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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Saints, rosary intertwine at all schools Mass

BY BERTRAND FITZGERALD



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Holding a rosary and surrounded by fourth-grade students dressed as their favorite saints, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades invites the 4,000 gathered for the all-school Mass at the Joyce Center at the University of Notre Dame to pray the rosary and learn "at the school of Mary."

NOTRE DAME — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' admonition that "we are all called to be saints" had a distinctly Marian tone on Oct. 7 as he celebrated the annual all schools Mass at the Joyce Center at the University of Notre Dame on the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

The themes were not lost on the assembled children of the South Bend area's Catholic schools. Per a long tradition, the fourth graders came dressed as a saint, inspiring Bishop Rhoades to state that processing in, "I felt like I was in heaven, because I saw all of these saints."

To his delight, Mary the Mother of Jesus was best represented.

Addressing the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Bishop Rhoades invited the 4,000 gathered in prayer to understand themselves to be part of the bigger Catholic Church that began as another community in prayer, the community that gathered together in prayer after the Ascension to wait and pray for the promised Holy Spirit.

To emphasize that the disciples of Acts, who represent the Church at prayer, are also the foundation stones of the Apostolic Church, Bishop Rhoades invited all the fourth graders who had dressed as Apostles to come up and share the stage with him.

When prompted, a student dressed as St. Peter volunteered that his saint was special because, "he was the first pope." Bishop Rhoades responded that as a bishop, he is a "successor to the Apostles," as part of the Church

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## Building relationship emphasized at Zeal

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — "Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord." These words of St. Paul to the Romans sum up the purpose for the Zeal, Missionary Discipleship Summit on Saturday, Oct. 10, at Bishop Dwenger High School, and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades shared them during his homily at the Mass.

More than 200 participants took part in the day that emphasized "relationship," that Catholics are called to embody in their lives to create a missionary spirit, at home and in their communities.

Bishop Rhoades continued, "We are called, like St. Paul and the Romans whom he exhorted, to have zeal for the Lord and His service. This is an essential quality for an authentic disciple of Jesus. This is what makes a disciple a 'missionary disciple.' It is zeal for the glory of

God and for the salvation of souls."

The making of disciples was the theme that carried throughout the day with the keynote speakers Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak and in the two sessions of workshops that followed. In breakout sessions throughout the day, the theme was also emphasized.

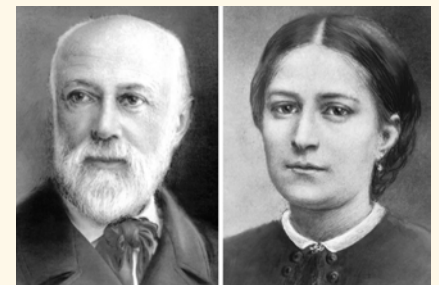
"Discipleship and evangelization is all about relationship," said Greg Popcak in his keynote.

The new evangelization, he said, is how to communicate the Gospel to a world where words don't matter anymore. "The world needs to see Christ's love living in our relationships," Greg noted.

Lisa Popcak spoke of Pope Francis' recent visit to the U.S. The Popcaks were speakers at the World Meeting of Families, but Lisa noted, "The Catholic difference was palpable (at the theological conference and papal activities)."

"People were kind, people were happy,

ZEAL, PAGE 8



### MASS TO CELEBRATE CANONIZATION OF LOUIS AND ZELIE MARTIN

Louis and Zelig Martin, the parents of St. Therese of Lisieux, will be canonized in Rome by Pope Francis in mid October. On Oct. 31, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate the Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Mass, followed by a reception at St. Therese, Little Flower Parish in South Bend.

**ALL ARE INVITED**

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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**PUBLISHER:** Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

**EDITOR:** Tim Johnson

**NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER:** Kay Cozad

**Editorial Department**

**PAGE DESIGNER:** Francie Hogan

**FREELANCE WRITERS:** Ann Carey, Michelle Castleman, Karen Clifford, Bonnie Elbersen, Denise Fedorow, Joe Kozinski, Vince LaBarbera and Deb Wagner

**Business Department**

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Stephanie A. Patka

**AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:** Mark Weber

**BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION:** Bethany Belleville  
bbelleville@diocesefwsb.org

**Advertising Sales**

Tess Steffen

tsteffen@diocesefwsb.org

(260) 456-2824

**Web site:** [www.todayscatholicnews.org](http://www.todayscatholicnews.org)

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

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Today's Catholic,  
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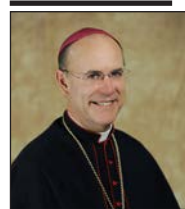
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# Zeal vs. acedia



IN TRUTH  
AND  
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

*The following is the text of the homily given by Bishop Rhoades at the Mass during the diocesan ZEAL Summit on Missionary Discipleship on October 10, 2015:*

"Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord." These words of Saint Paul to the Romans sum up the theme and purpose of this day. We are called, like Saint Paul and the Romans whom he exhorted, to have zeal for the Lord and His service. This is an essential quality for an authentic disciple of Jesus. This is what makes a Christian a "missionary disciple." It is zeal for the glory of God and for the salvation of souls.

Pope Francis writes and speaks about this a lot. In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis wrote the following:

*At a time when we most need a missionary dynamism which will bring salt and light to the world, many lay people fear that they may be asked to undertake some apostolic work and they seek to avoid any responsibility that may take away from their free time. For example, it has become very difficult today to find trained parish catechists willing to persevere in this work for some years. Something similar is also happening with priests who are obsessed with protecting their free time. This is frequently due to the fact that people feel an overbearing need to guard their personal freedom, as though the task of evangelization was a dangerous poison rather than a joyful response to God's love which summons us to mission and makes us fulfilled and productive. Some resist giving themselves over completely to mission and thus end up in a state of paralysis and acedia" (#81).*

"Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord," Saint Paul exhorts us. That is what Pope Francis is exhorting us to do today. He often warns us against the vice of *acedia*. You may have heard the word *acedia*. It was discussed a lot in classical spiritual books. It's been called "the demon of acedia," "the noonday devil." It's not just laziness; it's worse. It may reveal itself as laziness, but it's deeper. It's an evil, a sin against charity, according to Saint Thomas Aquinas, or more specifically, a sin against the joy that springs from charity. It is a lack of spiritual energy, a stifling of the spirit, discouragement, sloth, a sadness about God. Thomas Aquinas gives two definitions of acedia: "sadness about spiritual good" and "disgust with activity."

When I read some of the homilies of Pope Francis, I am convinced that he has read and studied Saint Thomas Aquinas' writings on acedia. Pope Francis is calling us to spread the joy of the Gospel of love. Acedia is the sin against the joy of charity, according to Saint Thomas. The joy of charity is the joy that springs from friendship with God and from communion with God. There is the ultimate joy of charity: eternal life in heaven; and there is the joy that springs from our life with God on earth through grace, the sacraments, prayer, and the life of faith. Because of God's love for us, we are joyful. Our greatest joy is sharing in the life of God: by grace here below and by the



NATE PROULX

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, celebrates Mass at the Zeal Missionary Discipleship Summit with Father Michael Depcik, an Oblate Father of St. Francis de Sales who concelebrated the Mass. An interpreter signed the Mass for the deaf and hearing impaired community. Mass and Reconciliation is offered for the deaf community three times per year. Nearly 200 people participated in the Zeal Missionary Discipleship Summit at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne on Oct. 10. Deacon Mel Tardy is at the left.**

beatific vision in heaven.

When we have this spiritual joy, this experience of friendship with God, we desire to share it. This is evangelization. This is what it means to be missionary disciples: sharing the joy of the Gospel by our witness and our words. We are even "driven" to do so. Think of Saint Paul. He wrote: "the love of Christ urges us on." He could not "not preach" the Gospel, even when it meant hardship, persecution, and suffering. He had zeal for the glory of God, the spread of the Gospel, the salvation of sinners. Nothing and no one could stop him. He was a man filled with the Holy Spirit. He acted not by a worldly or carnal instinct, but by the instinct of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit made him another Christ such that he was able to write: "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." There was no acedia in him. He was filled with zeal because of his encounter with the Lord and His grace. He experienced deep in his soul Christ's love and wrote to the Galatians: "I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me." Having this knowledge in heart and mind, he became a great missionary disciple.

Pope Francis is calling us to have this zeal which has its source in the love of Christ and its power from the Holy Spirit. He laments the lack of enthusiasm in the lives of many Catholics who may go to Mass but do not want to become involved and do not feel the need to give what they receive to others. He says: "This is the illness of acedia and it cripples apostolic zeal. It causes Christians to come to a standstill. They are peaceful, but not in the good sense of the word: they are people who do not bother to go out to proclaim the Gospel, people who are anaesthetized." The Holy Father speaks of sad and negative Christians as an illness in the Church. He says it's like perhaps going to Mass on Sunday, then posting a sign saying "please, do not disturb." He laments the spiritual sloth and selfishness, the sin of acedia against apostolic zeal, against the desire to give

the newness of the Gospel to others, that newness which we have been freely given. He's calling us and the whole Church to go out, to draw people to Christ and His Church, and especially to reach out to the wounded and to bring them to the field hospital of the Church.

It's good to gather on this day to reflect on our call to missionary discipleship. We have so many saints like the apostle Paul who are great examples for us of missionary zeal. We are called to live with this zeal and courage, that also includes sensitivity, reverence for others, and the desire to share with them the word of grace that has the power to build them up.

I'll end this homily with a thought from today's Gospel. Jesus' words are really pretty shocking. It sounds like he's speaking against the fourth commandment when he told the disciple whom he invited to follow him, the one who asked him to let him go first and bury his father: "let the dead bury their dead." And then to another who wanted first to say farewell to his family, Jesus said: "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God." With these strong and disturbing words, Jesus is not saying we should not love our parents and families. He is teaching us very clearly though that the love of God and the desire to do His holy will must always be the first priority of our lives. Even family obligations must not hold us back from wholeheartedly living as Jesus' disciples. Our response to Jesus must be unconditional. When it is, we have zeal. We are fervent in spirit. We serve the Lord.

Nothing hurts the mission of the new evangelization like the sickness of acedia which creates a spiritual desert, lack of joy and hope, discouragement, and fatigue. To be a Christian is to announce the Good News of salvation joyfully. It is to be a missionary. Evangelization should not be a burden because it is the sharing of a gift, the greatest gift, sharing the joy of the gift: the gift of God, the gift of Jesus, who loves us and gave His life for us.

# Humility is first step in justice

## Chief Justice Loretta Rush speaks at Red Mass dinner

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Lawyers, judges and civil government officials congregated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Oct. 6 to participate in a Red Mass, an ancient tradition dating back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century that invokes God's blessing on those who serve the law. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the Red Mass.

Following the Mass, Loretta H. Rush, the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court, was the featured guest and keynote speaker. Bishop Rhoades and the St. Thomas More Society of Fort Wayne hosted the annual event.

In his homily, which was published in the In Truth and Charity column in the Oct. 11 issue of *Today's Catholic*, Bishop Rhoades recalled the witness of the patron saint of lawyers, judges, and statesmen — Sir Thomas More.

He recalled the words of St. Thomas More: "I die as the king's loyal servant, but God's servant first." St. Thomas would not take the oath of supremacy ordered by King Henry VIII.

In her talk after the Red Mass, Chief Justice Rush also spoke of St. Thomas More as she based her theme on humility and justice.

"We are called to be more than legal practitioners" the Chief Justice summarized, "we are called to pursue and administer justice, but we need humility to get there. Humility to acknowledge our faults, to look outside ourselves to be the king's good servants, but God's first."

In an earlier interview, Chief Justice Rush told *Today's Catholic*, "When we recognize that we are imperfect at administering justice, we are implicitly acknowledging that there is such a thing as justice — that it's real, that we didn't create it. And that it's something that's judging us, instead of the other way around."

"Ultimately, our fair and open courts are about one thing: Justice," she added.

In her talk at the dinner in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Chief Justice Rush said, "Justice is fundamentally a moral issue," but added, "We know that justice and morality don't always overlap."

She provided examples throughout U.S. history when enforcement of laws lacked justice — such as the Fugitive Slave Act and judges who did not provide equal justice to African Americans. "Justice is bigger than the human law that our legislators draft or what our legal opinions dictate," she said.

The Chief Justice said the first step of understanding justice is humility. And from Proverbs, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. "Similarly, humility is the beginning of true justice," she said.

Chief Justice Rush spoke of King Solomon's wisdom and how



PHOTOS BY TIM JOHNSON

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates the Red Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Oct. 6. The Red Mass is celebrated in honor of the Holy Spirit, from whom flows the wisdom, understanding, counsel, patience, energy and courage necessary for the administration of justice. Those who work in the legal profession prayerfully seek these virtues, which are essential to the courtroom, law practice and public post.**



**Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush speaks at the dinner following the Red Mass on Oct. 6.**

he received wisdom because he was humble. "Solomon's example of humility should be our example of humility," she said. "That is the beginning of understanding justice."

She continued her talk explaining the relationship between humility and justice.

"First, humility acknowledges that we can get it wrong," Rush said. "As judges and lawyers we are human, and sometimes we make mistakes."

Even the highest courts are not exempt from that reality, she noted. "We have the tremendous potential to do great things for the people of Indiana. We also have tremendous potential to do great harm. Unfortunately, it's not a question 'if' we'll fall short, but 'when,'" she noted.

"Admitting that we are imperfect allows us to begin moving towards true justice," she said.

Her second point was humility provides an understanding that "justice is not something we invent, but something we receive."

She said, "It's our lack of humility that explains why so many theories of justice begin with ourselves — our freedom, our rights, our privileges and our liberties. If we start with ourselves, we forget where our freedoms, rights or liberties really came from. Humility

allows us to look outside of ourselves to find justice. That is why the Bible has been the foundation of our legal system since the beginning."

Justice, the Chief Justice noted, begins in the heart and mind of God under the rule and reign of Jesus Christ. For example, the founders of this nation believed that freedom of religion was not a product of Enlightenment, but of God Himself.

She said, "We protect life, because all are made in God's image. We protect property because God is the source of all blessing

and He has commanded, 'Do not covet.' And we enforce contracts because God is true and He keeps His promises. Governments have authority to enforce these rights and freedoms because the Lord, Jesus Christ has instituted government as His servant for good to His people. (Romans 13:7)."

Her third point was humility allows us to accept that human justice is never the ultimate, rather God's judgment is the ultimate.

After providing examples from Maccabees and St. Thomas More, she said, "Even though human justice is not the ultimate, we still have a job to do. We must do good, we must do the good we know we need to do by recognizing our God-given role through constitutions and (being) good servants, but God is first. Our understanding of the limits of justice is no basis to give up our Constitutional mandate, but rather keep in mind why justice should always be tempered with mercy."

The call of justice goes beyond the courtrooms, she said, and into the communities. It includes services to families, the community and the vulnerable.

Chief Justice Rush is married to Deacon James Rush, who is assigned to St. Lawrence Church, Lafayette. The deacon assisted at the Fort Wayne Red Mass.



## PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Oct. 18, 11 a.m. — Wedding Anniversary Mass, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Monday, Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m. — Homilist at Red Mass, Saint Patrick Cathedral, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- Tuesday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m. — White Mass at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, Oct. 21 — Meeting of Our Sunday Visitor Advisory Committee, Detroit, Michigan
- Thursday, Oct. 22, 10:30 a.m. — All Schools Mass at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne

## Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty Holy Hours

• St. Joseph Church, 1300 N. Main St., Bluffton, hosts prayer for vocations and religious freedom the first Thursday of each month beginning with Morning Prayer at 7:45 a.m., Mass at 8 a.m., Adoration from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m., Litany of the Eucharist and Benediction at 6:45 p.m. and Mass at 7 p.m. On the second Wednesday of the month, Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty takes place beginning at 5 p.m. and ending with Mass at 7 p.m.

• St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne, has a holy hour all Fridays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the chapel.

• Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka has an hour and a half (3:30-5 p.m.) of Adoration and Exposition every Saturday prior to the Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. They dedicate this time in honor of private prayer for the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.

• St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur, hosts Eucharistic Exposition on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30-6 p.m. and on Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and 4:30-8 p.m. The parish asks participants to pray for the protection of marriage, religious freedom and unborn children.

• Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, hosts a holy hour for religious liberty beginning with a rosary at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL MISSION DAY GATHERS DIOCESAN TEACHERS



JOE ROMIE

The 2015 Catholic School Mission Day for Catholic school teachers was held at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend on Oct. 8, and at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne on Oct. 9. Both days' included Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, service awards and Education for Ministry graduate certificates and keynote address by Father Joe Kempf titled, "The Blessed Mess Called 'Family.'" Above, Paula Murphy, a third-grade teacher from St. Vincent de Paul School, Fort Wayne, receives her 30-year service award from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, and takes a "selfie" photo with Bishop Rhoades to remember the moment.

# Take a positive approach to families, synod members say

BY CINDY WOODEN  
AND CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The first week of the Synod of Bishops on the family ended with near unanimous calls to be more positive in describing family life today and to show more apprecia-

tion for Catholic families living close to the Church's ideals. But there were also widespread questions among synod participants about the work they are expected to produce.

After listening to speeches and working in small groups Oct. 5-8, synod participants listened to the

small group reports Oct. 9.

"At times our work has seemed more muddled than methodical," wrote Australian Archbishop Mark Coleridge on behalf of the synod's English Group C. "Our hope is that focus, if not perfect clarity, will emerge as the synod unfolds and we

become more assured about both task and method."

During a press briefing Oct. 9, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila, Philippines, one of the synod presidents, told reporters that changes in the synod's method created some confusion, especially for members who have attended past synods and were accustomed to drawing up a list of propositions to give to the pope. Instead, they have been asked to amend the synod's working document.

The speeches in the synod hall the first week and the discussions in the small groups focused on the first chapter of the working document; all the small group reports offered suggestions for improving the text while some criticized it harshly, saying much of the text was "flawed," "inadequate, especially in its theology," and too Western-centric.

But the working document is meant to be analyzed and ripped apart, Cardinal Tagle told reporters.

"In fact it is called a martyred document," the cardinal said. "It must be ready to be martyred, to be shot. Otherwise there is no point in calling 300 people (to Rome) just to say, 'Yes, this is it.'"

The working document includes input from so many different people that the main aim in drafting it was to get everyone's opinion in and not to produce "a synthetic, cohesive treatise on the vocation and mission of the family," said Cardinal Tagle, who helped draft the text.

The criticism, therefore, was expected and is "very much welcome," he added.

Almost all the groups insisted whatever document the synod produced at the end would need to be clear, simple and realistic.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, told reporters at the briefing that his small group called for a text using understandable words that "inspired and attract."

"If marriage is a vocation, which we believe it is, we can't promote vocations by talking first about its problems," said the report of English Group D, chaired by Cardinal Thomas C. Collins of Toronto with Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia serving as secretary.

Several groups also insisted the document should include more quotations from Scripture, a clearer reaffirmation of Church teaching and, according to one Italian group, ample citations from early Church theologians.

Cardinal Tagle said even though the text would be rooted in the Bible, the language used should be "more edifying or encouraging," and less verbose. There was a recognition that a final document would have to avoid so-called "Church-speak," especially if it was going to speak

to young people whose formation might not be so sophisticated, he said. But because it is a work in progress, "We will see what will happen."

Another Italian group, Group A, said its members want a document using "formulas that from the beginning leave no doubt that the only model of family that corresponds to Church doctrine is that founded on the marriage of one man and one woman."

Like the other groups, French Group C insisted the synod find the right language and tone to speak of the family. "There is a danger in talking about 'family' in the abstract, as a reality that is external to us," the members said. But, in fact, the families the bishops are talking about include the families formed by the bishops' own parents, their brothers and sisters, cousins and nieces and nephews.

The bishops, the French group wrote, also are people of faith and pastors; faith in Jesus and concern for people in their family lives must be clear in what the synod produces.

French Group A said the synod's text "must adopt a tone that promotes dialogue with our contemporaries."

At the same time, the group reported, "we are aware that these next two weeks will not be enough" to complete thoroughly the work the synod has been asked to do.

English Group C agreed. "To address the many issues that we have discussed will take more than the first week or even the three weeks of the synod. A longer journey stretches before us, just as an earlier journey has led us to this point — not just from late 2013 when Pope Francis announced the journey of the two synods but from the Second Vatican Council and all that led to it."

Several groups also urged the synod to discuss "gender theory," which argues that male and female characteristics are not biologically determined but are malleable social constructs.

Italian Group A said the synod must point out "the risks of gender ideology as well as its negative impact on educational programs in many countries."

French Group C explained that sociologists and philosophers developed gender theories in an attempt "to analyze certain human and social phenomena to enrich our understanding of the world. But when these theories become absolute, they tend to produce a single thought system that tries to sweep away everything in its path. In seeking to impose a point of view that denies the relationship between gender and the sexual being that we are in our bodies," it denies what is "most noble and humanizing" in the family, parenting and human love.



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8 am	<b>Bishop Dwenger High School</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>St. Mary</b> Bristol, IN	<b>Holy Cross</b> South Bend, IN	<b>Franciscan Center</b> Fort Wayne, IN
9 am	<b>University of Saint Francis</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>Holy Cross College</b> South Bend, IN	<b>St. Thomas</b> Elkhart, IN	<b>Bishop Luers High School</b> Fort Wayne, IN
10 am	<b>Christ the King</b> South Bend, IN	<b>Most Precious Blood</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>Tippmann Hour</b> <b>Double your Dollar</b>	<b>St. Robert Bellarmine</b> North Manchester, IN
11 am	<b>St. Joe Hessen Cassel</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>St. Jude</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>St. Joe Brooklyn</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>St. Vincent</b> Elkhart, IN
Noon	<b>St. Therese, Little Flower</b> South Bend, IN	<b>Bishop Kevin Rhoades</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b> Warsaw, IN	<b>St. Vincent</b> Fort Wayne, IN
1 pm	<b>St. Elizabeth</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>Holy Family</b> South Bend, IN	<b>St. Charles</b> Fort Wayne, IN
2 pm	<b>St. Paul of the Cross</b> Columbia City, IN	<b>St. Aloysius</b> Yoder, IN	<b>St. Anthony de Padua</b> South Bend, IN	<b>St. Mary of the Assumption</b> Decatur, IN
3 pm	95.7 FM <b>Our Lady of Hungary</b> South Bend, IN	106.3 FM & 89.9 FM <b>St. John the Baptist</b> New Haven, IN	<b>St. Michael</b> Plymouth, IN	<b>Sacred Heart</b> Notre Dame, IN
4 pm	<b>Marian High School</b> Mishawaka, IN	<b>St. Pius</b> Granger, IN	<b>Franciscan Brothers Minor</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>St. Anthony of Padua</b> Angola, IN
5 pm	<b>St. Matthew Cathedral</b> South Bend, IN	<b>Corpus Christi</b> South Bend, IN	<b>Our Lady of Good Hope</b> Fort Wayne, IN	<b>Catholic Medical Guild</b> South Bend, IN
6 pm	<b>St. Dominic</b> Bremen, IN	<b>Chair Couple Hour</b>	<b>Sports Hour</b>	<b>Rekindle the Fire</b>

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# Cardinal O'Malley: California legalization of assisted suicide 'a great tragedy for human life'

WASHINGTON — Cardinal Seán O'Malley of Boston, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), responded on Oct. 6 to Governor Jerry Brown's signing of the new California law legalizing assisted suicide.

Cardinal O'Malley called the governor's decision "a great tragedy for human life," and a tragedy "compounded by confusion among those who supported this law."

"A government that legalizes assisted suicide sends the terrible message Pope Francis has so eloquently warned us against, that there is such a thing as disposable people," Cardinal O'Malley said. "I am sure the Catholic Church in this country will redouble its efforts to protect innocent life at its most vulnerable stages, and to promote palliative care and other real solutions for the problems and hardships of terminally ill patients and their families."

The full text of Cardinal O'Malley's statement follows:

"Governor Brown's decision this week to sign a bill legalizing doctor-assisted suicide in California is a great tragedy for human life. As a result, in all the West coast states, seriously ill patients suffering from depression and suicidal feelings will receive lethal drugs, instead of genuine care to help alleviate that suffering.

The tragedy here is compounded by confusion among those who supported this law.

For example, Governor Brown said he signed this law because it should not be a crime for a dying person in pain to end his life. But suicide itself is a tragedy, not a crime. The crime is for people in authority such as physicians to facilitate the deliberate deaths of other, more vulnerable people. That crime will now be permitted in California. And where such "assistance" is legal, most people taking the lethal drugs do so not because of pain but

because they feel they are helpless and a "burden" on others. The state of California in effect is now confirming this judgment. A government that legalizes assisted suicide sends the terrible message Pope Francis has so eloquently warned us against, that there is such a thing as disposable people.

With the bishops of California I grieve for this deeply flawed action. I am sure the Catholic Church in this country will redouble its efforts to protect innocent life at its most vulnerable stages, and to promote palliative care and other real solutions for the problems and hardships of terminally ill patients and their families."

**For more information** on the bishops' advocacy against assisted suicide, including their 2011 statement, "To Live Each Day with Dignity," see: [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/assisted-suicide/to-live-each-day](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/assisted-suicide/to-live-each-day).

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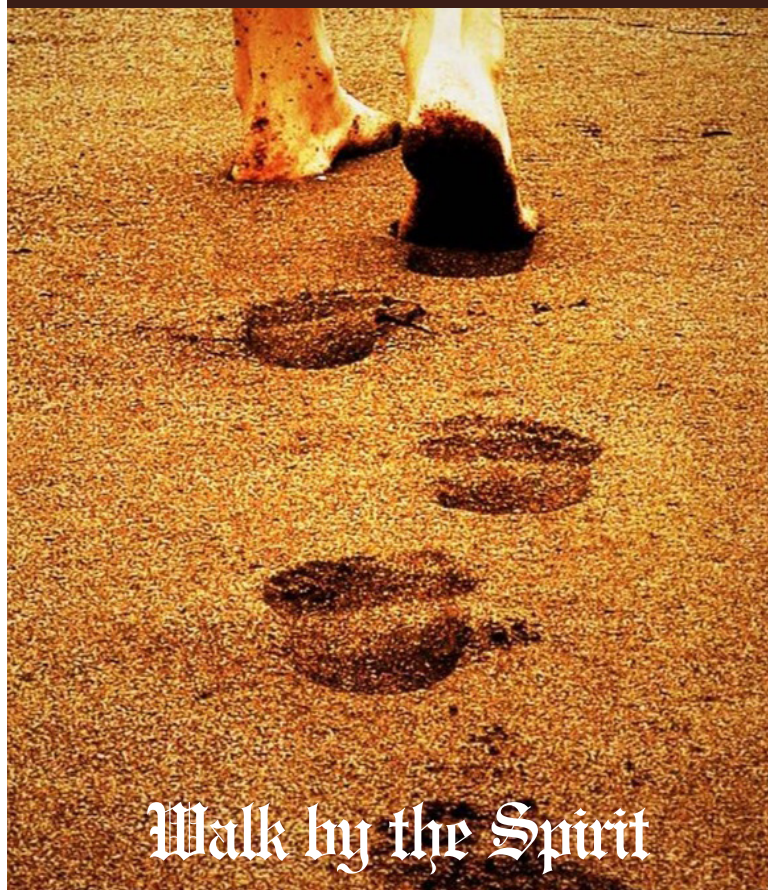
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THEOLOGY.ND.EDU/NOSTRA-AETATE

## Bishops, Vatican confirm Pope Francis will visit Mexico in 2016

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — The Mexican bishops' conference and the Vatican have confirmed Pope Francis will visit Mexico in 2016, marking his first trip to this heavily Catholic country in the throes of unrest over unresolved issues such as violence, crime and corruption. Auxiliary Bishop Eugenio Lira Rugarcia of Puebla, conference secretary-general, told Catholic News Service that the pope would travel to Mexico next year, though dates and details were still to be determined. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, provided similar information to the Televisa network, adding the trip would likely take place during the first half of 2016 and include a stop in the capital, Mexico City. Pope Francis has previously mused about visiting Mexico, home to the world's second-largest Catholic population. After visiting the Philippines last year, the pope said he wanted to walk from Mexico into the United States "as a sign of brotherhood and of help to the immigrants," along with visiting the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the world's most-visited Marian shrine. He said in September that he had planned to enter the United States at a border crossing, going from Ciudad Juarez to El Paso, Texas, but opted to instead visit Cuba after the communist country and the United States ended their estrangement, with Vatican assistance.

## Church and society must learn from families, pope says at audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Society and the Church have much to learn from the family and, in fact, the bond between the Church and the family is "indissoluble," Pope Francis said. Families bring needed values and a humanizing spirit to society and, when they mirror God's love for all, they teach the Church how it should relate to all people, including the "imperfect," the pope said Oct. 7 during his weekly general audience. While members of the Synod of Bishops on the family were meeting in small groups, Pope Francis held his audience with an estimated 30,000 people in St. Peter's Square. He asked them to accompany the synod with their prayers. While the Catholic Church insists that governments and the economy need families and have an obligation to give them greater support, Pope Francis said, the Church itself recognizes that it, too, must have a "family spirit." Using the Gospel story of Jesus telling the disciples he would make them "fishers of men," Pope Francis said, "a new kind of net is needed for this. We can say that today families are the most important net for the mission of Peter and the Church."

# NEWS BRIEFS

## PRIESTS INTERESTED IN PURSUING TOUR AS CHAPLAIN IN U.S. MILITARY TAKE PART IN MASS



CNS PHOTO/CHAZ MUTH

Priests interested in pursuing a tour of duty as a chaplain in the U.S. military take part in an Oct. 6 Mass in the chapel of the Washington headquarters of the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Ten priests took part in an early October chaplain recruiting seminar week held by the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Father Ben Garrett said he has "never felt more useful in my life" as a priest than as a Navy chaplain meeting the pastoral and sacramental needs of service members. "Being a priest in the military is extremely fulfilling," he said. "Our men and women in uniform take on great sacrifices on behalf of our country, and they need to be taken care of spiritually," he told Catholic News Service.

## Citing new rules, India's Missionaries of Charity to end adoption work

KOLKATA, India (CNS) — The Missionaries of Charity will close their adoption centers in India, citing new regulations that would allow nontraditional families to adopt children, reported ucanews.com. Founded by Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, the congregation runs orphanages across India, with 18 of them government-recognized centers that offer children for adoption. But the nuns do not want to run adoption centers in India now, said Sister Mary Prema, the congregation's current superior general. "The decision of seeking the government's de-recognition status for adoption centers applies only to India," Sister Mary Prema told ucanews.com Oct. 11. The nuns decided on this voluntarily after the Missionaries of Charity headquarters in Kolkata was informed about complying with the new Guidelines Governing Adoption of Children by the federal Ministry of Women and Child Development, said an Oct. 10 statement issued by Sunita Kumar, spokeswoman for the congregation. "If we were to continue the work set up by Mother Teresa, complying (with) all the provisions would have been difficult for us," the statement said.

## South Carolina bishop asks for prayers, support for families affected by floods

CHARLESTON, S.C. (CNS) — Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone of Charleston asked for prayers for the families of those killed as well as for those whose homes were destroyed in what officials called a 1,000-year storm that brought extreme rains that deluged South Carolina. Authorities said at least 14 people died and media reported that rescuers have had to pluck hundreds from swamped cars and flooded houses. Some residents remained in danger Oct. 6 from residual effects of saturated grounds that can unearth weakened trees and collapsed roads. "We simply ask for prayers, especially for the families of those who lost their lives in this horrific storm," Bishop Guglielmone told *The Catholic Miscellany*, newspaper of the Charleston Diocese. "Many people lost homes, cars and other possessions, but in time and with assistance these can be replaced. The strong spirit of our people in South Carolina and their lively faith will get us through this difficult time and will sustain us." State officials declared a state of emergency Oct. 1 as unprecedented rains and flash flood conditions raged throughout the state. Bishop Guglielmone canceled the On Fire With Faith confer-

ence set for Oct. 2-3 in Simpsonville, 200 miles northwest of Charleston. Other diocesan events were postponed and rescheduled.

## Pope's remarks seen as a road map of urgent actions for U.N. to take

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — In the warm afterglow of Pope Francis' Sept 25 address to the General Assembly, veteran United Nations observers drew a starkly candid road map of urgent actions that the world body must take to achieve its security agenda. Speakers at an Oct. 7 side event hosted by the Holy See's permanent observer to the U.N. said the organization's top priorities must be nuclear disarmament and the protection of civilians in conflict areas. Archbishop Bernardito Auza, the Vatican's ambassador to the U.N., said Pope Francis described "an urgent need to work for a world free of nuclear weapons, in full application of the nonproliferation treaty, in letter and spirit, with the goal of a complete prohibition of these weapons. Nuclear deterrence and the threat of mutually assured destruction cannot be the basis for an ethics of fraternity and peaceful coexistence," Pope Francis said in an earlier message to an interna-

tional conference in Vienna. The pope said it is immoral to possess nuclear weapons, because deterrence rests on the willingness to use them, panelists said.

## Ugandan bishops ask Catholics to prepare spiritually for papal visit

KAMPALA, Uganda (CNS) — The Ugandan bishops called on all Catholics to prepare spiritually for Pope Francis' Nov. 27-29 visit to their country. "The nature of this visit is primarily pastoral and spiritual," the bishops said in a letter signed by Archbishop John Baptist Odama of Gulu, president of the Uganda Episcopal Conference. Pope Francis' visit has the theme, "You will be my witnesses." The bishops said the pope will help Ugandans celebrate the 50th anniversary of the canonization of the Uganda Martyrs, who were burned to death for their faith between 1885 and 1887. The martyrs were canonized in 1964. The bishops urged Christians to do penance and undertake acts of charity for the poor so they can receive the papal blessing in a worthy manner. "In a country like ours, where unity and national consensus has eluded us for decades, the pope comes as a bridge builder," the bishops said. They said the visit provides a golden opportunity for Ugandans to be instruments of unity, peace and reconciliation in the family and among various religious and cultural and political groups.

## Washington resident remembers 'kindness' of former teacher, now pope

WASHINGTON (CNS) — One day in early September, Washington resident Yayo Grassi was interrupted by a mysterious phone call while working in his backyard. "I was watering my plants and the cellphone rings, and it says 'caller is not in your contacts,'" Grassi recounted recently from his house in Washington. "So I pick up the phone, and I say 'hello,' and this voice says, 'Hello, is Obdulio there?'" he continued. The only person who ever referred to him by that nickname was his high school literature teacher of some 50 years ago in Argentina — Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis. Grassi said he had emailed his former teacher soon after learning of the pope's September visit to the United States, but he never expected a call. In the email, he said, he told the pope how much he would like to see him but knew it probably would not be possible due to the pontiff's intense U.S. itinerary. When he heard the voice on the phone, "it dawned on me ... he's calling me from Italy," the 67-year-old Grassi said he suddenly realized. Grassi said he and Pope Francis spent the next 15 minutes on the phone, discussing Cuba, politics, religion and a joint admiration for U.S. President Barack Obama.

## Bishop Luers mission trip impacts the lives of many

FORT WAYNE — In anticipation of their mission trip to Haiti, Carrie Bubb, alumna from the class of 1988, asked the Bishop Luers' cheerleaders if they could help put together hygiene kits that could be distributed by Bishop Luers' students to children in orphanages in Haiti.

On July 23, the cheerleaders met in the cafeteria and assembled over 500 hygiene kits that included wash cloths, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, as well as other items such as combs, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, hair accessories and lotion.

The items and bags were donated by Bishop Luers' students, cheerleaders, local dentists and Fort Wayne community members.

The washcloths and expertise on the kit assembly were provided by Marta Flaherty, grandmother of four Bishop Luers' alumni, Abby (Guyll), Jacob, Hannah and Matthew Malloy. Flaherty has worked with the poor for many years and makes hygiene kits for the Rescue Mission and Ave Maria House. She supports food pantries, including the one she started many years ago, Manna From Heaven, in Peoria, Illinois. Putting together the packets was a wonderful experience to minister to Jesus in the face of the poor. The 14 Bishop Luers students left for Haiti to deliver the hygiene kits along with other donations and to immerse themselves into the Haitian culture. "Many of the Haitians were moved to tears of joy," noted Grace Everett, a Bishop Luers' senior who helped distribute the hygiene kits to churches and homes. The Luers' students also spent time painting the grade school, installing playground equipment, praying together and participating in the children's activities.

## National Council of Catholic Women celebrates 95th anniversary convention in Orlando

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nearly 700 attendees of the 2015 National Council of Catholic Women's annual convention in Orlando, Florida, were surprised by the guest appearance of Mickey Mouse and a special presentation on the 95 years of NCCW history by Mary Matheus at the 95th birthday luncheon celebration. Held at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista from Sept. 9-12, the NCCW convention is the annual gathering of women leaders from Catholic women's organizations in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States.

"Celebrating 95 years of history and the program packed with training, speakers and fun generated the excitement to draw this exceptional gathering of Catholic women to Orlando," said Sheila Hopkins, newly installed NCCW president and co-chair of the convention.

The opening liturgy was celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe by NCCW Episcopal Liaison Bishop James V. Johnston,

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## STUDENTS SALUTE VETERANS ON THE HONOR FLIGHT



TINA VOORS

Students from St. Aloysius School, Yoder, offered send-off greetings and thanks to World War II and Korean War veterans who flew to Washington, D.C., on Oct. 7 for the Honor Flight. The students arrived for the departure from Fort Wayne International Airport.

Jr., Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau (recently appointed Kansas City-St. Joseph), and concelebrated by Bishop Gregory L. Parkes of Pensacola-Tallahassee. Friday's liturgy honoring deceased members of NCCW was celebrated by Bishop John Noonan of Orlando.

The closing liturgy, celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami, included the installation of the 2015-2017 officers of NCCW — President Sheila Hopkins, Tallahassee, Florida; President Elect Maribeth Stewart, West Haven, Connecticut, and Secretary Jean Kelly, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. Mary Matheus, from Longwood, Florida, was elected to a second term as treasurer last year. An additional 48 priests, spiritual directors and friends of NCCW attended the liturgies including Bishop David R. Choby of Nashville, who concelebrated the Saturday liturgy.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Carolyn Woo, president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services; Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; Marybeth Hicks, marketing director for FAITH Catholic and Brandon Vogt, content director for Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. Training sessions were conducted by the three commissions — spirituality, leadership and service — and training for new council presidents was

offered by the Leadership Training Development Team.

At the closing session of the convention, new province directors from several areas of the United States were installed. Disney entertainer Billy Flanigan, currently playing the part of Nemo at Walt Disney World, entertained at the closing banquet.

The 2016 Convention will be held Sept. 7-10 in Indianapolis. Women of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will have a great opportunity to help strengthen Jesus' Church through the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. For information, contact Laraine Bennett at 703-224-0990 or email lbennett@nccw.org.

## St. Joseph County Right to Life to hold annual benefit dinner

SOUTH BEND — The St. Joseph County Right to Life invites the community to their 24th annual benefit dinner in the theme, "Adoption and a Celebration of Families," on Thursday, Oct. 29, at the Joyce Center at the University of Notre Dame. Social hour begins at 5 p.m. followed by the dinner and program at 6:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker, Ryan Bomberger, is an Emmy award winning creative professional and national speaker on adoption advocacy. Bomberger's powerful per-

sonal story of being adopted by a multi-racial family after his biological mother was raped is a truly heroic witness to the power of the pro-life message to change lives.

For more information and to register, call 574-232-LIFE, or visit [prolifemichiana.org](http://prolifemichiana.org).

## Scholarship dinner helps Ancilla College student

DONALDSON — The third annual Changing Lives Scholarship Dinner will be at 6 p.m. at Swan Lake Resort Friday, Nov. 6. The event will include a social hour followed by the exceptional culinary staff at Swan Lake Resort. A variety of silent and live auction items will also be available to bid on during the evening.

Participants may register online at [ancilla.edu/changelives](http://ancilla.edu/changelives).

The evening's events will include presentation of two of the college's highest honors — the Ancilla Award and the Sister Mary Dolores Outstanding Alumni Award. This year John Chandler will receive the Ancilla Award. Chandler was born in Chicago and his family has had a presence in Donaldson, Marshall County, for six generations.

Chandler serves as vice-president of Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago. He was a member of the Ancilla College Board

of Trustees from 2003-2013 and has served as board chairman from 2007-2013.

The Sister Mary Dolores Outstanding Alumni Award will be presented to Randall Danielson ('77). Danielson is the owner of Johnson-Danielson Funeral Home in Plymouth and is a current member of the Ancilla College Board of Trustees, having served since 2006.

Current students will be on hand to chat with attendees and several will speak about how scholarships have impacted their education at Ancilla College.

Funds raised from this event will help provide need-based grants and scholarships to worthy students to attend Ancilla College, who otherwise might not be able. During the 2014-15 school year, 92 percent of Ancilla students received financial assistance in the form of grants, scholarships or awards. In addition, the college spent more than \$1 million of its own resources to help students with their tuition and other costs of education. At last year's event, thanks to community support, nearly \$33,000 was raised to help students.

For sponsorship opportunities including donations to the live auction or gift baskets, visit the Ancilla College website, [www.ancilla.edu](http://www.ancilla.edu).

## Trinity Health seeks dismissal of lawsuit related to pregnancy services

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A Michigan-based Catholic health care system planned to seek dismissal of a lawsuit by a civil liberties organization challenging the emergency services it provides to pregnant women.

Officials at Trinity Health Corp., of Livonia, Michigan, said in a statement that the system's 88 hospitals across the U.S. provide quality health care under the "Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services" developed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The lawsuit filed Oct. 1 contends that Trinity Health violates provisions of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act and the Rehabilitation Act by denying the full range of emergency care, including pregnancy termination when necessary.

"A federal court already dismissed a similar ACLU claim, and we will seek dismissal of this suit for the same reason," the Trinity Health statement said. "The ethical and religious directives are entirely consistent with high-quality health care, and our clinicians continue to provide superb care throughout the communities we serve."

The directives state, "Catholic health care ministry witnesses to the sanctity of life 'from the moment of conception until death.'"

The civil liberties organization claims in the suit that health care decisions in Trinity Health's hospitals are made in accordance with the ethical and religious directives rather than on sound medical practice in violation of federal law.

Saint Joseph Health System is a not-for-profit organization of Trinity Health.



***“Do not grow  
zeal, be fed  
serve the***

## Z E A M

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

people were loving, people were reverential to each other, and they turned out in droves because they sensed something amazing was happening,” she said.

“They sensed they were sons and daughters of the Most High God, and each one of you is not just a cog in the wheel, but a son or a daughter of the everlasting Father and you are created in His image,” Lisa said. “And every single person you relate to is created in His image or likeness whether or not acknowledging it, and that is something Pope Francis reminded us of when he came a few weeks ago.”

Lisa said so many people showed up for the papal activities to see the pope because “we are starving to be reminded that we are created in the image and likeness of God.”

“Relationship matters,” Lisa emphasized, “more now than ever before.”

Greg noted, “The Catholic difference in relationship is all about presence, being present to the people in our lives.”

St. John Paul II’s theology of the body presents a blueprint for God’s plan and relationships.

They spoke of how corporal and spiritual works of mercy, simple things such as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, are things “we do day in and day out,” that are part of that relationship.

Lisa said when she reviewed the works of mercy with her oldest son as he prepared to make his first Communion years ago, he noted, “They should call those the ‘corporal works of mommy.’”

“All that stuff that you think is drudgery,” noted Lisa, “stuff we do all day” — cooking, cleaning, folding that laundry — “seems like drudgery ... but what we bring to it is love — love that the people in your life are dying for.”

Many of those corporal and spiritual works of mercy were vividly displayed as parish groups or diocesan ministries set up displays staffed by participants in the Ministry and Service Fair located in the Bishop Dwenger SAC gym. Participants were encouraged to visit the 31 displays throughout the day during breaks and lunch.

The Popcaks encouraged their

audience members to think about the rituals and routines that draw family together: Thanksgiving, Christmas and other gatherings.

They also encouraged families to connect on a daily basis, carve out intentional time for work, play, talk and prayer. That can include working together on chores, taking a walk around the neighborhood, playing cards or having meaningful conversation.

Greg cited that 83 percent of Catholic families do not pray together. Only 13 percent of Catholic families say grace every day.

Greg also encouraged participants that their obligation of love is to build up people. The opposite of love according to theology of the body, he said, is “use.”

The definition of love is to work for the good of one another, Lisa noted.

“Love” personalizes, Greg said, but “use” depersonalizes.

The Popcaks encouraged participants to create a love list — things that their loved ones like and enjoy and then find little ways to create relationship based on that love list.

Sarah and Tim Speer, members of Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn, attended the conference. The Speers are participants of the Couples With Kids ministry, which they presented in the ministry fair. Sarah Speer hopes to invite more people, couples from her parish, to attend next year’s Zeal summit.

“We all work together to build community in the parish and it is nice to come here and get ‘fed’ and feel that the work that we’re doing is really making an impact. Other people are having the same struggles and having the same issues that we are and they want to keep growing in their faith,” she said. “We want to take that back to our parish and inspire more people to get involved and become closer to Christ.”

Tim Speer described Couples With Kids as a group of families that get together at Immaculate Conception to foster family time in terms of service and social time. In building that relationship, they minister to one another, he said.

“It’s relationships that are needed to invite people to pray with them or to do a Bible study with them,” Tim said.

“I think that’s what’s happening here today,” he added. “We’re trying to show it’s that relationship that matters to build that trust with one another.”



NATE PROULX

At their keynote address, Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak delight the participants of the Zeal Missionary Discipleship Summit at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne on Oct. 10.



Zeal Missionary Discipleship Summit participants learn more about A Mother’s Hope on Oct. 10 at Bishop Dwenger High School.



Natalie Kohrman, coordinator of The Third Option of Fort Wayne, displays the ministry that builds better marriages.



Paul Gerardot visits with ministry fair participants at the Community Ministries of St. Henry display.



## row slack in ervent in spirit, Lord."



Colleen Mitchell offers a workshop, "Recognizing and Accessing the Power of the Holy Spirit."

Father Michael Depcik offered two workshops in American Sign Language on understanding the Mass."



Father Ben Muhlenkam, pastor of St. Louis, Besancon, Parish in New Haven, offers the workshop, "Same Sex Attraction and Our Call to Love."



Lisa Morino offers the workshop, "Raising Children in the Theology of the Body."

PHOTOS BY TIM JOHNSON

## SANKOFA celebrates Black Catholic faith and culture

St. Mary Mother of God Parish, 1101 Lafayette St., in Fort Wayne will host the 2015 SANKOFA: A Celebration of Black Catholic Faith and Culture from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 7. The conference, themed, "Black Souls Matter: Standing on the Rock, Pressing Toward the Mark" features keynote speaker Brian Greenfield from Tampa, Florida, director of campus ministry for the Jesuit High School there. Breakout sessions will be held on evangelization, education, history, vocations, pastoral care and offer teen and young adult sessions for ages 15-21 with Deacon Mel Tardy. African Drum and Dance will perform as well. Mass will be celebrated by Father Ken Taylor, pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis, at 4 p.m. with music by the Holy Angels Gospel Choir. Registration fee is \$15 and includes lunch. To register visit [diocesefwsb.org/dbcm](http://diocesefwsb.org/dbcm). —Kay Cozad



PROVIDED BY SUE AVERY

St. Joseph, Lagrange, parishioners, from left, Jane Selking, Jim Selking, Debbie Heiny, Martin Heiny, Marilyn Morton and Brenda Echterling meet for an Alpha program small group discussion at Blessed Sacrament Church in Albion. The program unites nearly 100 participants from Blessed Sacrament; Immaculate Conception, Ege; St. Joseph, Lagrange; and St. John Bosco, Churubusco, for a weekly meal, discussion, prayer and fellowship.

## ALPHA program builds relationships

Alpha, a new initiative for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has been offered this fall as a parish tool for evangelization that is based on hospitality, sharing and prayer. The program, which is inviting people to encounter Christ in 112 languages in 169 countries worldwide, consists of a series of 10 weekly interactive sessions that include a meal where guests can relax and get to know each other, a short faith-based talk on who Jesus is, the Bible and the personal testimony of the speaker, and small group discussion where trust and friendships are built.

In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend four parishes have participated in this ongoing program, with nearly 100 participants from Blessed Sacrament, Albion; Immaculate Conception, Ege; St. Joseph, Lagrange; and St. John Bosco, Churubusco, meeting at Blessed Sacrament Church for a weekly meal, discussion, prayer and fellowship. The University of Notre Dame's Campus Ministry is also using the program.

Cindy Black, director of adult faith formation for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, says of the program, "With Alpha we can invite people no matter where they are in their faith. It's basically an introduction to Christianity. ... It's 'come as you are' and build relationships."

Sue Avery, parishioner of Blessed Sacrament, says the program has united parishioners of all the participating parishes. "The program has been a blessing for the Alpha team members because it has given a chance for those participating from the four parishes to unite in prayer and sharing of faith while planning and implementing the Alpha course."

Avery adds, "It has been a positive experience for our parish members to share their faith and struggles in a relaxed, uplifting, positive and supportive way, thus helping us live our Catholic faith more fully. One of our parishioners said the church hall was filled with 'electricity of the Holy Spirit.'"

Currently, several other parishes are inquiring about starting their own Alpha program. —Kay Cozad



PHOTO PROVIDED BY STEVE LUDWISKI

Sharing the good news of the Why Catholic? program's first chapter of prayer at the St. Jude Church Parish Center are, from left, Tera Hogan, Mary Pohlman, Gervaise Bastian, Sharon Kacprowicz, Steve Ludwiski and John Offerle.

## Why Catholic? program flourishes in 22 parishes across diocese

"Why Catholic? Journey Through the Catechism" is a comprehensive, innovative adult formation program that began in earnest this year and is based on the four pillars of Catholic faith as presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The program offers insight into prayer, core beliefs, the sacraments and morality.

Developed by RENEW International, the Catholic ministry organization that recently presented ARISE Together in Christ, the four-year program includes workshops, faith enrichment events and prayerful small group discussions that help parishioners relate Catholic teaching to their everyday lives.

Twenty-two parishes across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend have formed small faith sharing groups through the Why Catholic? program this fall, exploring Christian prayer during this first year. The materials and format are designed to create an environment where people can dialogue about things that matter, as each session also includes relevant Scripture references, reflection questions and prayers.

Cindy Black, director of adult faith formation for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and coordinator the Why Catholic?, says the program allows parishioners of all cultures to participate as a parish community.

"It's a unifying program," she says. Participants meet in language specific small groups in homes or parishes.

Holy Cross Father Peter Pacini, pastor of St. Adalbert-St. Casimir Parishes in South Bend, says of the program, "Roughly 200 members of the St. Adalbert-St. Casimir community are participating in the Spanish version of the program: ¿Por Qué Ser Católico? The vast majority of them also participated in the Levántate/Arise program over the last three years. Both programs share the advantages of small faith community, where people can share and explore their experiences of God in an intimate setting of eight to 10 people. But ¿Por Qué Ser Católico? has a more catechetical focus, which could help our people to understand and live the Catholic faith more deeply."

The over 160 participants in 17 groups of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne are excited about the program. One member, Steve Ludwiski says, "The Why Catholic? format has given us structure, while at the same time allowed our group to be open and share at a level they feel comfortable. Each member of our group shared that they felt a calling of God searching for us."

He relates how the program is enriching his faith, "Why Catholic? is providing a format to know God beyond just Sunday mornings. The simple, weekly action steps are helping me to come closer to God every day. Why Catholic? is giving me a better understanding of the rich Catholic tradition that my parents passed on to me. It is helping me to have God in my life every day through prayer from my heart! —Kay Cozad

# A life made of miracles

BY MADELEINE RICHEY

FORT WAYNE — It was in the fall of 1969, in the Haitian countryside near Borgne, that a boy sat down to write a letter to the Mother Superior of Holy Cross order, Sister Denise Thibodeau, asking for help to attend school when his parents could no longer afford to send him. She wrote him back almost immediately, promising free admission to the middle school. She, along with the other sisters, continued to support him financially until he became a priest 33 years ago, a gift that didn't stop with Father Andre Sylvestre. The boy who wrote to Sister Denise Thibodeau in 1969 is now the pastor of a small country parish in the Diocese of Cap Haitian, but more

than that, he is a father to children who have none.

In January 2010, a massive earthquake shook Haiti, destroying the homes and lives of thousands. In February, Father Andre founded the Orphanage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in an attempt to care for the children left without parents in the quake's aftermath. Currently he is caring for 31 orphans, but even that is not enough. So with the help of students participating in Formula for Life — a student group founded by Courtney Shepard during her time at the University of Saint Francis (USF) to raise funds and collect supplies — under the leadership of Dr. Amy Obringer, Father Andre is building a new orphanage that will be home to 160 children.

Students at USF began by helping fund the day-to-day necessities of the orphanage, such as food and



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MADELEINE RICHEY

Father Andre Sylvestre, a priest from the Diocese of Cap Haitian, Haiti, on a recent visit to the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, spoke of the Orphanage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, which he operates. There has been ongoing missionary support between Formula for Life at the university and the orphanage.

clothing, but three years ago they decided to become involved in the construction of the new orphanage. The relationship between USF and the Orphanage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help began when a nursing student, Amando Pedro, and other students involved with Formula for Life decided to visit Haiti and Father Andre's orphanage. According to Father Andre, when the students arrived, they fell in love with the children, and that was the beginning of a now long-standing relationship between Formula for Life at USF and the Orphanage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

"They are making a great difference in the life of my orphans. Not only do they give me money for construction, but they also give affection to the kids during their annual visit," Father Andre says of the students who visit the orphanage each year and dedicate their time and effort to fundraising.

Involvement with Formula for Life and annual visits to the orphanage leave an impact not only on the orphans, but also on the students who are privileged to go.

"As a student entering college or in college you aren't truly faced with the real world, and Formula for Life confronts you with real life issues in a manner that students can make a difference in lives outside their own," says Kyle Bobay, a current USF student and active supporter of Formula for Life. "You start out feeling good knowing you are helping these children, then when you visit the children and see the progress as well as the completely different world that they live in, you

are left with a permanent mark. Our lives are so vastly different from theirs, yet they are so happy and grateful for all that they have and it really inspires you."

However, it is often a struggle to provide for so many children. "The main difficulties that I faced when I started the orphanage were to satisfy the basic needs, but providence always helped me to take care of them," Father Andre remembers. "One of the difficulties I still face is the absence of permanent funds to take care of kids. I still depend

on occasional donations." The pressure is also mounting to complete the new orphanage since their current residence is rented and they are required to vacate the premises by July 2016. Father Andre retains his hope and faith, saying, "It is a very stressful situation, but I believe that the

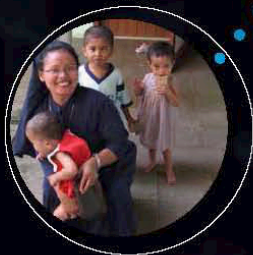
God of the orphans will provide."

When the new orphanage is completed a group of sisters from the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary will take up the responsibility of caring for the orphans, while Father Andre will stay as advisor and chaplain. But for now, Father Andre remains the primary caregiver, aided by local staff.

However difficult the situation, he remains steadfast in his mission. "My life is made of miracles," Father Andre reflects, looking back on the letter and sisters who changed his life. "I feel a call to give something back in helping the children who have no one to take care of them. The existence of the Orphanage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is a way for me to pay a portion of my debt to God."



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## Defending those with Trisomy 21

On June 16, 2015, the Ohio legislature began debate in the Ohio State House on HB 135, the Down Syndrome Non-Discrimination Act, which would ban abortions in Ohio when a diagnostic or screening test is positive for Trisomy 21.

Dr. Ashley K. Fernandes, M.D., PhD, associate professor of pediatrics and associate director of the Center for Bioethics at The Ohio State University, board member of the Catholic Medical Association and trustee the Ohio Right To Life, provided expert testimony on this bill. He will be speaking at the annual dinner in Fort Wayne on Oct. 20 at St. Mary, Mother of God Church following the White Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 6 p.m. The edited transcript of his remarks before the Ohio House subcommittee follows:

Down Syndrome, or Trisomy 21, is a chromosomal disorder where an effected person has a genotype with an extra 21st chromosome, in whole or in part, and leads to a phenotypic spectrum with certain typical features such as small stature, epicanthal folds of the eyes, and usually mild developmental disabilities — although the phenotype varies widely.

### Quality of life

The medical literature ... supports the notion that the quality of life of families is dependent on the psychological support and social support they receive more than medical or socio-economic factors. ... These are mutable, reversible factors that are dependent upon our efforts and us and

do not involve killing anyone. Abortion — which takes place in more than 90 percent of those with a prenatal diagnosis of Down Syndrome — is irreversible. In short, stigma — or lack of it — is critical to women who under the current system must make these decisions. Those decisions about societal support for children with Down Syndrome will consistently be undermined if women and their doctors are allowed to make a “choice” — in absolute value — which says that such life is disposable. ... It is therefore my duty, and that of any pediatrician, to create a climate of love and support for these families and their children. To show solidarity with them, to be, for what its worth in our brief visits with them, a face of love and hope. You as legislators, whom we have entrusted to codify the shared moral values of our society and state, also have that obligation.

### The nature of the person and the nature of choice

In philosophy, we call the study of the underlying view of the person “philosophical anthropology” — what are the essential characteristics of a person. ... Today in this debate, there are two clearly competing philosophical views of the person.

One view is called the empiricist view. On this view, a person is simply a random collection of atoms, created by chance, with no other purpose except happiness in this life. Only what we can see, feel or touch constitutes reality. ... The greatest asset we have is “choice,” because our life boils down to absolute autonomy.

## THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. ASHLEY FERNANDES

Freedom becomes freedom to choose, because that is all there is. When a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome is given, the unborn child is merely matter; feelings attached to her are epiphenomenon of matter. The primary purpose of life is to feel validated in one’s choices, and to avoid suffering or perceived suffering for oneself. ... If this were the only view, the pro-choice opponents of this bill would be right.

However, there is a view that offers a deeper, richer notion of person. On this view, promulgated by a philosophy known as personalism, a person is one who has the capacity to reason, to love, to act in freedom, and to live in communion or solidarity with others. We were not placed here by chance, but by purpose. Love is our greatest, distinguishing characteristic. But not love of self alone. A human person is, by nature, relational. She must look to the other, even the smallest, most defenseless, most vulnerable other. She must see that other in herself. On this view, freedom is not merely the selfish notion of a “freedom to choose.” Rather, freedom becomes choosing the good. A person fulfills his or her nature when they make a

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## ‘Encounter’ high priority of trip to D.C.

Several months ago when I was enjoying the quiet summer days and before the Francis-in-the-U.S. hype had come across my radar, I received a message from a priest friend in D.C. inviting me to come assist at the papal Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where Junipero Serra would be canonized. Because I am an instituted acolyte I was told I could be of great assistance for Communion and the handling of the Blessed Sacrament.

Seeing this as a great opportunity to enrich my faith, I decided to teammate with Holy Cross College Professor Michael Griffin and planned a five-day trip to our nation’s capital. In addition to assisting at the Mass, we planned numerous other engagements, including talks and presentations at several area high schools, a gathering with young Holy Cross alums in the area and a ticket arrangement at the capitol terrace for the papal addresses.

After returning home from the trip I cannot tell you how many times I have been asked, “How close did you get to the pope and did you touch him?” Unfortunately, I did not touch the pope and I did not really even get that close.

Seeing the pope from a short distance was truly inspiring and of course I would have loved to have a close and intimate encounter with our Holy Father. However, at the same time I did not see an intimate encounter with Francis as the objective of the trip as my take-away from the entire experience ended up rest-

## GUEST COMMENTARY

ANDREW POLANIECKI

ing within the notion of encounter with the people that I met.

During the five-day trip, I literally engaged hundreds of people, all who had a thought or a comment about Pope Francis. At the high schools we visited, Michael Griffin and I interacted with students ranging from some of the most well-off in our country to those that are on the margins. We talked to locals in the Metro Stations, visitors from other countries, Catholics and non-Catholics. We engaged our Uber drivers, local baristas and airport workers.

It is hard to make any generalizations about what Francis meant for those we encountered, but the story of a young woman Mary (not her real name) probably can sum it up best. Mary was a young woman who was invited to be a volunteer at Communion at the canonization Mass of Junipero Serra. When I asked her during our practice session for the Mass what her job was she somewhat embarrassingly said she was a part-time assistant to an office worker at a church in D.C. I of course dismissed the idea that this was a job to be embarrassed

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## True discipleship achieved by relying on God’s help



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 10:35-45

The first reading for this weekend is from the Book of Isaiah, precisely from its third and last part.

Isaiah on several occasions describes, or refers to, a loyal and devoted servant of God who endures outrageous insults and severe misfortunes but never despairs or rebels against God as these unhappy events come to him.

Furthermore, through, and from, these sufferings, good prevails. It prevails in the servant’s own faithfulness, and the glory of God shines

through all that happens.

While these verses were written many years before Christ, pious Christians always have seen in them a prefigurement of their gentle Savior, the innocent lamb of God, sinless and merciful, good and perfect, but the victim of viciousness and of the indifference of so many.

As its second reading for this weekend, the Church presents a selection from the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Typically throughout Hebrews, the epistle is strong in its Old Testament imagery, especially in the symbolism of the ancient rituals of the Jewish temple.

In 70 A.D., the Romans destroyed the temple, as a reprisal after the Jews unsuccessfully attempted to revolt against Rome. The priests were killed or scattered. The old rituals came to an end. They have not yet been restored.

For centuries, however, including the first two-thirds of the first century A.D., these ceremonies, in which priests, a high priest, sacrifices and victims of sacrifices appeared. These rites of the temple were

familiar to young and old, great and small, among the Jews.

With all this in mind, Hebrews not only chronicles Jewish custom and history, but it sees Jesus as the great high priest. The perfect sacrifice is the Lord’s sacrifice on Calvary. He is the victim, offering true reconciliation with God.

The reading reminds us that Jesus, the Son of God, also was human as we are. He never sinned but was tempted. He loves us. He understands us.

In St. Mark’s Gospel reading, two Apostles, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. The forecasts by Jesus of the coming of a new kingdom to the world, namely the kingdom of God, spurred their ambition. They wanted preferred treatment, misunderstanding the true meaning of the kingdom of God.

Presuming it has earthly properties, they want to have privileged places in this coming, glorious kingdom, so they asked the Lord to give them these high places.

Jesus replied, reminding them that the path to the new kingdom

will be neither swift nor smooth. To progress along this path, any disciple must identify with Christ in the fullness, abandoning self, self-interests and comfort to be as Jesus was, giving all in sacrifice to the glory of God.

### Reflection

The Lord came into the world as the Redeemer. His mission was to redeem, or rescue, humanity from its own plight, a plight created by its willful sin and voluntary rejection of God.

This sin has disordered and weakened human nature, producing death and despair, yet so often sin reigns supreme in the world.

To follow Christ with sincerity means the determination to be true to God despite human weaknesses pointing the other way, requiring an utter rejection of sin and absolute turning to God.

For limited human beings, this rejection is not easy to accomplish. Temptations are many and strong. We live in a world in which sin is strong, and sinners are many. It is a

world with little love, and with little justice.

We must swim upstream. We achieve true discipleship only by seeking, and relying upon, God’s help. If we ask for it, God’s help will come. He never fails.

First of all, we must renounce sin and all that this renunciation entails, and critically we also must admit our own weakness.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Is 53:10-11 Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22 Heb 4:14-16 Mk 10:35-45

**Monday:** Rom 4:20-25 (Ps) Lk 1:69-75 Lk 12:13-21

**Tuesday:** Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Lk 12:35-38

**Wednesday:** Rom 6:12-18 Ps 124:1b-8 Lk 12:39-48

**Thursday:** Rom 6:19-23 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 12:49-53

**Friday:** Rom 7:18-25a Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94 Lk 12:54-59

**Saturday:** Rom 8:1-11 Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6 Lk 13:1-9

# A dangerous, divisive word

Pope Francis' recent visit to the United States has touched each of us in so many ways through words, gestures and that indelible twinkle in his eyes whenever he is with people. There is much to unpack in our own journey of faith. I want to begin with the moniker affectionately given to him: the "people's pope."

He is not just the Catholic pope, the Christian pope, the pope of believers, but he is a "holy father" to everyone. He directs his message of God's limitless love and mercy to all, including prisoners, the lowliest in society. There is no "they" in his lexicon. There is only the part in each of us that strays from God's grace and the part of us that seeks God despite our own hardness.

In our language and conceptual development, the definitions of "we" and "they" emerge quickly. "We" are those who are like us, love us, affirm us and from whom we forge our identity and worth. "They" are different from us, sometimes simply in ways that are neutral and even welcoming (different foods, ethnic dances and festivals, languages).

It doesn't have to be, but somehow "they" may eventually become threatening.

"These people" take up space in our neighborhoods, schools, workplaces. Soon "they" become competitors over whom we must keep a wary eye, keep in their places, build sturdier fences against.

"They" could require special services, draw on resources that are already scarce. "Their" values can infect our culture and corrupt our children. If "they" are successful, we resent them. If "they" are weak, we find them unworthy and burdensome.

This past summer, I was particularly struck by two individuals who helped me soften these boundaries. Oliver Sacks, who recently died, channeled his inner turmoil and used his expertise to illumine in humorous and humane ways the neurological disorders of his patients in the "mental ward." These stories allowed me see beyond the "crazy" behaviors to the profound suffering of people, just like me, who have names, families, dreams and longings.

Then there was the photographer who took the picture of Aylan Kurdi, the 3-year-old Syrian boy washed up on the shores of Turkey. It connected us immediately to our emotions from the loss of a child who could be our own. The perils and conflicts were no longer far away in some "other" country where "they" lived.

Our hearts were opened before our minds could close them. As Pope Francis called for each parish to sponsor a family, we can see how there could be a solution, how feasible that is, and how our own faith and humanity depend on our stepping up.

At his last Mass in Philadelphia, Pope Francis urged us not to be afraid, but to take courage, wander out, seek



## OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

CAROLYN WOO

dialogue, encounter and listen. It must be the Holy Spirit that scheduled readings of the day from Numbers and Luke that specifically address the issue of who is in and who is out of God's circle. To this, Pope Francis preached:

"The disciples, for their part, acted in good faith. But the temptation to be scandalized by the freedom of God, who sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous alike (Mt 5:45), bypassing bureaucracy, officialdom and inner circles, threatens the authenticity of faith.

"Hence it must be vigorously rejected. Once we realize this, we can understand why Jesus' words about causing 'scandal' are so harsh. For Jesus, the truly 'intolerable' scandal consists in everything that breaks down and destroys our trust in the working of the Spirit!"

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.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for October 18, 2015

Mark 10:35-45

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: Who can sit at the Lord's right hand? The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JAMES GRANT TO SIT AT NOT MINE HEARD SLAVE TO GIVE	JOHN DRINK MY RIGHT PREPARED NOT BE SON OF MAN HIS LIFE	ZEBEDEE THE CUP MY LEFT THE TEN FIRST TO SERVE RANSOM
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### DEMANDS

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

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## DOCTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

choice for an objective, true reality outside oneself. A person fulfills her nature not through a dogma of non-interference with the preferences of another but rather when they choose love. ... We must create a world in which we believe that society is created for the person, not the other way around.

### Valuing the gift of life

Our goal ought to be to start with valuing the gift we have been given with these vulnerable children. We have a real chance to do this with HB 135. This is not just an issue for pregnant woman facing this diagnosis and their doctors. It is an issue that affects all of us, if we are to love those women and their unborn children, as we ought.

... A diagnosis of Down syndrome does not mean we have a life that is unworthy of life; a life so doomed that the most humane thing we can do for the mother and child is to snuff out that life. On the contrary, to learn the lessons of history is to affirm a life — for the mother,

for the child herself, for the physician, for all of society — which to our imperfect eyes is called "imperfect," but who, through these so-called imperfections perfect us and our world with unconditional love.

I end with this quote from Dr. Jerome Lejeune, the French physician and geneticist who discovered the cause of Trisomy 21: "People say, 'The price of genetic diseases is high. If these individuals could be eliminated early on, the savings would be enormous!' It cannot be denied that the price of these diseases is high. ... But we can assign a value to that price: It is precisely what a society must pay to remain fully human."

Dr. Ashley K. Fernandes, M.D., PhD, is associate professor of pediatrics and associate director of the Center for Bioethics at The Ohio State University, board member of the Catholic Medical Association and trustee the Ohio Right To Life.

## TRIP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

about because it is people like Mary who are the backbone of the Church.

In all, there were nearly 400 people that I helped to assist and coordinate during Communion (180 deacons, 180 Communion escorts, and another 40 or so volunteer ushers) and I would probably not have noticed Mary during the Mass itself except that I could see that she was weeping throughout the Mass as her gaze was transfixed on Pope Francis at the altar.

After Mass, I had the chance to ask Mary if she was all right and if she needed anything. She explained recently that she had not been well and so that just being at the Mass was a moment of overwhelming joy. Explaining further she said, "The thing is, I have struggled with a health disorder since I was 12 and I have spent a good amount of my life feeling alone, sad and thinking that I am a bad person. The only time I don't think I am a bad person is when I am close to Jesus in prayer. Christ is the

invisible head of the Church and Pope Francis is the visible head. Being here today is a reminder to myself that I am not a bad person and that Christ loves me despite this terrible cross that I bear. I just didn't want to ever stop looking at that man."

Each of us have crosses that we bear and I think Pope Francis has been able to stir the hearts of so many and garner so much attention because his authentic witness to the Gospel is dripping into the hearts of so many and filling a bit of the void and emptiness that we all experience.

Francis forces us to look inward at our emptiness and at the same time drives us in an outward manner encouraging us to drink of a well that will never run dry. The media and hype of Pope Francis in the U.S. will likely quickly fade, but my prayer is that the subtle stirring of the hearts of so many may lead individuals down a path where they are able to unite their crosses with the cross of Christ.

Andrew Polaniecki is the director of Campus Ministry at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame.

## Saint of the Week



### St. Paul of the Cross

Feast Oct. 20

Paolo Francesco Danei, the oldest son in a poor but noble Italian family, lived austere even as a teen. After a year in the Venetian army, he returned to a monk-like life of prayer and penance, and refused to marry. In a vision in 1720, Our Lady, wearing a black habit with a white cross and bearing Jesus' name, told Paul to start an order to preach Christ's passion. With his bishop's approval, he founded the Discalced Clerks of the Most Holy Cross and Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which he led for the rest of his life, and later began a nuns' institute. Passionists were soon doing missions, retreats and spiritual direction throughout Italy. Paul was canonized in 1867.

# Sports

**COUGARS CONTINUE CLIMB IN NAIA COACHES' TOP 25 POLL** The University of Saint Francis rose two more spots to No. 7 in the fifth regular season NAIA Coaches' Top 25. It is USF's second Top 10 position in a row after a 49-25 win over Siena Heights at USF on Oct. 10. This is USF's highest ranking since it was No. 6 in the 2014 Preseason Top 25 and the highest regular-season ranking since the Cougars were sixth in the Nov. 17, 2013 poll.

## CYO football to begin tournament play

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — With a sixth game in the books, the 2015 regular season came to an end for the four Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football teams on Sunday, Oct. 11. The Knights, a team made up of players from St. Elizabeth, St. Therese, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, wound up with a third-place finish in the league and a 2-4 record to date.

In their final outing, the Knights beat a Central Catholic crew who showed a lot of heart. "We have had a tough season plagued with several injuries to key players, but played very well today and have high hopes as we prepare for the post season," Coach Chris Brough explained.

Led all season by players like their amazing seventh-grade quarterback, Antoine Taylor, eighth-grader Will Derrick (offensive, defensive tackle) and Grant Brough (center, linebacker, guard), the Knights plan to "get healthy and minimize their mistakes" in order to give St. Vincent a run in their opening game of the playoffs on Sunday, Oct. 18, at Bishop D'Arcy Stadium at the

University of Saint Francis. They list 26 on their roster.

Also facing off in the first round of tournament play will be the No. 1 seed and undefeated St. Charles squad against Central Catholic. The Cards captured the regular season CYO Championship with a 46-0 victory over St. Vincent at Bishop D'Arcy Stadium. The St. Charles offense was once again explosive with their outstanding running backs Patrick Finley and Hayden Ellinger, who combined for five rushing touchdowns.

And regarding the St. Charles defense, Coach Sam Talarico said, "This team has been absolutely dominating from a defensive perspective. We have the best defensive coordinator around in Gary Cornewell. Coach Cornewell knows how to get the most out of players."

Talarico added, "Our defensive ends — Lucas Krohn and Braden Groves are very strong and our defensive line and defensive back groups are also outstanding. Free safety Patrick O'Keefe serves as a defensive field general directing his troops in front of him."

The victory stretches the St. Charles win streak to 17 games over three seasons.

## ST. MATTHEW WINS ICCL FOOTBALL PLAYOFF



PHOTO BY RAY DERUCKI

St. Matthew defeated West Side Catholic, 27-12, in Inter-City Catholic football tournament action Oct. 11 at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend. St. Matthew got three touchdowns from Christian Tate on a 35-yard run, 50-yard run and a 100-yard interception return. Isua Gonzalez added a three-yard TD run for the Blazers. Derek Derda had a 30-yard TD run and a 45-yard TD pass to Kabeb Lewandowski for the Cardinals. Above, West Side Catholic's Derda lofts the football during ICCL playoff action.

## CYO volleyball league champs announced

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball teams are wrapping up the 2015 season. The regular season came to a close over the weekend of Oct. 10-11.

For the seventh-grade league, St. Charles came back to beat St. Vincent in three, 18-25, 25-10, 15-12 and improve to 12-2 overall (9-0 league).

Assistant coach Larry Hoffman summarized, "It's been a good time and a good season."

In the large school division, St. Vincent beat St. Joseph, Decatur, on Oct. 4 to go unbeaten

and capture their league, and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel claimed the Blue League title with a win over St. Rose-St. Louis.

Finally, in junior varsity tournament action, three new champions were crowned at Queen of Angels. For the fifth graders, St. Charles downed St. Vincent in three, 22-25, 25-16 and 15-12. In the small schools, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, squeaked by St. Aloysius, 25-23, 25-24, and for the sixth graders, it was St. Joseph, Decatur, winning it all 22-25, 25-17, 15-10 over St. Vincent.



## NCCW provides resource on domestic violence awareness

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The National Council of Catholic Women has developed a resource manual called "Women Healing the Wounds" that provides information about the impact of domestic violence and the church's response to it.

The 52-page document includes a customizable safety flier, a section on teen-dating violence, various resources and Catholic teaching.

In the U.S. October is observed as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

"For many years, NCCW has been active on the issue of domestic violence. We are hopeful this new resource will give courage to victims to leave their

abuser as well as educate others on the signs exhibited by persons experiencing domestic violence," Sheila Hopkins, NCCW president, said in a statement. "In the Catholic Church, we celebrate Respect Life in the month of October and this is a respect life issue as well."

Citing statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in an announcement about the resource, NCCW said that nearly one out of every four U.S. women are the victims of severe violence from an intimate partner. It also said women are much more likely to be victims of such violence because 85 percent of domestic abuse victims are women. "Violence of any kind — physi-

cal, sexual, psychological or verbal — is never justified," NCCW said.

Since NCCW's resolution on pornography in 1970 and its resolution on domestic violence in 1993, the organization has worked to raise awareness about the dangers of pornography and to protect women from domestic violence.

Domestic violence affects women, children and the workplace and is a critical health care issue, NCCW added.

**The 52-page document** in English and Spanish is available to download free at <http://nccw.org> in the site's "Spotlight" section.

# NAMI conference brings mental illness out of the shadows

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — A special conference for faith leaders who serve families in the Fort Wayne and surrounding area will be held at the International Ballroom on the campus of Indiana University, Purdue University in Fort Wayne (IPFW) on Nov. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Health of Fort Wayne (NAMI) and IPFW Behavioral Health and Family Studies Institute (BHFSI), the “Out of the Shadows, Conference 2015: Serving the Mentally Ill Within a Faith Community,” will bring together leaders of different faiths and mental health professionals to hear the keynote address by Sarah Griffith-Lund, vice president for seminary advancement at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis and local speakers Dr. Jay Fawver, psychiatrist, Rev. Clinton Faupel of RemedyLIVE, Alice Jordan-Miles, assistant director of the IPFW Behavioral Health and Family Studies, and

Rev. Anthony R. Pettus, Sr., senior pastor of the Greater Progressive Baptist Church in Fort Wayne.

Statistics show that one in four families include a member with a mental illness. To bring light to this issue, the conference speakers will cover pertinent topics including, mental illness — the reality of depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder; steps to starting a mental health ministry; ways in which faith leaders offer support and counsel; and suicide prevention — crisis intervention and ongoing care resources available to faith communities. Panel discussions will cover “Legal Issues and First Responders” and “Mental Health Service Providers.”

Keynote speaker Sarah Griffith-Lund believes breaking the silence and stigma surrounding mental illness will benefit many. Her keynote will be personal, she relates. “My sharing will be based on my personal testimony about my family’s struggle with severe and chronic mental illness throughout my childhood and

early adulthood. It is a story of resilience, faith and hope that testifies to the power of God’s presence to carry us through even the most difficult times.”

She will speak to common myths surrounding mental illness as well as offer practical steps to create healing communities for mental health.

“This conference is important,” she notes, “because mental illness is so common that it impacts faith communities and clergy. Coming together to learn about mental health and what our community can do to offer support to people with mental illness and their loved ones will be a powerful way to make our communities healthier places to play, learn, worship and live.”

Griffith-Lund holds several degrees, including a master’s in social work and a Doctor of Ministry, and was ordained into Christian ministry in 2002. She has served as pastor in several churches as well as regional minister in Florida. She is the author of “Blessed are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence About Mental Illness,

Family and Church,” and blogs regularly at [www.sarahgriffith-lund.com](http://www.sarahgriffith-lund.com) and HuffingtonPost.

Alice Jordan-Miles will be speaking on the topic, “Mental Health Ministry — A Toolkit for Congregation: Equipping Communities of Faith to Share the Journey of Healing and Recovery with Individuals and Their Families Facing Serious Mental Illness, Addictions and Trauma,” and believes the conference is essential to faith leaders in their daily ministries.

“As a practicing Catholic myself it is important to me that my faith leaders know how to provide education about mental illness being a treatable illness instead of a moral or spiritual shortcoming,” she says, adding, “Members of ministry have a crucial yet daunting job of guiding parishioners through many of life’s challenges — including mental health issues. This important and trusting role offers an opportunity to help people at risk of suicide in ways that even family members or mental health professionals cannot. By listening to

people and getting them the mental health they need, clergy and lay persons can make a life-saving difference. Therefore, it is critical that those in ministry understand and are knowledgeable about the resources available in their community.”


Sponsored by The St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, D.O. McComb and Sons Funeral Homes, Parkview Hospital, The Lutheran Foundation, St. Joseph Behavioral Health, Park Center, Inc., and Dockside Services, the conference invites faith leaders, social workers, marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors and others to heighten their understanding of mental illness, develop mental health ministries and gain awareness of available community resources.

Conference cost is \$50. To register, visit [www.learn.ipfw.edu](http://www.learn.ipfw.edu) and click on “conferences” or call 260-481-6619. Registration deadline is Nov. 2. CEUs and APA credits are available upon request at no extra charge.

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**Ozanam Orientation planned**

South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Conference at Holy Family Church, 56405 Mayflower Rd., will host an Ozanam Orientation on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided. There will be a Mass at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The event is free but space is limited. Register at [www.svdpsb.org](http://www.svdpsb.org) or call Amy Potter at 574-234-6000, ext. 12132 by Oct. 22.

**Cemetery fall cleanup announced**

South Bend — The Sacred Heart Cemetery located at the corner of Western Ave. and Pine Rd. will conduct the fall cleanup from Monday, Oct. 26, through Saturday, Oct. 31. Have all spring and summer decorations removed from the graves by this time.

**Fall events planned**

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish will have a fall rummage and bake sale on Thursday, Oct. 29, from 6-8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. to noon. \$3 sack sale on Saturday. A fall supper and trunk or treat will be Friday, Oct. 30, from 6-9 p.m. Located on U.S. 27 just south of 469/U.S. 27 interchange.

**Knights host Sunday breakfast**

Fort Wayne — The St. Gaspar del Bufalo Council No. 11043 will have a breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the activities center at Queen of Angels, 1500 W. State Blvd. \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12, and \$20 per family. Carryout packs will be \$5. Proceeds will benefit the Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund.

**Domestic Violence Awareness Walk**

Fort Wayne — Heather's Closet will present "Join the conversation: Domestic Violence Awareness Walk," taking place at Bishop Luers High School on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 1 p.m. Every fourth participant will receive a free t-shirt to represent that one in four women suffer from domestic violence. Heather's Closet is dedicated to teen domestic violence prevention and education.

**Discernment retreat and day of reflection planned**

Mishawaka — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration will be sponsoring a Discernment Retreat Nov. 6-8 at the

Motherhouse and is open to single, Catholic women age 17-30. An Advent Day of Reflection is also planned for single, Catholic women age 16-30 on Saturday, Dec. 12, at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne. For information or to register visit [www.ssfpa.org/retreat](http://www.ssfpa.org/retreat).

**Altar and Rosary Society plan bake and rummage sale**

South Bend — St. John the Baptist Parish, 3526 St. John's Way, will have a bake and rummage sale Saturday, Oct. 24, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. One dollar bag sale on Sunday.

**Tenderloin dinner**

Decatur — The Haiti committee of St. Mary Parish will have a tenderloin dinner on Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 5-7 p.m. Breaded or grilled tenderloin and french fries for \$7 will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1703 High St. All proceeds benefit the sister parish in Haiti.

**Knights plan raffle and dinners**

Huntington — The Knights of Columbus will hold a two-day dinner and raffle Friday, Oct. 16, from 3:30-7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 17, from noon to 7:30 p.m. at the KOC facility, 2817 Theater Ave. Carryouts available. Advance tickets are \$9, or \$10 at the door. A mint condition, low-mileage red, 1987 four-speed Corvette with two T-tops from Dorais Chevrolet of Wabash will be raffled off at 7 p.m. during

the Saturday dinner. Tickets cost \$10 or three for \$25. The winner need not be present to win. For tickets call 260-578-1835 or [rpresl@hotmail.com](mailto:rpresl@hotmail.com). Proceeds benefit St. Robert Bellarmine Church's St. John Paul Family Center.

**Chili supper fundraiser**

Monroeville — St. Rose of Lima Parish will have a chili supper on Saturday, Oct. 24, in the old school basement at 2015 Mulberry St., from 3:30-7:30 p.m. A "Kids Fun Night" will be from 6:30-8 p.m.

**Perpetual Adoration anniversary celebrated**

Fort Wayne — Celebrate 30 years of Perpetual Adoration with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades with a Mass at St. Jude Church 6:30 p.m. Oct. 28, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the St. Jude Adoration Chapel. There will be a reception immediately following Mass. Contact Cheryl Schleinkefer at [schlnkfer@frontier.com](mailto:schlnkfer@frontier.com) or 260-797-9221.

**College seminary live-in weekend**

Young men who are juniors and seniors in high school, or college students who are interested in knowing more about seminary life are invited to a live-in weekend on Oct. 22-24, at the Pontifical College Josephinum (PCJ) in Columbus, Ohio. There is no charge for the weekend. For information call the Vocation Office for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at 260-422-

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Joseph E. Bell, 90, St. Mary

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Cecelia I. Matthews, 90, St. Pius X

**Huntington**

Ray Joyce, 78, Ss. Peter and Paul

**Mishawaka**

Karen M. Faulks, 69, Queen of Peace

**Notre Dame**

Sister M. Rose Michael, CSC, 90, Our Lady of Loretto

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Anne F. Kovas, 91, St. Joseph

Ann C. Pennington, 86, St. Therese Little Flower

Emanuel L. Kuzmits, 92, St. Matthew

4611 or PCJ directly through Father Raymond Enzweiler at 614-985-2252.

**Musicians support homeless veterans**

South Bend — "You'll never walk alone: A tribute to America's Veterans" a performance by local musicians will be Friday, Nov. 6, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 7, at 2 p.m. at the Century Center. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. Children under 10 free. For information contact 574-262-0212.

**Holiday decor garage sale**

South Bend — Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 63568 U.S.31 South,

will have a holiday decor garage sale, Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission.

**Christmas bazaar**

Avilla — St. Mary Parish will have a Christmas bazaar Sunday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Craft tables, canned goods, cookie decorating and more.

**Holiday craft bazaar**

South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua Parish, 2114 E. Jefferson Blvd., will have a holiday craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school auditorium A lunch and bake sale will be on site.

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Visit [www.stjosephparish.com](http://www.stjosephparish.com) for more details. Applicants should send a résumé with cover letter and references to Melissa Cowden, Preschool Director, at [mcowden@stjosephparish.com](mailto:mcowden@stjosephparish.com).

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# MASS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

structured around the leadership of Peter's successor, which "keeps the Church one."

Bishop Rhoades then proceeded to invite all the girls dressed as Mary to the stage, to follow the day's Scriptures in emphasizing that while "the Church is Apostolic," it is also "never separated from Mary," as indeed, the Apostles at prayer "were gathered with Mary" in the first reading. To the assembly's delight, the day's Gospel — the Annunciation to Mary — was broached when Bishop Rhoades asked a young student what made Mary special, and she had the presence of mind to respond with a quotation of Mary's fiat: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word."

After the congregation erupted in applause, Bishop Rhoades affirmed that Mary's act of total trust is "the greatest response of faith any human being has ever made." In giving it, he said, "she is our model of faith," and "it is up to us to respond in kind" to our own vocational calls.

Appropriately to the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, Bishop Rhoades told the assembled that Mary is not only a model, but is in fact, "praying with us now" and "we can always ask her for help," for after all, "she is our Mother." He explained that when from the cross Jesus said to John, "Behold your mother," John "represented the whole Church," and Jesus was giving her to us as our mother.

Turning to the rosary, Bishop Rhoades reminded all present that the narrative of the Annunciation to Mary, the day's Gospel, is also the first mystery of the rosary, which the bishop called "one of my favorite prayers." To pray it in its 20 mysteries, "to meditate on the whole Gospel from beginning to end," as it were, "learning at the school of Mary."

In closing, Bishop Rhoades led the assembly of Catholic students and educators in reciting a list of the four things that we hear the first community of disciples in Jerusalem were devoted to: the teaching of the Apostles, the prayers, the breaking of the bread and taking care of the poor.

The bishop noted that "we are



PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

**Above, students bring in food items at the Presentation of Gifts during the all-school Mass at the Joyce Center on Oct. 7.**

**Top right, fourth-grade students arrive dressed as their favorite saint.**

**At right, students at the all-schools Mass present the gifts at offertory.**

doing the same, drawing out the fact that Catholic schools continue the Apostolic teaching," that the Eucharistic Liturgy represents, the prayers, and especially the breaking of the bread and that the students' offertory gifts of food for the poor to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, fulfills the directive that "there be no needy among you."

After the Mass, fourth-grade teacher Lee Jolly of Christ the King School, South Bend, shared her thoughts on the tradition of students coming to the liturgy dressed as saints as a way to emphasize role models other than athletes and rock stars, ones that live lives closer to how the students want to live their lives. The lesson for her students is that, "saints are normal people who lead every day lives, and we can be every bit as great!"

Her student, Maria Goffinet, who when prompted during Mass by Bishop Rhoades, had told the congregation that she dressed as Mary, "because my name is Maria," and after Mass added that Mary inspired her with her faithfulness, as "she was faithful even when others were not."



**Cantors lead the music at the all-schools Mass for Catholic school students in the South Bend area on Oct. 7. The Mass was celebrated at the Joyce Center at the University of Notre Dame.**

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