

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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TODAYSCATHOLICNEWS.org



Bishop Luers students encouraged to 'see things as God sees things'



Kay Cozad

Students, staff and visitors gather in the Bishop Luers gymnasium to attend a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, concelebrated by Father Ben Muhlenkamp, chaplain at Bishop Luers, and Father Dan Durkin, pastor of St. Henry Church, on the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, patron saint of schools. The Mass began Bishop Rhoades' pastoral visit on Jan. 28. See story on page 16.

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St. Jude gears up for Why Catholic? Lenten program

BY KAY COZAD

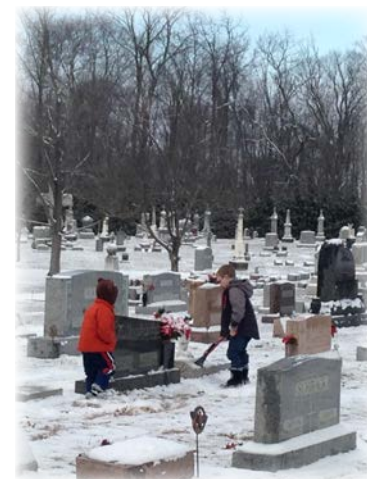
FORT WAYNE — Parishioners of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne will have an opportunity to join a small faith-sharing group this Lent as the Why Catholic? program returns. The second phase of the four-year program will focus on prayer, a continuation of Phase 1, which began last fall with 160 participants.

Why Catholic?, developed by RENEW International, the Catholic ministry organization that recently presented ARISE Together in Christ, is a comprehensive adult formation program that began in earnest across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in fall of 2015. The four-year program is based on the four pillars of Catholic faith as presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, offering insight into prayer, core beliefs, the sacraments and morality.

Mary Pohlman, pastoral associate at St. Jude, is excited about the program and said, "We're gearing up for Phase 2. ... Most of the groups are going to reconnect, so we're off to a good start."

Father Jacob Runyon, pastor of St. Jude Parish, led a small group during Phase 1 and said of the program, "We brought Why Catholic? to St. Jude because of the recommendation of the bishop. But, I did find it good that the content was based upon the catechism. I think there is a great deal of hesitancy when it comes to reading the catechism because people find it a bit overwhelming. A program like this one helps them to learn from the catechism in an approachable way." He added, "I think the benefits to individuals is a chance to learn, study and to meet new people."

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www.myyearofmercy.org

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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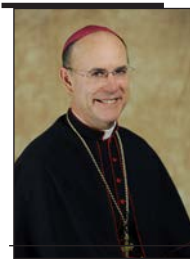
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Catholic Schools in the midst of changing religious landscape



IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following is a copy of the speech given by Bishop Rhoades at the Light of Learning luncheon in Fort Wayne and South Bend during Catholic Schools Week.

Every year, I look forward to this Light of Learning luncheon during Catholic Schools Week. It's an opportunity to come together to celebrate our Catholic schools and to honor those who make our schools excellent, our teachers, principals and benefactors. I wish to extend my deep thanks to all of you and my personal congratulations to all who are being honored today.

I have often said in my speeches and writings on Catholic education that we need our Catholic schools today more than ever. I often say this for various reasons. I'll often mention the growing secularization of our culture, moral relativism, and other currents that are having a negative effect on our young people and their faith. Today, I'd like to again speak about why we need our Catholic schools today more than ever and why I hope that we will increase the enrollment in our Catholic schools. I'd like to do so today in light of statistics, specifically the well-known results of the Pew Research Center survey that were released last year.

As you probably read, the Christian share of the U.S. population is declining and the number of U.S. adults who do not identify with any organized religion is growing. We see this drop in Christian affiliation more pronounced among young adults. This decline has been going on for some time, but it is particularly alarming that the pace of decline is picking up. Between 2007 and 2014, in just seven years, the drop was 8%. The number of Christians in the United States fell from 78.4% to 70.6%. Over those seven years, the number of those who identify themselves as religiously unaffiliated (the religious "nones") increased from 16.1% to 22.8%. Most of the decline in the Christian percentage is among mainline Protestants and Catholics, with a decline also among evangelical Protestants, though at a slower rate.

As I mentioned, the decline is most acute among young adults, the so-called millennial generation. 36% of young millennials (those between the ages of 18 and 24) are religiously unaffiliated. 34% of older millennials (those between the ages of 25 and 33) are religiously unaffiliated. This is a great challenge for the Church. I think a lot about this age group and the need to strengthen our ministry to and with young adults. It is alarming to me that only 16% of millennials identify as Catholic, lower than the estimated 20.8% of all U.S. adults who identify as Catholic, which itself is a decline in the overall adult Catholic population by 3.1% the past seven years. There are now more "religious nones" in the United States than there are Catholics (22.8% vs. 20.8%). 25.4% are evangelical Protestants and 14.7% are mainline Protestants. 5.9% of U.S. adults identify with non-Christian faiths.

I don't mean to overwhelm you with statistics. Looking at the whole, the largest



Tim Johnson

religious group among adults in the U.S. is evangelical Protestant, followed by the religious nones, followed by Catholics, followed by mainline Protestants, followed by non-Christian faiths. A couple other significant things to note are the following:

1. Racial and ethnic minorities make up 41% of U.S. Catholic adults, a significantly larger percentage than that of both evangelical and mainline Protestants (24% and 14% respectively).
2. Nearly 32% of U.S. adults say they were raised Catholic. Among that group, 41% no longer identify as Catholics. 12.9% of American adults are former Catholics. At the same time, just 2% of U.S. adults have converted to Catholicism from other religious traditions. That being said, it is important also to note that 2/3 of those raised Catholic are still Catholic.
3. While 22.8% of American adults say they belong to no religion, only 3.1% are atheists and 4% are agnostic.

There has been a lot of discussion about the results of the Pew survey and various interpretations of those results. I don't have time to talk about the various viewpoints, suggested causes for the decline in numbers of Christians, etc. I only present these statistics in light of my assertion that Catholic schools are needed today more than ever. I don't have statistics about how the numbers of U.S. Catholics who attended Catholic schools compares to those who did not regarding their affiliation later. In any event, the main thing I want to point out is that we must be especially cognizant, in light of the statistics, of the identity and mission of our schools. They must be communities of evangelization. They must face the challenge of the diminishing Catholic and Christian population and of the growing number of religious nones. This raises a paramount issue: the education and formation of our students as committed disciples of Jesus Christ.

Last week, during my visit to Bishop Luers High School, I met with the senior class. One of the things I spoke to them about was the decision to be a disciple of Christ as they prepare to graduate. They will enter a culture in which so many young adults are choosing to disaffiliate with their churches and join the rising number of religious nones. I hope and pray we are forming intentional disciples who are ready to enter the world with a strong faith that will withstand the assaults of secularism and relativism. In this changing religious landscape of our country, a landscape becoming more

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades purchases a You Can Lend A Hand coupon book from Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick of Quality Dining. Each year, the company sponsors the Light of Learning Awards, which honors Catholic School educators and two administrators who express core values of Catholic education and incorporate those values into their curriculum. The luncheon also marks the beginning of the You Can Lend A Hand coupon book campaign. Quality Dining has raised more than \$10 million for area Catholic schools since 1982.

like Europe, we need to be agents of the new evangelization in our schools so our young people are formed as committed disciples of the Lord and faithful members of His Body, the Church.

Some might say we just need to continue doing what we're doing. I think we're doing a good job, don't get me wrong, but we can never settle into the status quo. If we do, we won't be excellent. We will settle into mediocrity. In the face of the changes in our culture, we must be creative, intentional, and attentive to outcomes concerning our mission. The #1 outcome we should be looking for is our young people's commitment to the faith. It's related to what should be the #1 outcome we all should be seeking: eternal life and salvation.

Our Catholic schools are communities that live and act with the fundamental conviction stated so beautifully by Pope Francis: *The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness* (The Joy of the Gospel #1). That is our aim: that our children and young people experience the joy of the Gospel by encountering Jesus in their minds and hearts. Various studies have shown a general sense of disorientation especially among youth and young adults today, a disorientation resulting from a rejection of the transcendent, a growing deterioration of ethics, a steady increase in secularism and relativism. The superficiality from an information-driven society affects our young people in a significant way. We are called to teach them to live life in a profound way, the way of Jesus Christ.

This is our first and most important task: evangelization, proclaiming Christ. Pope Francis teaches us what this means: *Proclaiming Christ means showing that to believe in and to follow him is not only something right and true, but also something beautiful, capable of filling life with new splendor and profound joy, even in the midst of difficulties.* There is an inseparable bond, our Holy Father teaches, *between truth, goodness and beauty* (The Joy of the Gospel #167). That's why we need Catholic schools. We need *schools of the Gospel*, schools of truth, goodness, and beauty. I pray that our students, presently and after they graduate, will choose the path of Christ and live life on this higher plane. I pray that they will not only become "religious nones," but that they will bring to their peers who are not affiliated with religion "the joy of the Gospel."

Donation envelope enclosed in this issue

With the announcement of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis implored Catholics across the world to consider how each one of us might enter into this Holy Year in a special way. We are encouraged to forgive, listen to God's Word and practice the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. We are to consider a pilgrimage and engage in interfaith dialogue with our Christian brothers and sisters.

So how could a newspaper, *Today's Catholic*, enter more fully into the Year of Mercy? The answer is pretty simple: It's to tell your story of mercy. It may be the story of how you collected water to give to the thirsty, or perhaps how you helped to feed the hungry by supplying food for the youth retreat weekend at your parish. Maybe you were able to say the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the family at the bedside of a loved one who was dying, or perhaps you finally sought out that family member that you haven't spoken to in years just to say, "I'm sorry."

Your Catholic story of mercy may only be one story, but it is significant. Your story has the capacity to inspire and to encourage others. By telling these stories, *Today's Catholic* has a great opportunity to not simply report on what happened, but to help others see the miracles and works of Christ's mercy all around them. It is our hope that others will read these works of mercy and want to also enter in and create their own stories of mercy. So, read more about these works of mercy in *Today's Catholic* feature Living the Year of Mercy. You can also find these stories through a special page at www.myyearofmercy.org.

In this week's edition of the paper you will find an enclosed envelope for a financial contribution to *Today's Catholic*. If you have donated before, I sincerely thank you for your generosity. Even through difficult economic times, you have been supportive of our work through your financial contributions and we are so grateful.

To all of our readers, I ask you to prayerfully consider a gift to *Today's Catholic*. Every single gift enables our staff to continue to tell the stories of the Year of Mercy. Through your generosity, we are to produce the paper both in print and online at www.todayscatholicnews.org and look forward to the expansion of our reach through multiple sources. Thank you for helping us continue our work. Please enclose your gift in the envelope, or go online to donate electronically at the online giving page at www.todayscatholicnews.org. While you are there, sign up to receive *Today's Catholic* news through e-mail. We thank you for your generosity.

Stephanie A. Patka
Secretariat for Communications



Public Schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Sunday, Feb. 7, 9 a.m. — Mass at St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne
- Sunday, Feb. 7, 2 p.m. — Rite of Election, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Feb. 8, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Feb. 8, 6 p.m. — Dinner with Catholic Legislators, Indianapolis
- Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7 a.m. — Servus Omnium Lecture and Breakfast, North Campus, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, Feb. 10, 12 p.m. — Ash Wednesday Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, Feb. 11, 9 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Marian High School, Mishawaka
- Friday, Feb. 12, 8:30 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Our Lady of Hungary School, South Bend

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'Battling your Goliath:'

Rekindle the Fire Diocesan Men's Conference

BY TIM JOHNSON
AND KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — "Battling Your Goliath" is the theme for the upcoming Rekindle the Fire Annual Diocesan Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 20, in the Fort Wayne Coliseum Expo Center.

Three dynamic nationally acclaimed Catholic speakers will mark the day — Matt Fradd, Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio and Jesse Romero. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will conclude the conference with the celebration of Mass at 4 p.m. Father Jacob Meyer, parochial vicar at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, and Father Ben Muhlenkamp, pastor of St. Louis-Besancon Parish, New Haven, will be the emcees for the day. Reconciliation will be offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

New this year will be interactive battle sessions with the three speakers.

Matt Fradd experienced a profound conversion at World Youth Day in Rome in 2000 and afterward committed himself to inviting others to know Jesus Christ and the Church Christ founded. Fradd speaks to about 50,000 people every year and has been a guest on the BBC, EWTN, ABC and "Catholic Answers Live." He is the founder of The Porn Effect



MATT FRADD

(www.theporneffect.com), a site dedicated to exposing the reality behind the fantasy of porn and offering help to those who seek sexual freedom.

Fradd works for Covenant Eyes, an apostolate dedicated to helping to protect families from the dangers of internet pornography.

Fradd's talk is titled, "The Man Talk," in which he will "appeal to the hearts and desires of men to show them that who they desire to be in their heart of hearts is in fact the man God is calling them to be — commanding them may be."

"God's commands don't require us to repress our deepest desires but instead to invite them forth," said Fradd, adding that most think if they become what God is calling them to — holiness — they will become boring, less themselves. "We have to know that this is actually false. That holiness is the full flourishing of our personality. And that's what God is inviting us to."

He hopes that the men of the diocese will take with them the inspiration to make a positive change in their lives. "They, like me, have given in to the lives that the world has given them and they have discovered that these lives and those promises of the world don't satisfy. And so they, like me, are yearning for something fuller, something more authentic, something more beautiful, adventurous. So that's what I want to invite them to. It's an adventure of holiness," he said.

His interactive battle session

will cater to men, ages 18-39.

Marcellino D'Ambrosio earned his doctorate in theology and Biblical interpretation through the instruction of Cardinal Avery Dulles. In 2001 he left university teaching to direct the Crossroads Initiative, an international apostolate of evangelization and renewal. Dr. D'Ambrosio is a *New York Times* best-selling author, Catholic TV host, and has appeared on Fox News' "Geraldo Rivera At Large" and Bill O'Reilly's radio show as an expert commentator on Catholic issues. He can be followed at www.dritaly.com or his dr.italy Facebook page.

His topic will be "Blessings of the Brotherhood," he told *Today's Catholic*.

D'Ambrosio said, "In a society preoccupied with romantic love and sisterhood, Christian brotherhood is making a comeback. When Catholic men organize into a 'band of brothers,' there is support, accountability and fruitfulness in Christ that is impossible when men live as 'islands' unto themselves."

"The burdens grow lighter and the light grows brighter when men gather together as one," D'Ambrosio said. "This talk will include stories about what men gathered together have accomplished in the history of



MARCELLINO
D'AMBROSIO

the Church plus practical tips for men organizing themselves into small groups for prayer, study and support."

Jesse Romero is a full-time bilingual Catholic Lay Evangelist, who is nationally acclaimed for his dynamic, upbeat Christ-centered preaching. Born and raised in southern California and a retired Los Angeles deputy sheriff, he is a devoted husband and father. He was a three-time world Police Olympic Boxing Champion and a two-time USA Middleweight Kickboxing Champion.

As a speaker, Romero has the ability to make the sometimes-complex teachings of the faith understandable with his straight talk approach. His messages are totally Catholic, Biblical, Christ-centered and delivered with energy and conviction that has become a Jesse Romero trademark.

He speaks with a sense of urgency as if every opportunity to preach may be his last. Romero is a cradle Catholic who experienced an interior conversion through the reading of the Gospels. His conversion has launched him into a preaching ministry called "On Fire Evangelization." His mission statement is "Love God, slay error — save souls."

His conference topic is "Three kinds of men — wolves, sheep and shepherds."



JESSE ROMERO

"Every man falls into one of three categories," Romero told *Today's Catholic*. "You're either a bad man — metaphorically known as a wolf. Or you're a lukewarm, indifferent secular man — you're symbolically a sheep. Or you're a man of faith and action — you're a sheepdog. A sheepdog serves the Shepherd who is Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God doesn't want fans. He wants followers. God doesn't want spectators. He wants gladiators."

Romero will also speak at Rekindle's Hispanic event on Feb. 19 from 7-9 p.m. in the Applesed Room of the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Romero said, "Men will be challenged to look deep in their heart and see where they fit in. Islam is top heavy with committed men. Catholics need to show that same resolve and allegiance to our faith and 'step into the breach' (Ezekiel 22:30), and push back against the culture of death and proclaim the Catholic Gospel from the rooftops."

"Men have built the culture of death — drugs, porn, abortion, homosexuality, etc.," he said. "Only men can destroy it and replace it with virtue, goodness, beauty and truth."

"We only have one life to live," he said. "Let's die trying."

The welcome and opening of the conference is at 9 a.m. with Father Ben Muhlenkamp speaking at 9:30 a.m. Lunch vendors will be available. Registration for the event is available at rekindlethefire.net.

Erlandson departs from Our Sunday Visitor after nearly 27 years

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Saying he has “learned ... seen so much,” Greg Erlandson is stepping down from his position as publisher at Our Sunday Visitor Inc., after nearly 27 years with the company.

His last day on the job was Jan. 31.

Erlandson told Catholic News Service that he was proud of efforts to raise the profile of the weekly newspaper and its associated publications and services in parishes around the country.

“It turned out to be a great gift,” he said of his years with the Huntington-based company.

“I’m resigning to pursue other opportunities. I still have a daughter who is going to start college in the fall so I have got to find work,” he said.

The longtime Catholic press journalist said he will most miss his colleagues.

“We built up a great staff. It’s a profound sadness that I won’t be working so closely with them,” he told CNS Jan. 29 from a train platform on New York’s Long Island, while on his way to a presentation on the Year of Mercy in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher at *Our Sunday Visitor*, said his colleague’s work in the Catholic press and dedication to the work of the Church was shaped by the turmoil during the civil rights and Vietnam War eras.

“We’re both affected by the same generation, the turbulent

time and the national discord,” Msgr. Campion said. “Although he was in California and I was in Tennessee, it served to put us on the same track with regard to human dignity and with regard to obligations to the disadvantaged and the persecuted abroad.”

The two worked across the hall from each other at OSV headquarters and shared ideas to improve the firm’s product lines while boosting Catholic communications, he said.

“He’s very inspiring. ... He knows also the value of the Church in an inspirational way and working with people to bring them together, to give them something to hope for and to live for,” Msgr. Campion told CNS.

OSV editor Gretchen Crowe, writing on the newspaper’s website Jan. 26, said her colleague’s love of the Church and desire to “bring the Church to the people and people to the Church” drives his career.

Crowe credited Erlandson for utilizing the newspaper to unify the Church by inspiring dialogue among people with conflicting points of view. “He has brought common sense and a measured voice to debates on both religious and secular issues,” she wrote. “He has been unafraid to challenge and to stand up for the truth when necessary but always was done so with respect,” giving “Catholics a model for moving forward in a divided landscape.”

Working with Erlandson as chairman of OSV’s board of directors, Bishop Kevin C.



CNS files

Greg Erlandson, pictured in a 2010 photo, is stepping down from his position as publisher at Our Sunday Visitor Inc., after nearly 27 years with the company.

Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend credited the longtime publisher for expanding the line of offerings for parishes.

In addition, Erlandson is a lay leader in the diocese, assisting with evangelization and catechetical efforts, the bishop said.

“He’s very committed to the importance of the Latino presence in the Church now and in the future,” Bishop Rhoades added. “He’s done a lot in the publishing area to promote that.”

Hired originally as editor of *Our Sunday Visitor* newspaper in 1989, Erlandson became editor-in-chief overseeing the book and periodical editorial depart-

ments and the design department. In 2000 he was named president and publisher.

“What attracted me (in 1989), Bob Lockwood was the publisher,” Erlandson said. “I really liked him and I really liked the idea of working for a company that had multifaceted operations. It was all about journalism, but I liked the idea of learning about books and magazines and I was coming to a place that was a lot bigger.”

Over the years, Erlandson also assumed an active role as an advocate for the Catholic press. He served as president of Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada from 2011 to 2013 and continued on the organization’s board after his term.

Matthew Schiller, advertising business manager at *Catholic New York*, newspaper of the New York Archdiocese and CPA president, told CNS Erlandson has been a valuable adviser during his time heading the association.

“One of the assets the CPA president has is relying on the knowledge and wisdom of the past presidents. He has always shared his insight and tremendous amount of wisdom,” Schiller said of his colleague.

“Greg brings a patience and balance,” Schiller said. “He’s a man of deep faith. He has excellent knowledge of the Church.”

Schiller noted that Erlandson received the CPA’s St. Francis

de Sales Award at the 2015 Catholic Media Conference in June, calling it a “great thing.”

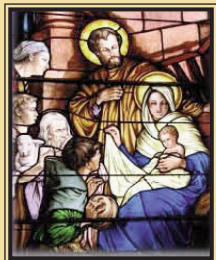
“He embodies what that award means,” Schiller explained. “It’s not longevity. It’s not surviving. It’s do you have the spirit of St. Francis de Sales? It’s communicating the faith to the people. It’s how you write about the faith. It’s you living the faith.”

In addition to his work at OSV, Erlandson is an adviser for the Committee on Communications for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He has been a consultant for the Pontifical Council for Social Communications and completed a stint in 2015 on a committee working to reform the Vatican’s communications arm. He also serves on the advisory board of the Our Sunday Visitor Institute. Early in his career he was editor of the *National Catholic Register*. From 1986 to 1989 he worked for CNS in its Rome bureau.

He and his wife, Corine Bischetti Erlandson, have four children.

Schiller said Erlandson has left a positive mark on the Church and the Catholic communications profession.

“When I heard the news (of Erlandson’s departure), I said, ‘This is a real loss for the Catholic Church. We have to find a way to keep him involved in the Catholic press,’” he said.



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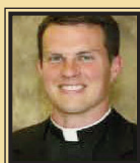
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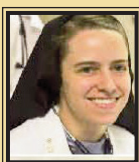
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Fr. Haan, Emcee



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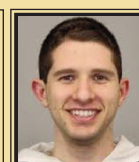
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School choice proposal advances during School Choice Week at the Statehouse

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosiers who celebrated School Choice Week at the Statehouse during the last week of January have a reason to cheer. A proposal to increase access to Indiana's Choice Scholarship program has advanced in the State Senate.

Senate Bill 334, authored by Sen. Carlin Yoder, R-Middlebury, would add a second opportunity to access a Choice Scholarship during the school year. The bill also reduces the endorsement signature requirement from multiple times per year, to a once per year signature endorsement on the scholarship checks.

The bill passed the Senate Appropriations panel, 9-1, and moves to the Senate floor for further consideration.

"Simply put, the bill provides the ability for children to receive a voucher for the spring semester of school," said Yoder. "Under current law, students have to receive the voucher in the fall and if anyone wants to attend a nonpublic school at any other time during that school year, they are stuck waiting until the next school year."

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference who supports the legislation said, "We believe

parents should have the choice of where they send their children to school. If they are income eligible, this bill gives them access to use the scholarship twice per year. The regulatory streamlining portion of the bill will reduce the paperwork in half since school staff will not have to go through the signature collection repeatedly, but only once per school year."

Yoder said this issue became important to him because of a faith-based group called the Crossing School of Business and Entrepreneurship. Yoder explains that the alternative high school program serves at-risk students age 14-20 who dropped out of school or were expelled. Yoder described the Crossing's mission as "very near and dear" to his heart. He said the goal is to try to get at-risk students back into school to finish their education. Yoder said he found that these kids are expelled or drop out of school, and by the time they learn about the Crossing, the scholarship date has passed making them ineligible for the scholarship until next year.

Yoder said that given the troubles experienced by this population, waiting six to eight months to return to school could result in

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

incarceration or death for some.

The legislation would assist not only children wanting to attend the Crossing, but would open the door to all students that need a change mid-year to access a scholarship.

John Elcesser, executive director for the Indiana Non-Public Education Association (INPEA), who supports the bill said, "Almost every year I get calls from principals who have been approached by families wanting to enroll at the semester point, and they need a scholarship for that to be possible."

He said, "They found that out months into the school year that the choice they made was not the right fit for their son or daughter and they want to explore other options."

He explained that the Choice Scholarship deadline has passed by then.

Elcesser said that there are a variety of reasons a child needs a scholarship mid-year. "Sometimes it's an academic need. Sometimes it's a bullying situation. It could be for number of other reasons why a student needs to change schools," said Elcesser. "This bill would make the scholarship available to them."

Also supporting the bill includes Carol Oslander representing the Indiana Chamber of Commerce who said that in addition to being in favor of school choice in general, the bill ensures that the money follows the child.

Some of the opponents of the bill including Gail Zeheralis, representing Indiana State Teacher's Association and Joel Hand of the Indiana Coalition for Public Schools raised concerns about the equity between nonpublic and public schools since public schools have more regulations that they have to adhere to than do nonpublic schools.

For fiscal year 2016 about 32,954 students are receiving an average Choice Scholarship grant of about \$4,132 per student, according to Legislative Services Agency, a nonpartisan research arm for lawmakers. For the school year 2015-16, there are

316 participating schools in the Choice Scholarship Program.

The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, a national school choice nonprofit based in Indianapolis, reports on the scope of school choice around the country. Currently, there are 59 school choice programs on the books in 28 states and the District of Columbia. Indiana's Choice Scholarship Program is the nation's largest voucher program in terms of participation. Nationwide, there are 166,500 students receiving a school choice voucher.

Tebbe said he expects the bill will pass the Senate. If the bill passes the Senate, it will move to the Indiana House of Representatives for debate and further consideration.

As the ICC tracks bills, the ICC posts legislative update on its Web page. To receive legislative updates via email pushes, join the Indiana Catholic Action Network (ICAN). These and other public policy resources are available at www.indianacc.org.



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Living the Year of Mercy

Bury the dead

Serving mercy to the grieving



Sarah Speer

Pat Dendinger and a dedicated group of women minister to the grieving through their work on the Funeral Luncheon Committee at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Auburn. Dendinger said, "Our cheesy potatoes are always a favorite — even people from out of town talk about how good they are! It's a blessing to us to be able to comfort our friends and neighbors when they need it most."

CHEESY POTATOES

- 16 oz. sour cream
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 c. chopped onion
- 2 lb. bag frozen hash browns, thawed
- 2 c. shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 c. crushed potato chips or cornflakes

Spray a 9x13 pan with nonstick spray. In a large bowl, mix together sour cream, cream of chicken and chopped onion. Stir in thawed hash browns. Spread mixture into prepared pan and top with shredded cheddar cheese. Sprinkle with crushed potato chips or cornflakes. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.

Year of Mercy day 61

"Be merciful just as your Father is merciful."
— Lk 6:36

Send us your photos showing works of mercy.



Visit MyYearofMercy.org or email editor@diocesefwsb.org.

Mick Lomont has been digging graves at St. Louis-Besancon Church for over 60 years.



Provided by Carrie Binegar

At St. Joseph Cemetery, Decatur, St. Mary parishioners, Carrie Binegar and sons Benjamin, Jacob and Isaac pray at their grandmother's grave. The boys brushed the snow from her grave and the surrounding ones.




Debbie Stockwell

Holy Cross Father Vincent Coppola incenses a casket at Holy Cross Church in South Bend.



Michelle Castleman



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St. John, New Haven, to host parish mission

NEW HAVEN — St. John the Baptist, New Haven, will host a parish mission with speaker Father Andy O'Reilly, a member of the Precious Blood Community.

On the evenings of Feb. 15, 16 and 17, he will speak on the theme of "Mercy." Each talk begins at 7 p.m.

Mission participants will rediscover how faith enables the faithful to face everyday life with the strength that comes from the unconditional love of God.

Ignited weekend retreat for teens to be offered

FORT WAYNE — High school students from all across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are invited to the University of Saint Francis for Ignited, a weekend conference style retreat full of prayer, games and great music from March 18-20.

This year's theme is "Burning With the Fire of Mercy" with Catholic artist A-LOB and his band from California leading the music. Ignited is an opportunity to come and experience the love and mercy of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, March 20, the final day of the retreat, participants will join Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for Palm Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Register now at ignitedretreat.com and check out A-LOB's music at a-lob.com. For more information email Andrew Ouellette, director of Youth Ministry at aouellette@diocesefwsb.org.

Life Defenders Boot Camp to be held

NOTRE DAME — Life Defenders Boot Camp will be held for high school and college students at the University of Notre Dame, Geddes Hall, on Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Presenters from the Life Training Institute as well as Right to Life staff will offer 101, 201 and now 301 level courses for those attending for the first time, those who return for more, and those who want to go deeper with the arguments and activism. Cost is \$15, which includes lunch and T-shirt. Register at www.prolifemichiana/bootcamp or call 574-232-5433. The camp is sponsored by St. Joseph County Right to Life, and underwritten by the Kloska Family.

Bishop Luers 21st Annual Henry-Keefer Scholarships awarded

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School offers a scholarship/ placement exam each fall and eighth graders who place in the top 10 of the exam are awarded scholarship money towards Bishop Luers tuition.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Saint Joe family reaches out to Flint, Michigan



Provided by Saint Joseph High School

Students of the Saint Joseph High School h.o.p.e. club (helping other people endure) held a special dress down day where students, faculty and staff could either bring a case of water or donate \$2 to be out of uniform. Proceeds go to residents of Flint, Michigan, through the Gospel Connection and the Catholic Relief group. The Saint Joseph family raised \$2,000 and collected over 100 cases of water. Pictured, from left, are Maria Anthony, Tanya Mead, Brianna Hart and Katelyn Grzegorek with over 100 cases of water collected for residents of Flint, Michigan.

Scholarships have been awarded to John Andersen, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; Gavin Ealey, St. Aloysius, Yoder; Matthew Coffee, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne; Mary Braun, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne; Cecilia Simerman, St. Aloysius; Nolan Cook, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Lauren Davis, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Jessica Hartmus, Huntington Catholic; Evan York, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; and Mary Cicchiello, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Knights to offer daily Lenten text messages

Several Knights of Columbus councils are sponsoring a daily text message during the Lenten season. Those interested



in signing up should text the word "lent" to 30 500. Father David Voors, Msgr. Bernard Galic, Father Tom Shoemaker, Father Andrew Budzinski, Father Ben Muhlenkamp, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Bill Kummer and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades have

provided text messages to support one's spiritual journey.

Knights of Columbus Councils 13142, 12379, 9460 and 864 are the sponsors. A fee may apply to those who do not have text messaging service.

Dante's Divine Comedy subject of lectures

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame will host a lecture series entitled, "Dante, Mercy and the Beauty of the Human Person," during Lent and Easter. The series is comprised of 10 lectures featuring Dante scholars from a range of disciplines including theology and romance languages. Each of the five scheduled evenings will feature two lectures with the first beginning at 6 p.m. and a second lecture beginning at 7:15 p.m. All lectures will be held in the Eck Auditorium and are open to the public free of charge.

Lectures are as follows:

- Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. — "Encountering Mercy: Dante, Mary, and Us," with Vittorio Montemaggi, Departments of Romance Languages and Literatures and Theology, University of Notre Dame

- 7:15 p.m. — "Encountering Mercy: Dante on Forgetting,

Remembering, and Learning to Speak," Holy Cross Father Kevin Grove, University of Notre Dame

- Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. — "The Kingdom of Irony: Augustine, Sin, and Dante's 'Inferno,'" John C. Cavadini, Department of Theology and McGrath-Cavadini Director, Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

- 7:15 p.m. — "Dante: Knowing Oneself, Knowing God," Christian Moevs, Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Notre Dame

- March 16 at 6 p.m. — "Beginning Midway: Reading Dante in the Midst of Life," Matthew Treherne, head of the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, University of Leeds; co-director, Leeds Center for Dante Studies

- 7:15 p.m. — "Hastening to Heal: Purgatorial Prayer and the Order of Grace," Leonard DeLorenzo, Department of Theology; Director, Notre Dame Vision, University of Notre Dame

- March 29 at 6 p.m. — "Uniting the Eyes: From Fixation toward Fascination in the Easter Tuesday Cantos," Holy Cross Father Chase Pepper, Campus Ministry and Department of Theology, King's College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

- 7:15 p.m. — "Geographics

of Stars, Metaphysics of Light: Theological Aesthetics and the Form of Human Life in Dante's 'Paradiso,'" Jennifer Newsome Martin, Program of Liberal Studies and Theology, University of Notre Dame

- April 7 at 6 p.m. — "Love's Recollection: 'Paradiso' and Healed Memory," Jessica Keating, Director, Office of Human Dignity and Life Initiatives, Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

- 7:15 p.m. — "Heaven as the Sacrifice of Praise: The 'Paradiso' and the Overcoming of Rivalry," Cyril O'Regan, Huisking Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame

The lecture series is sponsored by the University of Notre Dame's Institute for Church Life and the Office of Human Dignity and Life Initiatives with support from the Henkels Lecture Fund.

More information can be found at <http://bit.ly/dantemercy>.

St. Mary Mother of God Parish to offer Ash Wednesday Luncheon

FORT WAYNE — St. Mary Mother of God Parish, at the corner of Lafayette Street and Jefferson Boulevard, will offer an Ash Wednesday Luncheon on Feb. 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., following the 11 a.m. prayer service and distribution of ashes. Free will offerings for the simple soup luncheon will support the work of the soup kitchen, staffed by 80 volunteers. The soup kitchen, founded in 1975, has served more than 7,000,000 bowls of soup. Monetary and food donations are always welcome as well as volunteers. For more information call 260-424-8231.

Bishop Dwenger High School competes in Northridge Science Olympiad Invitational

FORT WAYNE — Twenty-seven students from Bishop Dwenger High School traveled to the Northridge Science Olympiad Invitational on Jan. 16 to compete in events, which focused on science, engineering and technology.

Awards were earned by seniors: Megan Brelage, Jacob Gloudemans, Zach Hensler, Adam Morr, Gabe Nicholson and Claire Roberts, juniors: Abby Brelage, Max DiFilippo, Sam Fair, Kevin LaMaster, Patrick Morr, Kyle Weingartner, and sophomores: Nicole Gloudemans, Ryan McArdle.

LIVE YOUR FAITH DURING LENT,

Year of Mercy pilgrimages: The three Holy Doors in the diocese

Throughout the Year of Mercy, a plenary indulgence can be gained by visiting the Doors of Mercy that have been designated at the two cathedrals and at the basilica at Notre Dame. These doors will remain open until Nov. 13, 2016.

Listed below are the hours when the three churches are open during the week, as well as their Mass and Confession times. Contact information is also provided for parishes that may wish to schedule group pilgrimages to a Door of Mercy during the jubilee year. Pilgrim groups are welcome to bring their own confessor if they wish to have Confessions available at special times during their visits.



Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne

Mass times

Sunday (in church): Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5 p.m.
Weekdays (in chapel): Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 12:05 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.

Confession times (in chapel)

Monday and Friday: 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 7:30 a.m.
Saturday: 8:30-9 a.m.; 3:45-4:30 p.m.

Hours church is open

Weekdays: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 12-6 p.m.
Sundays: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Pilgrimage contact

Tom Smith — 260-424-1485, ext. 302



St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend

Mass times

Sunday: Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
Weekdays: Monday through Friday 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.

Confession times

Monday through Saturday after 7 a.m. Mass
Saturday: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Hours church is open

The south doors of the cathedral are open every day from 6 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Pilgrimage contact

Cassandra Horner — chomer@stmatthewcathedral.org



Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame

Mass times

Sunday: Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday through Friday 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

Confession times

Monday through Thursday: 11-11:30 a.m., 4:45-5:15 p.m., 7 p.m.
Friday: 11-11:30 a.m. and 4:45-5:15 p.m.
Saturday (in Sacred Heart Crypt): 10-11 a.m.

Hours church is open

Open every day from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
(Please consult <http://campusministry.nd.edu/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart> for schedules changes during academic breaks, Triduum, etc.)

Pilgrimage contact

Amy Huber — 574-631-4288 and Holy Cross Father Peter Rocca, basilica rector — 574-631-5525.

Details regarding the conditions for obtaining the indulgence can be found at www.myyearofmercy.org and also at the churches themselves.

PERFORM WORKS OF MERCY

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Lent is a time of conversion and a time to deepen one's faith, demonstrating and sharing it through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, Pope Francis said.

"Faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit," the pope said in his message for Lent, which begins Feb. 10 for Latin-rite Catholics.

Feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, welcoming strangers, offering instruction, giving comfort — "on such things will we be judged," the pope wrote in the message, which was released at the Vatican Jan. 26.

Particularly during the Year of Mercy, he said, Catholics are called to recognize their own need for God's mercy, the greatness of God's love seen in the death and resurrection of Christ and the obligation to assist others by communicating God's love and mercy through words and deeds.

"The root of all sin" is thinking that one is god, something often expressed in a total preoccupation for accumulating money and power, the pope wrote. And just as individuals can be tempted to think they have no need of God, social and political systems can run the same risk, ignoring both God and the real needs of human beings.

"Love alone is the answer to that yearning for infinite happiness," Pope Francis wrote. It is the only response to the longings "that we think we can satisfy with the idols of knowledge, power and riches."

"The danger always remains that by a constant refusal to open the doors of their hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor," he said, "the proud, rich and powerful will end up condemning themselves and plunging into the eternal abyss of solitude which is hell."

But through acts of mercy and charity, "by touching the flesh of the crucified Jesus in the suffering," he wrote, "sinners can receive the gift of realizing that they too are poor and in need."

"In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited," he wrote. "In the spiritual works of mercy — counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer — we touch more directly our own sinfulness."

In the Christian life, Pope Francis said, "the corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated."

Cardinal Francesco Montenegro, president of Caritas Italy and head of the archdiocese that includes the Italian island of Lampedusa, told reporters at a Vatican news conference that the pope's message, like the Bible, "does not stop simply at reaffirming that God is merciful, but clearly indicates that His children must be merciful, too, by living a greater love, especially by taking care of the little ones, the poor and defenseless."

The cardinal said that from his own experience as archbishop of Agrigento, he has seen how people's faith and joy have grown and become contagious when they not only go to Mass, but also volunteer to assist the thousands of migrants who land on Lampedusa's shore seeking safety and a better life for their families.

Msr. Giampietro Dal Toso, secretary of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, the office that promotes and coordinates Catholic charity, told reporters that Pope Francis wants to help Catholics rediscover the traditional corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which seemed to have been left on the shelf with dusty old books. Maybe, he said, "it was no longer fashionable" to preach about the daily actions of believers or maybe "our ecclesial practice has become quite institutionalized and politicized."

"The works of mercy are a very simple, concrete, direct, alive, daily, easy, accessible-to-all way of living the Jubilee of Mercy," he said. "The works of mercy describe what we as Christians can actually do every day, and that is why I find them so fascinating."

As part of Cor Unum's celebration of the Year of Mercy, he said, it has developed materials for a retreat day for people engaged in Church charitable activity. The materials are online — www.corunumjubilaem.va — and can be adapted for use by a group, a parish or a diocese.

CRS Rice Bowl inspires Catholics to do more with less at Lent

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND — This Lent, as they have for four decades, millions of Catholics around the United States will place a colorful cardboard box and calendar in their homes to begin a spiritual journey that changes lives around the world.

They will be participating in the 41st year of CRS Rice Bowl, a program with an effect that goes far beyond the funds it raises for those who need support and services in communities throughout the United States and overseas.

For Catholic families, the "CRS Rice Bowl Effect" begins conversations about Lent and their faith, about the role of charity, and about the many different people who make up the world family. For Catholic parishes and schools, it unites communities for Lenten faith reflection around the spirit of serving those in need and the good work of the Church around the globe. And for those who benefit from its charity, the "Rice Bowl Effect" is a key to a better life.

"There is something truly wonderful about the impact CRS Rice Bowl has on our Catholic community and on the people we serve," said Joan Rosenhauer, executive vice president of U.S. Operations for Catholic Relief Services (CRS). "What we are calling the 'Rice Bowl Effect' unites us as a faith

community in the service of helping others. It links us to our brothers and sisters around the world through stories, recipes, reflections and prayer. And best of all, this effect can be an experience that starts with the very young and extends throughout our lifetimes."

Rosenhauer noted that in this Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis, CRS Rice Bowl opens a special door for Catholics to learn more about — and participate in — the works of mercy done in their name by CRS, the international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

"For CRS, the preferential love for those oppressed by poverty is at the heart of our work," said Rosenhauer. "This year, we have helped improve the lives of millions of people in over 100 countries, work that began when we helped refugees during World War II. CRS Rice Bowl plays a significant role in making sure we are ready and able to do such work, the good news, the merciful story of our Church."

Twenty-five percent of all contributions stay in local dioceses to support hunger and poverty prevention programs such as community gardens, food pantries, soup kitchens, support groups and job centers. The remaining 75 percent

goes to support CRS' humanitarian programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to impoverished and vulnerable communities.

Since its start in a parish in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as a response to the famine in the African Sahel region in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has evolved into a national response to hunger around the world, used by over 13,000 Catholic schools and parishes during the season of Lent.

In its 41 years, CRS Rice Bowl has lifted generations of people out of poverty through the programs it supports. An orphaned child in a small village in the West African country of Ghana, Thomas Awiapo was lured to school by the smell of food. By satisfying his hunger, he found a love for learning and went on to college and graduate school in the United States.

The feeding program in the school Thomas Awiapo attended was supported by CRS Rice Bowl. In an amazing twist of fate, Awiapo, with a master's degree in public administration, became an employee for CRS.

To donate and learn more about CRS Rice Bowl, visit crsricebowl.org or download the app from the iTunes or Google Play stores.



LENTEN PRAYER
God of all creation,

*We welcome you into our lives in a new way this Lent.
We are ready to serve your people, especially our
brothers and sisters who are most in need.
We are ready to live out your call to mercy.*

*Through our prayers, fasting and Lenten gifts,
may we learn to walk as one global human family.
May we learn to listen to each other, and in so doing
hear the merciful words of Christ.*

Amen



CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

Make your own CRS Rice Bowl by gluing or taping the wrapper, above, to a can. Then display the this pledge form, below, on your fridge.

**WHAT WE GIVE UP,
we give to
others!**

For Lent, we will give up _____

From our Lenten sacrifice, we pledge to donate \$ _____

Count the money you saved in your CRS Rice Bowl and make an online donation at crsricebowl.org/give.

THANK YOU FOR CHANGING LIVES THIS LENT!

MAKE A LENTEN PLAN

<p><i>pray</i></p> <p>set aside a time each week to pray and reflect</p>	<p><i>fast</i></p> <p>consider what you will give up for Lent to change the lives of others</p>	<p><i>give</i></p> <p>set a goal for your CRS Rice Bowl offering</p>
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Technology helps Holy Family student stay connected

BY JENNIFER MILLER

SOUTH BEND — When he was only a kindergartener, Nolan Dobrucki's mom, Amy, noticed some usual bruises that tend to appear on five-year-old boys. However, when the bruises reappeared weeks later, along with some new rashes and skin irritations, it was time for a trip to the doctor. After years of tests, trials and errors in assessment and treatment, Nolan was finally diagnosed this year with Severe Aplastic Anemia. The loss of red and white blood cells, as well as platelets, has led young Nolan through numerous medical treatments, including his current prolonged stay to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. This last October, five and a half years after those first warning signs, Nolan began chemotherapy and received a bone marrow transplant.

The Dobruckis are parishioners at Holy Family Parish in South Bend and their children, Nolan and Mya, also attend the school. As life-long Catholics, their faith "has helped the whole process," Shannon Dobrucki explained. "It puts everything in perspective ... and has given us a community of support. From the school and parish, the support is the best thing."

From wonderful parent groups to the loyal student body, Holy Family has reached out and cared for the Dobruckis in various ways. Shannon said, "Letting people help you was hard for me at first ... but then I saw how letting them help us also helped them."

From meals and gas cards, toys and clothes to generous tuition assistance, the larger "family" is caring for the smaller domestic one.

Currently a fourth grader, Nolan piloted a new technology at Holy Family School. When Nolan's parents met with Holy



Photos provided by Holy Family School and the Dobrucki family

Nolan Dobrucki's fourth-grade classmates gather to show their support.

Family administrators last summer, they were strongly contemplating removing him from school so to prepare him for upcoming surgery.

But Principal Joseph Miller and Jennifer Veldman, the assistant principal, asked, "What can we do?" Why not use technology to keep Nolan with his classmates? They and the Dobrucki family wanted to help Nolan continue the path of his education.

Using the Internet and Facetime on iPads, he was able to "be present" with his class and stay connected to his academic studies. Veldman organized it so each day a different student would be Nolan's virtual buddy. The buddy would then be responsible for placing the iPad on their desk, learning and working with him in small groups and switching subjects with him. Through the iPad, Nolan went from class to class with his friends.

"The ownership of it by the students in the classroom was the most beautiful part!" Veldman said with a smile.

"I was uncertain at first how it would work, but the children



Holy Family students pray the rosary for Nolan Dobrucki before his bone marrow transplant in October.

loved it," Judy King, his fourth-grade teacher explained. "They felt so special when it was their turn. They haven't seen him in class this year, but knew him. It was not disruptive at all. ... He was a part of our learning. ... I could even call on him! And students loved it when they could



Colts quarterback, Andrew Luck, paid a visit to Nolan Dobrucki and his father, Shannon, last fall.

interact together during the day."

As a result, Nolan was connected to his school community during what could have been a very isolating, lonely time.

"One day I popped into the fourth grade and saw they were doing group work. It was just awesome to see two kids and an iPad with Nolan sitting at one table working together," said Principal Miller.

And it was not just Nolan who benefitted, Miller continued, "I think the experience has helped all of our students to develop a sense of compassion and solidarity. Nolan's friends love him, and they miss him, and they pray for him everyday."

Teachers at Riley Hospital now work with him, still using modern technology of scanners and computers to connect him with Holy Family School. "We really miss him," King said. "Our goal is to keep him on grade level, for when he can return to the building."

During this tough recovery period, his classmates "take it

in stride, pray for him and each holiday make something to send with his sister, for when they visit. Everyone is praying and extremely hopeful," Veldman said.

"The spiritual support for Nolan has been very special for the school community," said Miller. "When Nolan was going to Riley for the surgery, the whole school gathered to pray the rosary for him. From preschool to eighth graders, we prayed together for healing and recovery of our friend and classmate. It was very powerful."

Caring for the Dobrucki family in material, physical ways, Holy Family hosted some fundraisers, such as dress down days. Also, last March, they sponsored an official "Be the Match," bone marrow registration fundraiser. This connected the school family with the larger global family as Nolan and other recipients looked for a "10/10 match" for bone marrow donation. Selling neon green T-shirts, which read "Team Nolan," the school raised money for the Dobrucki family, all of which they chose to give to the "Be the Match" foundation, a not-for-profit organization.

These are now the recovery days. His father, Shannon, has taken a leave of absence from work to stay with him at the Ronald McDonald House, while his mother Amy works in South Bend and stays with Mya at the family home commuting to Indianapolis on the weekends. The Dobruckis are dedicated and "optimistic about Nolan's kidneys and his recovery."

As Nolan continues to fight, this has been a journey of the unknown. "We take it one day at a time," says Dobrucki. One day at a time, with a whole school community behind them.

For readers who would like to follow Nolan and the Dobrucki family, their updates in photos are located at "Team Nolan: The Journey" on Facebook.

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Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016

to **St. Mary Mother of God Parish**

at **Lafayette and Jefferson in Fort Wayne**

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(Lenten prayer service with ashes at 11:00 a.m.)



Anger and citizenship

The Iowa caucuses are in the rear-view mirror, the New Hampshire primary looms on the horizon, and by most media accounts, the leitmotif of Campaign 2016 is “anger.” As in: a lot-of-Americans-are-angry-and-that-explains-the-attraction-of-certain-candidates, whether that be the anti-political-correctness anger of Donald Trump voters, the anti-government anger of Ted Cruz voters, or the Obama-hasn’t-been-radical-enough anger of Bernie Sanders voters. For those of us with long cinematic memories, it’s rather reminiscent of the Howard Beale character in “Network,” urging people to stick their heads out the window and holler, “I’m mad as hell and I’m not going to take this anymore!”

I get it. My own reactions to the papers I read daily, the magazines I read weekly, and the news programs I watch occasionally are not often conducive to a happy blood pressure reading. Yet whatever my sympathies may be with the wrath du jour, I hope that, as the 2016 campaign unfolds, the electorate will begin to understand that anger is not a particularly healthy metric of public life.

The first Marquis of Halifax, George Savile, a 17th-century English statesman and a notable phrase-maker, ranks second only to the immortal Dr. Johnson in the number of entries in “The Viking Book of Aphorisms.” There, I find this small gem: “Anger is never without an argument, but seldom with a good one.” Does that ring a bell or two, my fellow Americans? It should, given the character of the presidential “debate” thus

far. And that warning bell suggests that we’ve got a problem. For serious debate, conducted with civility, is the lifeblood of democracy.

Civility does not preclude passion. Given the gravity of the issues before us in 2016 — which involve the future of freedom around the world and the dignity of the human person here at home — passion is entirely welcome. But passion is not anger. Anger is a glandular thing. An angry politics is a politics of the gut. A passionate politics, informed and disciplined by reason, can be a politics of the intelligence, a politics of great ideas: a politics, if you will, of sound moral judgment. And sound moral judgment is rarely, if ever, the child of anger.

In 1818, John Adams, parsing the great events in which he had played a central role, wrote this: “But what do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war? The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments of their duties and obligations.” The American Republic, in other words, began with ideas: ideas passionately held, to be sure; ideas that took shape in response to perceived grievances, without a doubt. But these were ideas (and sentiments, or feelings) about “duties and obligations:” which is to say, they were ideas and feelings about moral responsibilities.

The United States did not begin in a spasm of anger, although there were surely anger-driven incidents before and during the



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

Revolution. And if history’s longest experiment in democratic republicanism is to reach its 250th anniversary, a mere 10 years from now, in moral continuity with its founding, it won’t get there through an anger-defined, anger-driven, and anger-dominated politics. It will only get there through a rebirth of genuine political argument, which is a rational, not a glandular, thing.

Catholic citizens of the United States should be particularly sensitive to this dimension of our public life. Catholic political theory is an extension of Catholic moral theology; or to put it another way, Catholic political theory treats politics as an arena of moral reasoning and moral judgment. The Catholic citizen, as the Church understands these things, is obliged to think, not just to feel; to judge, not just to react; to exercise prudence in weighing options among usually-imperfect alternatives, not to indulge in fantasies about simplistic quick-fixes to all that ails us and the world.

Were the Catholic citizens of the United States to act that way in 2016, both God and the Republic would be well served.”

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

Oh what a tangled web: Rising above Instagram envy

Melina Birchem has uploaded 777 images to her Instagram account over the past two years: sushi, Starbucks, her new tattoo, rosary beads, cowboy boots. Sometimes the juxtaposition is jarring. A glowing monstera, a chilled margarita. A snapshot from waiting, a prayer journal documenting her consecration to the Blessed Mother.

As a freshman at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, Melina has tried to moderate her use of social media, deleting the Facebook and Twitter apps from her iPhone and abandoning Snapchat altogether. Instagram has been harder to rein in, admits the psychology major, an amateur photographer and self-described “beauty seeker” who is among more than 400 million users drawn to the 5-year-old photo-sharing social network.

“I have one of those love-hate relationships with Instagram,” Melina said.

It captures her adventures, connects her with friends and kindles her faith. But sometimes it sends Melina down a destructive path, like when it leads her to bikini photos that erode her self-esteem. Even following friends can induce pangs of envy. “I’m constantly seeing rings and relationships popping up on my Instagram. It can make me feel very single.”

It’s easy to get stuck in the honeycomb of Instagram feeds, where six degrees of separation becomes two taps — from someone you know to someone who knows someone you know, then a total stranger with an expen-



TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

sive wardrobe and a nice tan. The filters create a fun-house mirror of comparison, rendering you short and squatty. They’re the ones out making great memories — picking apples, lounging poolside, kissing beneath a Ferris wheel. You’re the one in sweatpants stalking them from the couch.

Instagram has created a culture of unabashed voyeurism. To comment on a picture with the popular hashtag “goals” is to openly covet. It’s often a one-word comment, an evolution from the “I like this” of a facile Facebook thumbs-up to “I want to be this.” Yet the word “goals” connotes a rigorous academic pursuit, making it perfectly acceptable, even witty.

“That hashtag is a pet peeve of mine!” Melina said. “It’s a code for comparison and envy. It’s like, ‘Why are you striving to be someone else when God meant you to be you? You are precious in His eyes!’”

Melina is trying to reclaim the hashtag by occasionally tagging her posts with “Catholicgoals,” a tongue-in-cheek reminder of what really matters — sacraments, prayer, friendship. She resists the temptation to curate

CAPECCHI, page 12

Every believer has a role to play in salvation



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 5:1-11

The Book of Isaiah is the source of the first reading this weekend. Written before the Babylonian conquest, this prophecy was composed when, relatively speaking, and with some qualification, the southern kingdom of the Hebrews was tranquil and prosperous.

Nevertheless, Isaiah felt that he was called by God to confront the people about their infidelity to God or at least about their lukewarmness in responding to their role as God’s special

people. The story, told in this reading, conveys by its drama and bluntness the totality required in Isaiah’s willingness to answer the divine calling to be a prophet.

Here, in this reading, Isaiah displays the fervor and power that are typical of the writing in all three sections of this ancient book.

Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians provides the next reading. Paul recalls the death of Jesus and then the Lord’s Resurrection, giving the details that Peter, whom Paul calls “Cephas,” using the Greek term, saw Jesus after the Resurrection, that James saw Jesus, and that even 500 of those who believed in the Gospel saw the risen Lord.

The reading also is autobiographical. Paul declares that he himself is an Apostle, having been called by the Lord, but he calls himself “least” among the Apostles, since he, unlike the others, once persecuted Christ living in the community of Christians.

Still, God called him. Despite

his sense of personal unworthiness, Paul wholeheartedly responds to this calling. He is God’s instrument. Through him, God works the plan of redemption and mercy.

St. Luke’s Gospel shows the fine literary hand at work in the composition of the Gospel of Luke, and by extension the other Gospels. Here Luke uses the Gospel of Mark as a source, but then he adds details drawn from a source also used by John.

Of course, Jesus is the central figure in the story, but the next most important figure is Peter. A fisherman, along with his brother, Andrew, both of them living in Capernaum, Peter was in his boat on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus embarked. The Lord began to preach to the people assembled on the shore.

Then Jesus told Peter to row into deeper water and to lower the nets into the water. Peter mildly protests, saying that he and his associates had been fishing all night, but with no success. Nonetheless, Peter did as told. The result was that the nets

were so filled with fish that Peter and his companions had difficulty in pulling the nets aboard.

Humbly, aware of the Lord’s power, Peter confessed his own sinfulness. Jesus swept beyond this admission, recognizing Peter’s faith instead, and called Peter thereafter to fish for souls.

Reflection

For weeks, actually since Christmas, the Church has been introducing us, as it were, to Jesus. The great feasts of the Epiphany and of the Baptism of the Lord told us about Jesus.

Now, subtly but firmly, the Church urges us to respond to this entry of Jesus into our consciousness. How shall we respond?

The Church answers the question by putting before us three great figures in the tradition of holiness, Isaiah, followed by Paul, and then finally Peter.

Each manifested his unworthiness to be a part of the great and divine mission of salvation. Yet, fully realizing this limita-

tion, God called them each to a particular task. Each person who hears the word of Christ, and is healed and strengthened by Christ’s life in grace, has a holy task. Each believer has a role to play in the work of salvation, beginning with his or her personal salvation. Everyone is unworthy, but God calls us and will give us all what truly is needed to be a disciple.

READINGS

Sunday: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 Ps 138:1-5, 7-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 Ps 84:3-5, 10-11 Mk 7:1-13

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

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

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

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

Going home

My oldest son came to visit for almost a week, from all the way across the country. It's been almost a decade since he has lived at home, if you count the college years. He has a successful career, a life very exciting and dynamic and full of surprises in a big city. He lives in sunny southern California, which boasts ideal weather, and lots to do ... so much more than what there is here.

A mother looks forward to the day she works herself out of a job, and the task of officially raising a child is complete. But then, when the day comes, the independence of her offspring is bittersweet. Yay! She thinks ... well, kind of.

No one tells her when she is rocking her little lad, spooning Gerber's best into his cute, little scrunched up mouth, or helping him learn to tie his shoes or ride a bike, or advising him on politeness before his first formal dance, that there really and truly will be a day when there's not much left for her to do for him. Part of her wonders, when he is a full grown adult, what role she could possibly play in his life then. Deep in her heart, longingly, she asks herself, "How can I draw him back, now and again? What, with all he now has, can I possibly offer that he'll need or want?"

While my son was here, I couldn't soak up enough time with him. I did mostly what I normally do — I cooked a lot — steaks, traditional Lebanese food, and eggs and sausage every morning. We went bowling as a family, to the movies, and even had a night playing euchre. My son took his sisters to the coffee shop and pondered life with them. Still, I had this lingering feeling that it wasn't enough, that it didn't compare to the sparkly and exciting life he created for himself in a city far away.

One late afternoon, I spontaneously asked my son, "Hey, do you want to go cross-country skiing? You could use dad's skis, and we could just go here on the property?"

My schedule is usually pretty tight. If I'm not busy with housework and schooling, then I am so with driving, and organizing

and otherwise managing this busy household. But I know time with my son is precious and rare, and the snow on our acreage was beginning to melt, so I pushed the other demands aside, and waited hopefully for my son's answer.

"Yes!" he said.

My son, at the ripe old age of 28, had never been cross-country skiing, but you know, there's not much to it. You don the boots, step into the skis, use the poles for guides and just start gliding. He was game.

Living on the West Coast, he did not own a proper winter coat, so he rummaged through his old closet to find his wool letter jacket from high school and an old knitted hat from the '90s. I found him some gloves and grabbed the ski equipment from the pole barn. Melt my heart — he was my boy again!

"How do you do this?" he asked, after snapping his boots to his skis.

"Just start out walking, in long, gliding steps, and alternate using the poles to balance, pull or brace yourself."

Off we went in the fresh air, glistening snow and setting sun.

I've been told that women relate best and bond deepest over intense conversation, and that men do so over a shared activity. That's why women can sit in a coffee shop for hours with a friend, bonding intimately, and guys prefer hunting, golfing, fishing — that sort of thing — with their buddies to cement their friendship. Well, I'll tell you that cross-country skiing is the best of both gendered worlds. The activity is vigorous, but not so much that you can't hold a great conversation, and nothing beats being able to stop to take a picture or enjoy a beautiful view of sunlight filtering through trees. The snow makes sounds muffled and soft. This natural insulation effect is calming. It's a perfect set up.

My son and I chatted about principles, talked about religion and pondered life while gliding down little hills, and skiing in sync over a flat trail, and putting in more effort up a small incline. There was a chance for a bit of chivalry on his part too; he offered his hand when I mis-



EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

TERESA A. THOMAS

judged my skill and went too fast, plopping down on my rear end on the shiny, white snow.

We stopped to look at animal tracks. "What do you think those are?" he curiously asked.

"Hmmm ... big dog ... or coyote. Wait, those are definitely coyote."

"Well, there's a bunch of them."

"We'll get in before dark." By the end of an hour and a half, the temperature dropped and we were cold, wet and laughing. I had toppled again, no doubt my bad knee contributing to my demise. It was time to go in.

Before we left, we lingered to look at the reddish orange and pink cloud streaks decorating the sky like a painting, as the sun began to drop low on the horizon. For a moment we stood together in silence, admiring God's handiwork.

"I like it out here," my son said. "You can breathe," he paused. "You can think."

I nodded, imagining his apartment and the big city lights that awaited him. His world there was bustling, exciting ... intense, hard. His work was competitive and building a career was tiring. His old home here, by contrast, is forever welcoming, full of love ... and God's natural beauty. It is an oasis I can offer. It is something I can forever give. I began — right then — to understand what I can still offer this young man. Family. Peace. Love. An encounter with God. I can offer him the comfort, no matter how old he is or how many kids he eventually has, of a past, a present and a forever HOME.

Theresa Thomas is the wife of David and mother of nine children. Watch for her newest book "Big Hearted Families" (Scepter) and read more on her blog: <http://teresathomas.wordpress.com>.

consequences that may or may not happen if we make a first decision to cut off that which kills us," she said. "I want to challenge us to become bolder in seeing what is hurting us physically, emotionally, spiritually and then doing something about it."

That may mean unfollowing a feed that's bringing you down or giving up Instagram for a week. For Melina, such measures are part of a deliberate effort to stay rooted in her identity as a daughter of Christ. When she's bombarded by Cosmo covers at the grocery-store check-out, she turns away and recites Song of

Solomon: "You are beautiful, my love, there is no flaw in you."

Sure, she'd like to lose weight, but when Melina looks in the mirror, she focuses on her chocolate brown eyes and her bright, all-consuming smile. "There's a joy in my smile that reminds me of a woman in love," she said. "I love the way God made me and the way His joy in me is infectious."

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for February 7, 2016

Luke 5:1-11

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: when Peter, James and John join Jesus. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

CROWD	PRESSING IN	TWO BOATS
LAKE	FISHERMEN	WASHING
NETS	SIMON	ASKED
PUT OUT	TAUGHT	FINISHED
SPEAKING	DEEP	MASTER
PARTNERS	PETER	KNEES
SINFUL MAN	JAMES	FOLLOWED

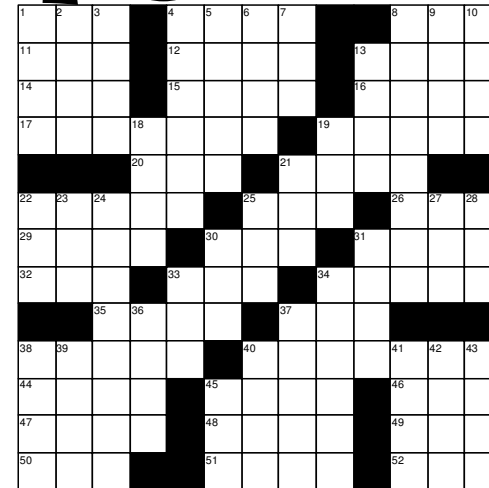
TO THE DEEP

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

February 7 and 14, 2016



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Based on these Scripture Readings: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11 and Dt 26: 4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 9:28b-36

ACROSS

- 1 Spare this, spoil child
- 4 Fish lifting hook
- 8 Supply side economics
- 11 Compass point
- 12 Margarine
- 13 Pare
- 14 Tree
- 15 Pencil end
- 16 Writer Bombeck
- 17 Robber on foot
- 19 Trailer of God's garment
- 20 Possessive pronoun
- 21 Leap
- 22 Kathmandu country
- 25 Bartimaeus did

- 26 Owned
- 29 Forehead
- 30 Stitch together
- 31 Italian money
- 32 Been
- 33 Accomplished
- 34 Short for James
- 35 St. Thomas was one
- 37 Representative
- 38 Peter's first name
- 40 Civil court case
- 44 6th month (Jewish calendar)
- 45 Wise men
- 46 Foot extension
- 47 Crossing
- 48 Experts

- 49 Jesus ___ nothing for 40 days
- 50 Antlered animal
- 51 Fit together
- 52 Easter meat

DOWN

- 1 Shallow area
- 2 Capital of Norway
- 3 Display
- 4 Paul preached it
- 5 Moses said to set basket in front of this
- 6 Violent quarrel
- 7 Watch chain
- 8 Six-winged angels
- 9 Very large truck
- 10 Flair
- 13 Curl hair, permanently
- 18 Melt
- 19 Pluck
- 21 Neither ___ nor Greek
- 22 Compass point
- 23 Time period
- 24 Cancels stamp
- 25 Mattress
- 27 God's outstretched one
- 28 "The ___ of the Lord"
- 30 Break God's commandment
- 31 Angel touched ember to
- 33 Lots of noise
- 34 Pertaining to Judaism
- 36 "The ___ is near you"
- 37 Furors
- 38 Sure
- 39 False god
- 40 Do up shoes
- 41 Mormon state
- 42 Small particle
- 43 Brim with life
- 45 "Mom" in Irish

CAPECCHI

Continued from Page 11

her Instagram feed in order to project a perfect life, realizing that wouldn't be healthy for her or friends who would view it. "You're never going to have good conversations with people if you're not willing to be vulnerable."

Melina believes we've become too passive about toxic influences. "We're scared of certain

Sports

NO. 4 COUGARS WEATHER NO. 22 LANCERS' COMEBACK FOR WIN NO. 20 University of Saint Francis Head Coach Chad LaCross would have liked to have won by double digits. But he's sure not going to give up the four-point win over 22nd-ranked Grace College at Hutzell Athletic Center on Jan. 30. USF won 85-81. Crossroads League-leading and NAIA No. 4 USF led by 17 early in the second half, then held on to win for the 15th time in the last 16 games by keeping calm when the Lancers closed the margin to a mere point.

St. Pius Lions triumph over Corpus Christi Cougars

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — The hotly contested St. John Bosco Division of the Inter-City Catholic League was to get a bit warmer as two of the top squads matched bucket for bucket, steal for steal and determination vs. determination at Saint Joseph High School to make their way toward the regular season crown.

The Cougars of Corpus Christi had roared to an unblemished mark and had big man Derek Derda patrolling the paint and leading them in scoring, while the Lions of St. Pius X were just a game back and had an even bigger man roaming the lane in seventh-grader Adam O'Dell.

The game started with a bang as the two exchanged buckets. However the first three made by the Lions were triples by Reegan Jackowiak, Michael Baughman and one the hard way by O'Dell pushing the early margin to 9-6.

The Lions continued to surge in the up and down romp by both teams edging out a 17-point first quarter to the Cougars 11.

The second quarter saw Cougars Derda and Braden Kaniewski battle the likes of O'Dell on the inside accompanied by Baughman and Thomas Kurowski fast break layups to keep the score close. But the back breaker was a 15 footer at the horn by Lion Campbell Jones to make the score 28-21 heading into the locker room.

The second half started out all

St. Pius X as O'Dell, Jackowiak and a bucket by Luke Leonard more than doubled their lead making it, 37-21, until the Cougars called a timeout to regroup.

The remainder of the third was all Derda for the Cougars and all Baughman for the Lions going into the final stanza up, 43-29.

Most thought "game over," but no one told the Cougars as Derda, Kaniewski and company clamped down on the defensive end and went on a 13-0 run that included a huge three pointer by Ayden Clark making it, 48-46, with just over a minute to play.

Even though up by two, the momentum was definitely on the side of the Cougars and after a missed Lion shot seemed to spell trouble, the rebound and short jumper by Jackowiak stopped the bleeding and turned the tide.

A couple missed attempts by the Cougars down the stretch and an out-of-bounds layup by Lions, Michael Conery sealed the deal as St. Pius X outlasted Corpus Christi, 52-46, in the high-scoring nailbiter.

The final line had Lions; Baughman, O'Dell and Jackowiak scoring 18, 12 and 11 respectively and the one-two punch of Derda and Kaniewski dropping in 25 and 16.

"This is the kind of game that makes the ICCL special. Both teams played so hard and that's exactly what we expected," explained Lion Coach Mike Padrnos. "They did a good job of taking our big man out of the

game, but Baughman is the glue that holds us together and came up big."

"Our kids could have given up after St. Pius X went up big, but they didn't. We came together, stood united and left it on the floor, and for that I'm really proud of this team," remarked Cougar Skipper Shaun Derda. "In other scores around the league; Jaden Ivy and his 25 points helped the Holy Cross Crusaders upend the Trojans of Holy Family, 54-33.

Panther Philip Robles and Falcon Kaidyn Baker each scored 15, but St. Anthony was victorious over St. Jude, 46-24.

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints behind the 13 of Josh Gill stopped the Blazers of St. Matthew and the 11 of Luke Krizman, 35-28.

Puma Johnny Wang's 12 points were countered by the 23 Matt White dropped in for the Eagles of St. Joseph as they were triumphant over Queen of Peace, 39-34.

Christ the King romped 45-19 over St. Michael, and St. Thomas won a pair against Our Lady of Hungary and St. Matthew, 30-21 and 34-18.

CYO basketball junior varsity team claims title

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Coach Justin Allen was pleased to report that with their 64-36 win over St. Aloysius, his boys from Most Precious Blood (MPB) improved to 3-1 in the CYO regular season. Gardner Barile led the attack with a whopping 31 points. Connor Christman contributed a solid double with 14 points and 18 rebounds, while Xavier Allen finished with 12.

For the girls, Dan O'Brien's Panthers from St. Vincent may struggle with numbers, but have still been able to chalk up some W's. Against St. John, New Haven on Jan. 17, they started with five players, but one had to leave for another commitment after the tip. Although the Raiders gave them a good fight, the four remaining Panthers hung on to win. Their go-ahead shot with less than a minute put them up, 34-32, for the victory.

On Jan. 23 vs. St. Jude, the Panthers were missing one

of their leading scorers and rebounders, but were able to field a full five players the whole game, held St. Jude to two points in the third quarter and topped the Eagles, 32-30.

"Our defense was key to winning this game, despite six turnovers in the final 23 seconds," an amazed Coach O'Brien exclaimed. He continued, "I know it's hard to believe a team can turn over the ball that many times in that short of a period, but we did. Fortunately, our defense held."

In junior varsity action, the St. Rose-St. Louis Twins claimed the 2016 girls' CYO title for their league.

Coach Melissa Harris' fifth- and sixth-grade unit downed Most Precious Blood for the championship after getting by St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, in their opening round. Caylen Schane led the Twins with 10 points, Lexi Linder had seven and Shelby Schane added six in the championship.

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WHY?

Continued from Page 1

Father Runyon has also decided to utilize Why Catholic? teachings in a large group experience. "So, for Lent we are having our Thursday evening Lenten program, but we are using the content of Why Catholic?," he said.

Members of several Why Catholic? small faith sharing groups are excited to begin again. Jeff Rose, chairperson of the Why Catholic? Committee at St. Jude, facilitated one of the 16 groups that participated in the program last fall. The groups met once each week in homes or the church to follow the readings and discussion reflections provided by the program. "I think it's really important to have a strong understanding of the Catholic faith. It helps people make better decisions and appreciate the



faith more," said Rose, adding that being exposed to the variety of prayer forms within the Catholic Church has inspired him to attend daily Mass more often as well as participate in Eucharistic Adoration at St. Jude's Adoration Chapel. One of the best parts of the program is "the sharing that goes on," said Rose.

Jackie Hinsey couldn't agree more as she recalls her participation in her established group that has met for years to discuss the upcoming week's Scripture, when they welcomed Why Catholic? in their midst. "I feel as people understand the faith a little more they connect with each other. It changes you. You want to go to church more and be a part

of things there," she said. She believes the group is especially supportive of members wherever they are on their faith journey. "The group accepts you wherever you're at, and whatever you want to contribute," she said. With the youngest member at 22 years old all the way to the 90s "there's a great depth of people who bring their insights and perceptions. It's very enriching," Hinsey concludes.

Another group that is gearing up for Phase 2 of Why Catholic? is led by Sally Niedermeyer. She too is part of an established group that meets on a regular basis to discuss upcoming Scripture. The group is made up of nine to 12 members some of whom have come into the Church in recent years. Niedermeyer said of group, "It's nice to get other people's take on our faith and on our practices." And she appreciates "the cohesiveness and sense of community — the closeness you get when you meet on a regular basis." Following the conclusion of the first phase of prayer as the topic of Why Catholic? in the fall, Niedermeyer's group was inspired to visit Saint Anne Communities to sing Christmas carols to the residents there. This Lent they plan to meet the Monday before Ash Wednesday to prepare for the Lenten program and will meet during Holy Week to watch a movie about Christ's passion that will inspire them to deeper faith and understanding.

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-St. Catherine of Siena

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"Ignited" is a weekend conference style retreat for high school students

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High School Students from all around the diocese are invited to the University of Saint Francis for a weekend full of prayer, games and great music. On March 20, the final day of the retreat, we will join Bishop Rhoades for Palm Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Speakers include
Father David Mary Ingo
Our Lady of Sorrows

Register Online at
ignitedretreat.com

FOR QUESTIONS,
please email Andrew Ouellette
Director of Youth Ministry
aouellette@diocesefwsb.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. View more Catholic events and submit yours at www.diocesefwsb.org/bulletin. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at 260-456-2824 to purchase space.

Theology on Tap: What does long term renewal look like?

Fort Wayne — Theology on Tap for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single or married, will be held at Soup, Salad and Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., Thursday, Feb. 25, at 6:30 p.m. The temptation toward consumption-based Catholicism is real. Does a Catholic podcast fulfill your call to prayer for the day? Do you find yourself checking off your work in the evangelizing mission of the Church by "sharing" a religious themed meme? This Lent, make the journey count. Father Drew Curry will share how to have an authentic renewal of faith to last a lifetime. Visit <http://www.diocesefwsb.org/tot-fw> for information.

Interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing to be present

Fort Wayne — On Sunday, Feb. 14, an interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing will be present at the 11:30 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1122 S. Clinton St. For information on the deaf and hard of hearing ministry contact Allison at 260-399-1452 or asturm@diocesefwsb.org.

Baroque Festival finale concert

Fort Wayne — The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1122 S. Clinton St., will host a Baroque Festival concert Sunday Feb. 14, 7 p.m. Ticket information at www.bachcollegium.org.

St. Hedwig Holy Name Society plans Polish buffet

South Bend — The St. Hedwig Holy Name Society will have Polish buffet Sunday, Feb. 21, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Hedwig Memorial Center. Advance sale only tickets are \$12, children 12 and under free and available at the rectory or by calling 574-287-4821 or 574-287-1295. Deadline Feb. 15.

Our Lady of Good Hope Lenten fish fry

Fort Wayne — Our Lady of Good Hope Knights will have a Lenten fish fry Friday, Feb. 19, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the gym, 7215 St. Joe Rd. Alaskan Pollock by Dan's of Huntington. Tickets are \$8.50 for adults, \$4.50 for children 6-10 and children 5 and under are free. Carry-out available.

Catholic Business Network Group

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, Feb. 5, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel. Dr. Thomas McGovern will be speaking on "The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre," in the Cathedral Center following Mass. Refreshments provided by Joe Brown with the Rekindle the Fire men's conference.

Holy Name Society fish fry

New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 12, from 4-7 p.m. Adults

\$8, children 5-12 \$4.50 and children under 5 free.

St. Augustine to host Mardi Gras party

South Bend — A Mardi Gras dinner and silent auction sponsored by the Tolton Society of St. Augustine Catholic Church, 1501 W. Washington St., will be Tuesday, Feb. 9, from 5-8 p.m. Tickets at door are \$15, \$7 for pre-teens, age five free. Silent auction will include ND/SMC items, fine dining, etc. Proceeds will benefit the Tolton Society. For information contact Annie Tardy at 574-707-1232.

The CrossWord
February 7 and 14, 2016

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REST IN PEACE

Bremen

Hugo Holm, 90, St. Dominic

Columbia City

Edward A. Leeuw, Jr., 82, St. Paul/Cross

Clear Lake

Larry W. Zeman, 72, St. Paul Chapel

Decatur

Reinhard C. Selking, 94, St. Mary of the Assumption

Fort Wayne

Joan M. Kohrman, 78, Most Precious Blood

Diane L. Finch, 55, St. Mary Mother of God

Earl E. Thompson, 88, St. Jude

Parishes should submit obituaries to kcozad@diocesefwsb.org

Maria M. Bejarano, St. Joseph

Florence P. Kochanski, 85, St. Charles Borromeo

Colleen M. Myers, 56, St. Jude

Huntington

Paul L. Kennedy, 83, Ss. Peter and Paul

Virgil R. Scher, 91, Ss. Peter and Paul

Madonna L. Jeffers, 76, Ss. Peter and Paul

Notre Dame

Brother Joseph Berg, CSC, 85, Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel

Rome City

Rita Marie Curtis, 86, St. Gaspar

South Bend

Luis Valle, 77, St. Adalbert

Martha F. Mennucci, 83, St. Therese, Little Flower

Mary Alice Pernic, 77, St. Therese Little Flower

Duane R. Fletcher, 84, St. Anthony de Padua

Wabash

Floyd L. Robison, 72, St. Bernard

Yoder

Nancy L. Tegtmeyer, 73, St. Aloysius

Catholic Grade School Principal

St. Augustine Catholic School in Rensselaer, Indiana seeks a leader to serve as principal beginning July 5, 2016.

Areas of responsibility include grades preK-5:

Spiritual Leadership, Educational Leadership, and Professional Leadership.

Qualifications:

- Candidate must be an active practicing Catholic committed to the educational mission of the Church.
- Candidate should hold an Indiana Building Level Administrator License or be eligible for Emergency Licensure.
- Graduate degree(s) from an accredited college or university.
- Outstanding oral, written and interpersonal communication skills.

Please send a letter of application and resume by February 29, 2016 to:

Reverend Donald Davison, c.pp.s.

St. Augustine Catholic Church

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Wednesday, Mar. 2, 6:30 p.m.
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South Bend Spiritual Host
Father
Zak Barry

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Freshman Registration

February 17th & 18th, 2016

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Please bring a copy of the student's birth certificate, most recent report card, ISTEP scores, and registration fee of \$135.

For information, contact Jenny Andorfer
(260) 456-1261, Ext 3139 or jandorfer@bishopluers.org



As God sees things

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — It was the feast day of St. Thomas Aquinas, the patron saint of Catholic schools, and a great day for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to visit the students and staff of Bishop Luers High School on Fort Wayne's south side.

It was also a great day for six students of Bishop Luers. Alley Broom came into full Communion with the Church. Bishop Rhoades confirmed Simon Derloshon and Hannah Snyder. And three students from St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne — Chris Carranza, Jorge Barron and Ivan Gomez — were confirmed and received their first Communion.

It was also a day in which the Bishop Luers students were gifted by Bishop Rhoades "The Pocket Gospels and Psalms," published by Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington. The gift comes with the encouragement of Pope Francis that people carry a pocket-size book of the Gospels — as they would a rosary — and to take it out for reading and meditation.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke of Thomas Aquinas, a saint with a brilliant intellect, yet who was humble. As a student, St. Thomas was rather quiet and didn't speak much. Some of his classmates called him "the dumb ox."

Bishop Rhoades said, "Well, his teacher in Paris and later Cologne, St. Albert the Great, prophetically exclaimed: 'You call Thomas the dumb ox, but in his teaching he will one day produce such a belaboring that it will be heard throughout the world.' And so it happened. The works of St. Thomas Aquinas have been studied and taught through the centuries. His thoughts and ideas on the mystery of God and the truths of the faith are the most profound and insightful ever written, with the exception of perhaps of St. Augustine."

St. Thomas Aquinas also had the gift of wisdom. Bishop Rhoades summarized wisdom as the "ability to see things as God sees things."

He spoke about his recent visit to Haiti to see the work of Catholic Relief Services of which Bishop Rhoades serves on their board. "I saw the poverty and was thinking of how God must see and look upon the suffering of so many people," Bishop Rhoades noted.

He asked the students how they see a person who is suffering, migrants, the poor, violence, political choices, events in school, abortion.

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades ate lunch with a newly formed group at the school, the Student Leadership Board — six juniors and six seniors — who work with the student council, National Honor Society, the athletic department and other leaders to make the school better. Service is a priority and the team members are helping to spearhead Sodalitas, which will devote a day of service to the community in April. Their plans are to sponsor a car wash, assist with a community garden, help at the soup kitchen, help at a nature preserve, build picnic tables and campaign to prevent teen suicide.

Bishop Rhoades also encouraged participation in the CRS Rice Bowl during Lent and to examine the work of CRS in countries such as Haiti by visiting the website www.crs.org. Students then coaxed Bishop Luers Principal Tiffany Albertson for a dress-down day last Friday that would provide funds for CRS Rice Bowl.

After lunch and on the way to Meg Hanlon's Catholic Social Teaching Class, the bishop made a quick stop in the freshman Spanish classroom and spoke to the students in Spanish.

While visiting the class of Meg Hanlon, a former college classmate of Bishop Rhoades, he learned about the seniors' research projects — stewardship and the environment, embryonic and adult stem-cell research, pornography, in vitro fertilization.

He then met with all of the Bishop Luers' seniors in the gymnasium for a question-answer session, before meeting with the theology staff and Principal Albertson.



Photos by Kay Cozad

Bishop Luers seniors pose with their new "Pocket Gospels and Psalms" books gifted them after Mass on Jan. 28, by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during his pastoral visit there. From left are Theresa DeLira, Dena Short, Carolina Garcia, Haleigh DeVido, Jasmine Witt and Kennedy Ball.



At left, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades poses after Mass on Jan. 28, with the six students who received first Communion, Confirmation, or came fully into the Church. Shown from left are Jorge Barron, Chris Carranza, Alley Broom, Bishop Rhoades, Hannah Snyder, Ivan Gomez and Simon Derloshon. Father Ben Muhlenkamp stands behind.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades lunches with the newly formed Student Leadership Board at Bishop Luers during his pastoral visit on Jan. 28. The group works with other groups and leaders to make the school a better place.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades stands with Bishop Luers Principal Tiffany Albertson, left, and Superintendent of Catholic Schools Marsha Jordan, right, following the Mass that began his pastoral visit to Bishop Luers.



Bishop Luers seniors listen to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a question-and-answer session in the Bishop Luers gymnasium during his pastoral visit on Jan. 28. Topics ranged from politics to Catholic Relief Services programs in Haiti.