lead us into darkness and away from what is good.

WOO, PAGE 16

# With God's forgiveness we are restored



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 7:31-37

The first reading for this weekend, from the Book of Isaiah, speaks of the blind, the deaf and the lame.

Today's culture is very different from that in which this section of Isaiah was written. Physical impairments now can be managed in most cases. Medicine today works wonders. People with physical challenges lead lives that would only have been dreams long ago in ancient Israel.

Moreover, no public scorn now accompanies physical disabilities. People in this day and age know that these impairments have physical explanation. It is understood that genetics, or disease, or injury, cause such difficulties.

Times have changed. When Isaiah lived, the inability to walk was a major, critical disadvantage. Even more a disadvantage was being unable to hear, or being unable to see. Communications for almost everyone was verbal or

visual.

Immobility, blindness, lameness or deafness therefore severely isolated people. Then, as much as at any time in human history, being alone was a fearful thought. More fearful than being alone was being alone and helpless.

Furthermore, physical impairments were seen as the consequence of sin. (It was an ancient Jewish belief that sin upset a person's life and indeed the life of the broader society.)

This reading, therefore, refers to persons whose impairments isolate them from others, and whose sin separates them from God.

God, in great mercy and love, restored vision, hearing and the ability to move, and thus re-established a place in the human community. Most importantly, God forgives sin. His forgiveness heals and strengthens.

The Epistle of James is the source of the second reading. The New Testament mentions several men with this name. Likely, other men by the same name were alive at the time of Jesus or in the first decades of Christianity. The Scripture does not identify the man to whom the title of this epistle refers.

Was it James, who was called the "brother of Jesus?" The oldest Christian tradition was that James was a son of Joseph by Joseph's earlier marriage. Under Jewish law, sons or daughters of Joseph's earlier marriage, if indeed there were an earlier marriage, would have been

called the "brothers" and "sisters" of Jesus.

Realizing this Jewish custom is important as today many deny that Mary always was a virgin.

The reading this weekend is a great lesson in the inevitable destiny of humans and of earthly life. All earthly things will die. Only the spiritual will endure.

St. Mark's Gospel provides the third reading. Jesus has returned from visits to Tyre and Sidon, in what today is Lebanon, and to the Ten Cities, an area now in Jordan.

Merely by having visited these places, Jesus has taken the presence of God far and wide, to Gentiles as well as to Jews.

Jesus encountered a man who can neither hear nor speak. Bystanders, and possibly the man

himself, would have assumed that sin somehow was in his background. By healing the man, Jesus demonstrated divine forgiveness.

It brought the man back into the community, and into union with God, gave him hope and access to life.

### Reflection

The Church for weeks has called us to discipleship. It also has warned us that we are shortsighted and weak.

In these readings, the Church confronts us with our sins, the source of ultimate weakness. Sin separates us from God. It blinds us and leaves us deaf. It renders us helpless. We cannot free ourselves. We are doomed.

God forgives us, and we are restored, refreshed and strengthened. We can see. We can hear. We can find our way.

Sin is our burden as humans, with all its dire effects. God, in Christ, is our hope. No one, anywhere, is beyond the scope of God's love and mercy. He offers life to all.

### Saint of the Week

#### Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice

1762-1844

Feast Aug. 29

Founder of the Irish Christian Brothers and Presentation Brothers, Edmund was born in County Kilkenny, the son of prosperous tenant farmers and well-educated for the Catholic middle class. After becoming a wealthy merchant in Waterford, he married and was widowed with a handicapped daughter. Compassion for the downtrodden led to his vocation. In 1808 Edmund and his companions took religious vows as monks in a diocesan congregation teaching poor boys. They opened new schools around Ireland, and in 1820 Rome approved the Congregation of Christian Brothers. Edmund served as superior general until 1838. He was beatified in 1996.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Is 35:4-7a Ps 146:7-10 Jas 2:1-5 Mk 7:31-37

**Monday:** Col 1:24 — 2:3 Ps 62:6-7, 9 Lk 6:6-11

**Tuesday:** Mic 5:1-4a Ps 13:6abc Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

**Wednesday:** Col 3:1-11 Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday:** Col 3:12-17 Ps 150:1b-6 Lk 6:27-38

**Friday:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11 Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday:** 1 Tm 1:15-17 Ps 113:1b-7 Lk 6:43-49

### READINGS for September 13

**Sunday:** Is 50:5-9a Ps 116:1-6, 8-9 Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35

**Monday:** Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1b-2, 34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

**Tuesday:** 1 Tm 3:1-13 Ps 101:1b-3b, 5-6 Jn 19:25-27

**Wednesday:** 1 Tm 3:14-16 Ps 111:1-6 Lk 7:31-35

**Thursday:** 1 Tm 4:12-16 Ps 111:7-10 Lk 7:36-50

**Friday:** 1 Tm 6:2c-12 Ps 49:6-10, 17-20 Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Tm 6:13-16 Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 8:4-15

# The deeper issue at the Synod

Looking back on the controversy that preceded Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical, "Humanae Vitae," I get the impression that there was an even deeper issue in play than the question of the morally appropriate means to regulate human fertility. Underneath that debate, another issue was being contested: How should Catholics do moral theology?

The forces pushing for a change in the Church's long-standing rejection of artificial means of contraception were also pressing for the acceptance of a new moral-theological method, "proportionalism," as the approved Catholic way of thinking through the tangled issues of the moral life. Those defending the Church's traditional position were, by the same token, defending more classical ways of moral reasoning. The change people denied that there were "intrinsically evil acts," because, they argued, moral choices should be judged by a "proportional" calculation of intention, act and consequence. The defenders of the tradition held that some things were always and everywhere wrong, in and of themselves.

Thus in upholding the Church's understanding that using the natural rhythms of fertility is the morally appropriate means of regulating births, Paul VI was also rejecting the proportionalists' push to become the lead dog in Catholic moral theology — a rejection that would be underscored in 1993 by John Paul II's encyclical "Veritatis Splendor" ("The Splendor of Truth").

A brilliant article by a German Catholic philosopher, Professor Thomas Stark, suggests that the same dynamic — an argument beneath the argument — may be afoot in the controversies that will be aired again at the Synod of Bishops in October.

In a painstaking analysis of the intellectual building-blocks of Cardinal Walter Kasper's theological project, Professor Stark argues that, for Kasper, the notion of what we might call "sacred givens" in theology has been displaced by the idea that our perceptions of truth are always conditioned by the flux of history — thus there really are no "sacred givens" to which the Church is accountable. To take a relevant example from last year's Synod: on Kasper's theory, the Lord Jesus's teaching on the indissolubility of marriage, seemingly "given" in Scripture, should be "read" through the prism of the turbulent historical experience of the present, in which "marriage" is experienced in many different ways and a lot of Catholics get divorced. And that historically-determined "reading" will lead, in turn, to a tempering of what once seemed settled: the Church's understanding that those in second marriages, whose first marriages haven't been declared null, cannot be admitted to Holy Communion because they are living in what is, objectively, an adulterous relationship.

Stark quotes Kasper to the effect that history is, well, everything. Moreover, what happens in history does not happen atop, so to speak, a firm foundation of Things As They Are; there *are* no Things As They Are. Rather, writes Kasper, "History is the ultimate framework for all reality." For the cardinal, then, there seems to be nothing properly describable as "human nature," a careful study of which will yield moral truths. There is only humanity in the flow of history. And just as there is no "human nature," but only historical experience, so there is no Scripture understood as a "sacred given." There is only the evolving reception of Scripture in a Church that is, so to speak, rafting down



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

the whitewater rapids of history. Thus Kasper can write without blushing that "the truth of the Gospel can only emerge from a consensus."

Which seems in tension with the notion that the "truth of the Gospel" is a gift to the Church and the world from Jesus Christ: a "sacred given."

The tendency of some older forms of Catholic theology to reduce theology to a string of logical equations was a problem, and the 20<sup>th</sup>-century rediscovery of history as a source of theological reflection helped correct that tendency. But the Kasper approach, which is reflected in the German and Swiss bishops' reports to the upcoming Synod, absolutizes history to the point that it relativizes and ultimately demeans revelation — the "sacred givens" that are the permanent structure of Christian life.

And that is a serious problem.

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

## CAPECCHI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

for a bag of jingle bells and ribbon, shopping for secondhand wisdom at a garage sale on the edge of town.

The woman who lives there told me she spends more than a month adorning her house with Christmas lights and inflatables. Then she and her husband dress as Santa and Mrs. Claus, giving toys to the children who visit and responding to their letters on official North Pole stationery with personalized, handwritten details. Her faith is at the heart of the operation, she said, smiling broadly in the sun. "What you give comes back to you tenfold."

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and editor of SisterStory.org.

myself in God's hands and respond to an invitation that made little practical sense but felt completely right.

What do we want? By what do we set our course? For whom or what do we live? To whom do we surrender? These are sacred questions. Our answers lead us to God or to idols. In "Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home," Pope Francis points out how our responses have too often focused on the self, sought through the consumption of things. By this collective orientation, we turned our backs on God and brought forth the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Scripture reminds us that we cannot serve two masters. We must choose.

Carolyn Y. Woo is the president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

## WOO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

At one point in my career, about 20 years ago, I was at a fork and had to discern my aspirations. I was about to attend a three-week leadership workshop on a university campus and welcomed the time away for thinking. I was, however, unable to come to any conclusions. Failing to reach an answer, I reframed my question. Instead of what I wanted for myself, I asked what I wanted for our two sons, 12 and 9, at the time. There was no hesitation. My answer tumbled out. My aspirations for them were simple: that they would know their gifts and thank God for these blessings; that they would work hard to hone their gifts into useful instruments; that they would use these to serve, rather than to take advantage of, others.

Weeks later I was able to place

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Readings for September 6, 2015

James 2: 1-5; Mark 7:31-37

Following is a word search based on the readings for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: lessons in being open to God's guidance. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PARTIALITY	FAITH	CHRIST
CLOTHES	SHABBY	STAND
HEIRS	PROMISED	SIDON
DECAPOLIS	BROUGHT	TOUCHED
HEAVEN	EPHPTHATHA	BE OPENED
PLAINLY	TO TELL	PROCLAIMED
ASTONISHED	ALL THINGS	SPEAK

### PLAIN SPEECH

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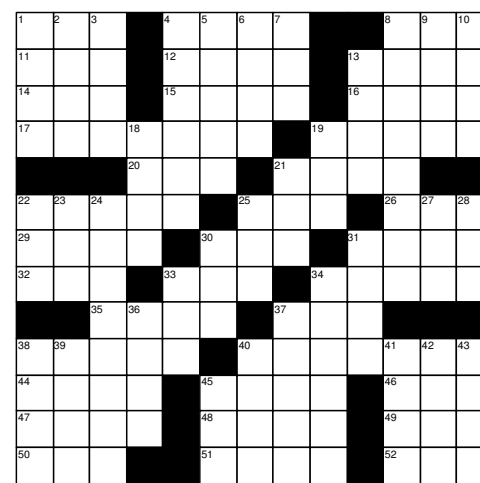
P R O M I S E D N A T S
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O H R S R I E H A S U N
C S N T B L H H I P C I
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A A V N A A O O H A E T
I B A C H P L U T K D L
M B E P A U C I G E D L
E Y H C H R I S T H L A
D P E P L A I N L Y T L
E D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

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## The CrossWord

September 6 and 13, 2015



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Based on these Scripture Readings: Is 35:4-7a; Ja 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37 and Is 50:5-9a; 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

### ACROSS

- 1 Type of partnership
- 4 "\_\_\_ this rock..."
- 8 \_\_\_ v. Wade
- 11 Pluck this out if it causes sin
- 12 Design
- 13 "\_\_\_ yourself and take up your cross"
- 14 Time period
- 15 "\_\_\_ evil and do good"
- 16 Competent
- 17 Cardinal's color scheme
- 19 Devil does like a lion
- 20 Tree
- 21 Peat
- 22 Biblical symbol of disgrace

- 25 Decapolis mean "\_\_\_ cities"
- 26 False witness
- 29 Barking sound
- 30 The Lord
- 31 Factor of ten
- 32 Sin
- 33 Wetland
- 34 Sits on a pale horse
- 35 "Go in peace, keep \_\_\_"
- 37 \_\_\_ of Galilee
- 38 African country
- 40 "Thus says \_\_\_" (2 wds)
- 44 Make
- 45 Spoken
- 46 Damage

- 47 Travel by horse
- 48 Districts of ancient Attica
- 49 Before, poetically
- 50 Mr.'s wife
- 51 A biblical stag
- 52 Not Old Testament

### DOWN

- 1 Gargoyle look
- 2 Sidon and \_\_\_
- 3 After 3 days, rise from the \_\_\_
- 4 Hard way to walk
- 5 Plasma
- 6 Commitment
- 7 Compass point
- 8 Turned back
- 9 God's \_\_\_ begotten Son
- 10 \_\_\_ of the blind, opened
- 13 Challenge
- 18 Ears of these cleared
- 19 Play on words
- 21 God did with manna
- 22 To be in debt
- 23 Pro
- 24 Offensive soccer players
- 25 Large weight unit
- 27 Frozen water
- 28 Jesus healed Malchus'
- 30 Pearl
- 31 Call
- 33 \_\_\_ Angelico, monk painter
- 34 Fly fisher
- 36 Mary's mother
- 37 Not put to \_\_\_
- 38 Virus
- 39 Samson's weakness
- 40 \_\_\_ of life
- 41 Bad sign
- 42 Not well cooked
- 43 Sketched
- 45 Strange

Answer Key can be found on page 18.



# Sports

**BISHOP LUERS HOMECOMING COMING** Bishop Luers High School Homecoming will be Friday, Sept. 18. Events will begin with Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the gym. Following Mass, the Distinguished Knight Awards will be presented by the Office of Advancement. A tailgate party will be hosted by the Alumni Office from 5:30-7 p.m. on the front lawn of the friary. After the game at 7 p.m. vs. Concordia High School, an adult bonfire featuring the Bonafide Band with lead singer and fiddler, Heidi Herber, '90, will be held on the front lawn of the friary. Homecoming is sponsored by 1st Source Bank.

## Join Ancilla College for the 25th Annual Blueberry Bicycle Cruise

**DONALDSON** – The Ancilla Alumni Association, in association with the annual Marshall County Blueberry Festival, will host the 25th anniversary of their Blueberry Bicycle Cruise on Saturday, Sept. 5, in Plymouth.

Routes will be available covering 31, 41 or 62 miles, and a special family tour of 16 miles to the Chief Menominee Monument. The cruise has won wide acclaim for being well organized and scenic with outstanding SAGs (support and gear).

The starting point for the BBC (maps to starting point available upon request) will be at Menominee Elementary School, on Plymouth's south side on Discovery Lane off of Nutmeg Road, 815 Discovery Ln., Plymouth.

Registration will begin at 6 a.m. and continue until 11 a.m. Riders may leave at 7 a.m. Those on the 62-mile (100 km) route must depart by 10 a.m. Ancilla asks all riders be off the routes by 4 p.m.

The event is only one of sever-

al to be held at Marshall County's 43rd annual Blueberry Festival. Held over Labor Day weekend in Plymouth, the Blueberry Festival is one of the Midwest's premier events and has been named a Top 100 Event in North America by the American Bus Association in 1997, 1999 and again in 2007.

The Blueberry Bicycle Cruise will be held rain or shine. Food, drink and fruit will be available at the SAG stops.

Register online today to get the best rates. Maps and additional information are available on the Ancilla website. Like Ancilla College on Facebook. For more information, call Lily Myers at 574-780-1949 or Todd Zeltwanger at 574-936-8898, ext. 345. Any Ancilla alumni interested in volunteering for the event should also call.

## 'Saturdays with the Saints' enters sixth year

**NOTRE DAME** — Festive tailgate parties and gridiron glory have made football Saturdays at the University of Notre Dame a hallowed fall tradition. Notre Dame's unique mixture of football and faith has also given rise to a successful lecture series called "Saturdays with the Saints," entering its sixth year in 2015.

Sponsored by Notre Dame's Institute for Church Life, "Saturdays with the Saints" features Notre Dame theology faculty speaking about saints in the Catholic tradition. The talks take place on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Andrews Auditorium on the lower level of Geddes Hall prior to home football games. The event is free and open to the public.

"The series was inspired by the fact that Saturday has great significance in the Christian tradition. Saturday was the ancient sabbath and is an image of eternity because it was on the seventh day that God rested. Therefore, our lecture series is an image of eternity!" said John Cavadini,

McGrath-Cavadini Director of the Institute for Church Life.

In addition to Cavadini, theology faculty speakers have included Professors Cyril O'Regan, Lawrence S. Cunningham, Sister Ann Astell and Margie Pfeil, to name a few. Previous talks have featured saints Joan of Arc, Thomas Aquinas, Teresa of Avila and Francis of Assisi.

The "Saturdays with the Saints" series tends to attract capacity crowds in the Andrews Auditorium. Those planning to attend should arrive early to secure a seat.

### The fall 2015 schedules, topics and speakers are:

- Sept. 5 — "Thomas More: Saint in a Time of Political and Cultural Crisis," Cyril O'Regan, Huisking Professor of Theology, Notre Dame

- Sept. 19 — "Catherine of Siena as Woman of the Word: 'It is Silence that Kills the World,'" Dominican Sister Mary Catherine Hilbert, professor of Systematic Theology, Notre Dame

- Sept. 26 — "Thomas Merton: The Contemplative as Activist," Lawrence S. Cunningham, O'Brien Chair of Theology, emeritus, Notre Dame

- Oct. 10 — "Blessed Oscar Romero: Bearing Witness to the Good News of Jesus," Margaret Pfeil, associate professional specialist, Department of Theology and the Center for Social Concerns, Notre Dame

- Oct. 17 — "Augustine: Saint of Suspicion," John C. Cavadini, director, Institute for Church Life; professor of theology, Notre Dame

- Nov. 14 — "St. Ignatius of Loyola, Reformer: Speaking up for Catholic Tradition," Jesuit Father Brian E. Daley, Huisking Professor of Theology, Notre Dame

The Institute for Church Life animates the university's direct service to the Church through outreach in theological education, research, faith formation and leadership development.

For more information contact Brett Robinson at brobins6@nd.edu or 574-631-6109.

## 'BATTLE OF BISHOPS' ENSUES AT LUERS FIELD



JOE ROMIE

The Bishop Dwenger varsity football team, left, and Bishop Luers team, right, kneel on Luers' home field in lines facing each other, to pray together before the annual "Battle of the Bishops" rivalry game on Aug. 21. Bishop Luers won this hard-fought opening game of the season, 28-15, retaining the traveling Bishop's Trophy, center, sponsored by the Serra Club of Fort Wayne.

# CYO volleyball ready to launch season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball teams are in full swing this fall and ready to kick off league play the weekend following Labor Day.

In the annual Barney Shultz Classic preseason tournament hosted by St. Joseph, Decatur, on Saturday, Aug. 30, several CYO teams fared well. Among the top finishers were St. Vincent 8 and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel.

Back for their fourth year in a row, St. Vincent coaches Debbie Rednour and Denise Lyons were pleased with their team's performance.

"The girls have worked hard in the off-season and it was well displayed in our passing, assists and kills at the tournament. We have many options on our team and if one player is having an off-game, we have another that can step up and show poise and determination to get the job done," explained Rednour.

The Panthers return 10 players from their 2014 CYO championship roster when they got by a tough team from St. Joseph, Decatur, 19-25, 25-20, 15-6, to preserve

their perfect 13-0 record a year ago. At the preseason tournament, St. Vincent went 1-1 with the Squires from Hessen Cassel and a solid Wyneken Lutheran team.

"It was great to have such good competition to start the season and we are thankful to Decatur for hosting such a quality venue. Although we fell short of winning our

pool by one point, our girls showed determination to win the next match against a talented St. Charles team," summarized Lyons.

The Panthers begin CYO weekend action on Saturday, Sept. 12. They will take a break on Sept. 26 when they head to New Castle, where they have been invited to an invitational facing talent from both Muncie and Indianapolis.



## Name corrected in fall sports preview

The golf listing for the Bishop Luers High School fall sports preview in the Aug. 16, 2015 issue of *Today's Catholic* should have read: "The Knights welcome back senior Madi Jennings to the links who has not played since her freshman season. Jennings medaled for the team in two summer tournaments." The article misidentified her as Jenkins.

# St. Charles scores CYO victory, continues 12-game winning streak

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles extended their CYO football winning streak to 12 games with their first victory in 2015 over a talented and big Knights team.

The St. Charles Cardinals' defense was outstanding not allowing any first downs in the game. A trio of linebackers, eighth-graders Patrick Finley and Hayden Ellinger and seventh-grader Devon Tippmann, led the defense. Nose guard Lucas Krohn and defensive end Braden Groves also had plenty of big stops. On

offense, the Cardinals had 140 yards of total offense from Finley, who accounted for the Cardinals' first two scores. Finley's second score was a 50-yard strike from signal caller Drew Lytle. Hayden Ellinger ended the first half with a 45-yard touchdown jaunt and Blayne Huston scored the Cardinals' final six points on a seven-yard scamper.

Coach Sam Talarico detailed, "I know that we will have more battles with the Knights. Their nose guard gave us fits the entire day and No. 11 has fantastic speed. We have a special group of linebackers this year. I think

local Catholic football followers will likely be hearing the names Finley, Ellinger and Tippmann for several years to come."

Talarico added, "I feel very good about our team. We believe 27 is the largest number of eighth-grade football players in the history of the program. We have some talented returning players from last year's undefeated diocesan championship squad. It should be a great year. I expect close battles every weekend and I believe every team has a chance to win the CYO championship."

## TIDBITS

### Class of '19/'20 tailgate scheduled at Saint Joseph High School

SOUTH BEND — A social for freshmen and prospective families to learn more about the Saint Joseph High School community will be held from 6-7 p.m. on Sept. 18. Participants should enter through the St. Louis Boulevard stadium main entrance and are invited to stay for the football game at Father Bly Field starting at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. RSVP at [sjadvancement@saintjoehigh.com](mailto:sjadvancement@saintjoehigh.com) by Sept. 15.

### Donation made to the Faith in Our Future capital campaign

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School recently received a \$25,000 donation from 1st Source Bank. On Friday, Aug. 21, Larry Mayers, 1st Source regional president, presented Tiffany Albertson, principal of Bishop Luers High School, with a \$25,000 donation towards the Faith in Our Future Capital Campaign fund. The goal of Faith in Our Future is to complete capital projects like the Chapel of St. Francis, the Performing Arts Assembly Hall and the 21st century media center and library. These upgrades and additions will be the

largest in the history of Bishop Luers and will have a direct impact on the quality of education that students receive.

## The CrossWord

September 6 and 13, 2015

L	T	D	U	P	O	N	R	O	E		
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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.

**BBQ cook-off and bake-off planned**  
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Athletic Association will have a backyard BBQ cook-off and bake-off festival Saturday, Sept. 12, from 5-9 p.m. Grilled chicken, pulled pork, rib dinners, homemade desserts will be offered. Amateur grillers and grilling teams are wanted. No entry fee. Meat provided. Bake-off and side-dish competition also planned. All food will be sold. Visit [www.fwbbq.com](http://www.fwbbq.com) for registration forms or contact Denny Jamison at 260-418-1139.

**Come and pray with the sisters**  
Mishawaka — Eucharistic Adoration is planned for Sunday, Sept. 13, to commemorate the Year of Consecrated Life at 3 p.m. at St. Francis Convent, 1515 W. Dragoon Tr., with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Evening prayer and benediction will take place at 4 p.m. Confessions will be available throughout this time. Refreshments to follow.

**Catholic Business Network Group**  
Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, Sept. 4, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel. Cindy Black, director of adult faith formation for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, will speak on the topic "Chosen: the What, When, Where, Why and How of Our Purpose." Refreshments provided by John Becker with Advocate Financial LLC.

**St. Therese plans fall festival**  
Fort Wayne — St. Therese Parish will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 12, beginning at 10 a.m. with food, games, silent auction, farmers market/bake sale and live auction at 1 p.m. Mass in the grass at 5 p.m. A beer tent with dancing to music by DJ from 8 p.m. to midnight.

**Knights plan spaghetti dinner**  
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533

S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Sept. 4, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8.50, children (5-12) \$3.50. Shrimp will be available for \$9 and chicken strips for \$8.50.

**Chili fun at St. Gaspar**  
Rome City — A chili supper and cookout is planned at St. Gaspar's Church, Hwy. 9 north on Saturday, Sept. 5, after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Bring a pint of your favorite chili to add to the open fire pot, and join in the fun.

**Celtic Festival Set for Howard Park**  
South Bend — The Irish Catholic roots of St. Patrick and St. Joseph Parishes will be celebrated at a Celtic Festival held at Howard Park on Sunday, Sept. 6. Events include feats of strength, live music and dance from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and food concessions. Beer and cider will also be available. Gates open at 10 a.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, children 12 and under are admitted free. For information contact Carol Meehan at [carol@fiddlers-hearth.com](mailto:carol@fiddlers-hearth.com)

## REST IN PEACE

<b>Avilla</b> Eleanor L. Harding, 90, St. Mary of the Assumption	Donald E. Hawkins, 88, St. Monica	Anna L. Muszik, 93, Holy Cross
<b>Elkhart</b> Joan M. Strati, 98, St. Vincent de Paul	Ardith P. Eby, 84, Queen of Peace	John Skwiercz, 69, St. Adalbert
<b>Fort Wayne</b> Cecelia Bargy, 72, St. Henry	Richard G. Regina, 77, St. Monica	Josephine H. Nalepinski, 91, Holy Family
Donna K. Koehl, 76, Most Precious Blood	<b>Monroeville</b> Thomas E. Omlor, 78, St. Rose	Peter C. Slater, 89, St. John the Baptist
Mark T. Adams, 59, St. Joseph	<b>New Haven</b> Jean Marie Till, 92, St. John the Baptist	Barbara M. Buda, 93, Christ the King
Barbara A. Alt, 54, St. Vincent de Paul	Patricia A. Lomont, 73, St. Louis Besancon	Peter C. Slater, 89, St. John the Baptist
Ronald Albert Pepoy, 74, St. Vincent de Paul	Edward F. Schmidt, 74, St. John the Baptist	Adell Cecilia Radecki, 96, St. Hedwig
Clayton Kerm Welch, 89, St. Jude	Betty Sexton, 88, St. John the Baptist	Lillian M. Ambler, 94, St. Therese Little Flower
Leonard E. Luginbill, 87, Our Lady of Good Hope	<b>Notre Dame</b> Sister M. Marguerite Troxler, CSC, 92, Our Lady of Loretto	Anne Louise Dean, 97, St. Anthony de Padua
John R. Johns, 95, St. Charles Borromeo	Sister Barbara Gress, CSC, 81, Our Lady of Loretto	Chester S. Mackowiak, 89, Holy Family
<b>Granger</b> Gloria Rita Watkins, 89, St. Pius X	John H. Leahy, 78, Sacred Heart	William B. Haidler, 89, St. Therese Little Flower
<b>Mishawaka</b> Mitzi T. Goethals, 79, St. Monica	Sister Beatrice Marie Schutz, CSC, 87, Our Lady of Loretto	Francis Frank Fahey, 90, Holy Family
Joan E. Trzybinski, 70, St. Monica	<b>South Bend</b> Angeline B. Chodzinski, 94, Holy Family	Mary L. Rader, 63, Holy Cross
		Stanley J. Wojtas, 63, St. Casimir
		Louis P. Toth Jr., 89, Holy Family



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# New Orleans Archdiocese: Forever changed by Hurricane Katrina

BY PETER FINNEY JR.

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — They are calling it “Kat 10” — Hurricane Katrina plus 10 years — which carries with it the double meaning of an ominous meteorological warning.

How could a Category 5 storm that engulfed the entire Gulf of Mexico but dropped in intensity to a Category 3 just before landfall on Aug. 29, 2005 — burying one of the world’s most iconic cities in a flood of biblical proportions — become the watershed moment in New Orleans’ nearly 300-year history?

The simple answer: Poorly engineered and constructed federal levees gave way under pressure, dooming a topographically challenged city that sits mostly below sea level.

The more complex answer: In a

city founded near the mouth of the Mississippi River by Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville May 7, 1718 — and buffeted over the centuries by storm, flood, fire, yellow fever and Civil War — no single event has had the sudden, powerful and indiscriminate impact of Katrina.

It was the death of a great city, the deaths of more than 1,800 people in their homes and attics, the deaths of family, neighborhood and Church relationships, the death of hope.

And yet, 10 years later, New Orleans — in so many ways new and improved and utterly resilient — is a resurrection city.

“It is extraordinary when you look back now and see what has emerged and how life has been restored,” said now-retired New Orleans Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes, 82, who admits he was stunned when he took a helicopter



CNS PHOTO/JONATHAN BACHMAN, REUTERS

**A man walks past an abandoned building in the Upper Ninth Ward neighborhood of New Orleans Aug. 1. More than a decade after Hurricane Katrina, the city continues to rebuild.**

flight over the massive flooding two days after the storm and then walked the city’s empty streets two weeks later.

“It was like a war zone. No sign of life. I mean, everything was gray — the vegetation. There were no insects, no birds and no human beings. No lights, no electricity. Seeing the city dead just took the inner breath out of me. It just seemed as though it was going to be impossible to recover from this.”

Katrina forced a diaspora of New Orleans’ half-million Catholics. Scattered across the country, with their homes, businesses, schools and churches inundated, they clung to CNN 24/7 and saw Lake Pontchartrain cascading through holes in the city’s interior flood-control canals. They tried to make sense of the searing images of human poverty and misery: the exiles who sought shelter at the Louisiana Superdome only to have it go dark and its mushroom roof peeled back by the winds; the refugees with few provisions at the convention center, pleading for a way out of town; water, water, everywhere.

Displaced New Orleanians didn’t see, at first, what the first responders did: scores of bodies of those who tried to ride out the storm, floating in the water.

In Baton Rouge, Archbishop Hughes, bishop of Baton Rouge from 1993 to 2002, found shelter at

Our Lady of Mercy Church, where he set up an emergency command center.

“I can remember going the first morning to the Adoration chapel and just pouring out to the Lord my anguish and confusion and uncertainty about what to say and what to do,” he said.

The first two months after the storm were a blur, and obtaining accurate information on the whereabouts of loved ones was nearly impossible. Father Arthur “Red” Ginart, the pastor of St. Nicholas of Myra Parish in Lake St. Catherine, remained at his church and was swept away by the rising water. He was the only priest to die in Katrina.

Katrina forever changed the landscape of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Before the storm, the archdiocese was home to 128 parishes and missions. Three years later, after two stages of restructuring, that number was down to 108.

There was a shared sense of loss. Across the region, 200,000 homes were destroyed or heavily damaged. Dozens of public, private and Catholic schools closed forever. But in the midst of the devastation, the Catholic Church jump-started the city’s initial recovery with a bold plan: open up as many Catholic schools as quickly as possible to provide families with a reason to return even when public schools were not ready to open.

The architect of the “big tent” plan, Father William Maestri, then superintendent of Catholic schools, said he was inspired by how Florida recovered following Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

Transition schools staffed by teachers who could return sprouted up within weeks in Metairie, which was far less damaged than New Orleans. Catholic schools accepted all students, including those who had attended public schools, and did not charge tuition. Students wore their old school uniforms. The schools platooned with morning and evening classes.

One of the many difficult decisions Archbishop Hughes faced was closing parishes and schools but a true resurrection story emerged from St. Frances Xavier Cabrini in Gentilly. After the school and church had been inundated by floodwaters, Cabrini parishioners agreed to sell the property to Holy Cross School, whose Lower 9th Ward campus also had been destroyed. Today, Holy Cross’ state-of-the-art campus sits on Cabrini’s land, thriving in enrollment for grades 5-12 and serving as a catalyst to the neighborhood’s comeback.

New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond, who came back to his hometown as archbishop in 2009, sees God’s blessings everywhere he looks.

“Where was God in the midst of Katrina?” Archbishop Aymond asked. “He was walking in the floodwaters, carrying people. He was in the attic, where people were dying. He was in the Superdome, where there was a lot of chaos. But He didn’t abandon us.”

In a June 20 letter to Catholics in the New Orleans Archdiocese and the city’s residents, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, conveyed greetings and “spiritual closeness” from Pope Francis on the 10th anniversary of Katrina.

“As you commemorate this anniversary, draw hope from the many signs of recovery,” he wrote noting that the storm took away buildings and lives but it “did not take away your determination to rebuild. Such perseverance is an expression of your faith in God.”

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