

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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CNS photo/Tony Gentile, Reuters

Pope Francis waves after he celebrated a Mass for the Youth Jubilee April 24 in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican.

Faith strengthened at youth celebration in Rome

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Sharing and celebrating the joy of faith with thousands of Catholic teenagers from around the globe was a rare moment that not many people are able to experience, a U.S. teen said.

"It was a different atmosphere than what I'm used to, but it's good because it shows that the beauty of the Catholic Church is there," Emily Sullivan told Catholic News Service April 25.

Emily, her brother Ryan and parents Matt and Susan, came from North Carolina to participate in the Year of Mercy celebration for young teens April 23-24 in Rome.

Both siblings, who are preparing to receive the

sacrament of confirmation, said that despite the language barrier, they were able to join in singing and praying during the April 23 youth rally at Rome's Olympic Stadium.

"It was awesome; the energy was insane," Emily said. "The people knew all the lyrics and they were jamming out. So we came up with a couple of words that we could sing along. It was really cool to be in that atmosphere."

To see so many Catholic teens in one place was "definitely encouraging," she added.

For Ryan, attending the April 24 Mass in St. Peter's Square was the highlight of his pilgrimage. "It was great seeing the pope," and "meeting other

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Visit the Sick

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www.myyearofmercy.org

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Wuerl: Politically correct 'choice' rhetoric hides ugly truth of abortion

BY MARK ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — One day after Planned Parenthood's president, Cecile Richards, spoke at Georgetown University, Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl celebrated a University Mass for Life for college students at a nearby Catholic church, encouraging them to stand up for God's gift of human life.

A Georgetown student group's invitation to Richards, the head of the nation's largest abortion provider, to speak April 20 at the country's oldest Catholic university drew nationwide criticism and was countered by a week of pro-life activities at the school.

The events included panel discussions on the dignity of life and the importance of outreach to women facing crisis pregnancies, and a talk by Abby Johnson, the former director of a Planned Parenthood clinic who is now pro-life and speaks out about the reality of that agency's abortion practices.

In his homily at the April 21 Mass at Epiphany Catholic Church, Cardinal Wuerl warned about a powerful politically correct movement and environment "all around us. ... It says to set aside such things as the value of human life and substitute the politically correct position that actually you should be free to choose to kill the unborn child. But the word of God says to us, 'Don't conform yourself to this age.'"

The congregation of nearly 150 people included students from local universities, along with faculty members, campus ministry staff, and young adults from the Washington area. Cardinal Wuerl was joined by five concelebrating priests who serve in campus ministry.

A group of about two dozen Georgetown University students, along with faculty and staff members, met at their school's gates and walked several blocks to the Mass. At the church, the students joining them came from schools including George Washington University, The Catholic University of America, the University of Maryland, Howard University and American University.

The congregation was greeted by Father Adam Park, the pastor of Epiphany Parish, who also is the chaplain at George Washington University's Newman Catholic Student Center. "Today in our culture when our Catholic faith is not always respected, we want to reaffirm our Catholic identity and witness to the Gospel value of life," Father Park said.

While not specifically mentioning Georgetown University or the Richards controversy in his homily, Cardinal Wuerl did address several related underlying issues.

The day before Richards was greeted by a standing ovation by Georgetown students at her speech on campus. In her opening remarks, she expressed hope that Hoyas for Choice, an unofficial student group on campus that advocates for keeping abortion legal



CNS photo/Jaclyn Lippelmann, Catholic Standard

Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington gives Communion to a young man during the April 21 University Mass for Life at Epiphany Catholic Church in Washington.

would someday be recognized as "an official campus group" there, adding, "a girl can dream."

In his homily, Cardinal Wuerl encouraged students not to be "deceived by the politically correct rhetoric that uses words to hide true meaning. Those in favor of killing the unborn child often speak of 'the product of conception' as opposed to the child in the womb. They speak about 'facilitating the conclusion of the life cycle' instead of 'assisting a suicide.' So it is with that buzz word 'choice.' When you use the word 'choice,' you have to complete the sentence. What is it you choose?"

He noted that students aren't free to smoke in the university cafeteria or park wherever they want without consequences. "Choice only makes sense when you complete the sentence," Cardinal Wuerl said. "The word 'choice' is a smokescreen behind which those killing unborn children take refuge. Every chance you get, blow that smoke away, so everyone knows what it is we're talking about."

In her Georgetown address, Richards — whose Planned Parenthood organization provided 327,653 abortions in the United States in fiscal year 2014 — compared the struggle for "reproductive rights" to the nation's history of fighting for civil rights.

Cardinal Wuerl in his homily said, "Do not ever be convinced by the rhetoric of liberation that killing unborn, innocent children is in any way similar to the great social justice struggles that our nation has faced — many times enlightened by the Church's social teaching. Whether it was the fight against slavery, racial discrimination or unjust working conditions, the Church's proclamation of the dignity of all human life was at the center of the struggle."

Then the cardinal added, "Do not let anyone reduce for you the greatness of the

American dream to the level of free contraceptives. We're worth so much more. The dream is so much bigger."

Cardinal Wuerl noted that the students had joined together at that night's Mass "because we share a very different view of life, one that recognizes it truly as a gift from God. Life is something we are meant to embrace and cherish, to live and love."

The cardinal noted how Pope Francis through his words and actions has demonstrated that all human life has God-given dignity and should be respected.

The cardinal closed his homily by sharing a story of how some years ago he visited a mission in South America, and held a 2-day-old baby whose mother had left him with the sisters because she could not care for him. He noted how the newborn held tightly to his finger, seeming to offer a message to him that he took to heart and shared with the college students: "My brothers and sisters, what you are doing this evening is responding to the call of many, many unborn children. Please be there for me. Please do not let me go. Please speak up for me."

Students served as lectors and altar servers at the Mass, and the intentions offered included prayers for an end to war, terrorism, abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research and child abuse. They also prayed that students, faculty and staff at campuses would be given strength "to proclaim the dignity of life in words and deeds."

Three Georgetown students who had been among the group that had walked to the Mass from their campus said afterward that the liturgy offered an inspiring ending to a challenging week at their university.

Anne Ewing, a Georgetown senior from Louisville, Kentucky, who is a pre-med student majoring in the biology of global health, said, "The thing that stuck out to me most was that life is a gift," and the importance of "remembering that in your own life every day, it's a gift you should cherish." She plans on studying to become an obstetrician.

Mark Zimmermann is editor of the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington.

New nuncio to U.S. says he's ready to listen and learn

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the new nuncio to the United States, said he is ready to learn about the Catholic Church in the country and will try his best to be Pope Francis' emissary, particularly in promoting a church that is close to those who suffer.

The archbishop, who had a private meeting at the Vatican with Pope Francis April 21, gave interviews the next day to the English and the Italian programs of Vatican Radio.

The 70-year-old French native has been in the Vatican diplomatic corps for almost 40 years and said a nuncio's job is to help the pope fulfill his ministry of building up the local churches, respecting their diversity, while keeping them united with the universal church.

"The difficulty or the challenge," he said, is "to listen, to be careful about what's going on, to understand, to exercise dialogue — I think that's very important — to discover the beauty, the richness of the culture of the people, the way the people live (and) to help the



CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano
Pope Francis poses with Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the new apostolic nuncio to the United States, during an April 21 meeting at the Vatican.

inculturation of the Gospel in a particular culture."

At the same time, he said, a nuncio's mission is "to help the pope understand — the pope and those that work with him — to understand what's going on."

"The richness of the Catholic Church," Archbishop Pierre said, comes from that combination of

valuing peoples and cultures and their local expressions of faith while being united universally.

The archbishop told Vatican Radio's English program, "I'm quite excited — sometimes fearful," about leaving Mexico and going to the United States. He said his reaction was "oh" when the pope told him of his new assignment "because it's such a big country, such a big history, but you know I'm trustful in God and very, very grateful for this mission which is given to me."

"I know I have to learn in the same way that when I arrived in Mexico nine years ago I had to learn a lot and I'm still learning, so I'm sure that during this year the American people — particularly the bishops, the priests, the religious, the laypeople — will be my teachers," he said. "I'm ready to learn."

The first mission the pope gives his nuncios, and the whole church, obviously is to proclaim the Gospel, he said. Next, there is "the way the pope wants us and the church to be close to people, especially those who suffer, the poor. This is also what I've perceived in what he has told me and I will try my best to be a faithful emissary of the pope."

Young nun, postulants among hundreds of Ecuador earthquake victims

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Six members of the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother, including a young nun from Northern Ireland, are among the dead in the strongest earthquake to strike Ecuador since 1979.

Sister Clare Theresa Crockett, 33, of Londonderry, died while leading children to safety in a school at Playa Prieta, where she was teaching the youngsters to play the guitar, according to the Spain-based order.

Her body was found under rubble April 18, about 36 hours after the magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck the Pacific Coast region of the country.

Five Ecuadorean postulants also died in the collapse. The order identified them by their first names: Jazmina, Maria Augusta, Maira, Valeria and Catalina.

The six women were among at least 400 people who died in the massive earthquake that struck communities in the northern part of the country. Authorities reported that nearly 3,000 people were injured and that an unknown number of buildings were destroyed or damaged.

Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' relief and development agency, was partnering with local relief organizations to determine how best to respond in the communities most affected by the temblor. Water, food and emergency shelter are the big-



CNS photo/Paul Ochoa, Reuters
People search for victims in the rubble of a destroyed building in Manta, Ecuador, April 16 after an 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck the region. At least 400 people died, nearly were 3,000 injured and thousands were left homeless.

gest needs, the agency said on its website.

"Some of the poorest provinces are located near the coast and we expect thousands of people to need immediate help," Tom Hollywood, CRS's representative for South America said in a statement.

Some of the hardest-hit communities in the earthquake zone, including in Esmeraldas and Manabi provinces, were inundated with rain and flooding in the days before the disaster, making

them prone to potential landslides and complicating the relief effort, the agency said.

"It's been really difficult to get in touch with our local partners," Hollywood said, explaining that communications networks are down or working intermittently. "Last night, even here in Quito, the whole network collapsed."

Pope Francis sent words of condolence to Ecuador and Japan after praying the "Regina Coeli" with pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square April 17.



Public Schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Sunday, May 1, 12:15 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Pius X Church, Granger
- Monday, May 2 — Meeting of Indiana Bishops and Major Superiors of Religious, Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis
- Tuesday, May 3, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Mary of the Assumption Church, Avilla
- Wednesday, May 4, 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of Priest Retirement Board, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, May 4, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Joseph Church, Hessen Cassel
- Thursday, May 5, 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Presbyteral Council, Sacred Heart Rectory, Warsaw
- Thursday, May 5, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 7, 9:30 a.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for University of Saint Francis, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 7, 5:30 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Thomas the Apostle Church, Elkhart

Help earthquake survivors in Ecuador

On April 16, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake hit Ecuador. One of the most powerful in Latin America over the last two decades, it is known to have killed over 400 people with the toll still rising.

Hundreds more have been injured, and there are reports of widespread damage to buildings, roads and other infrastructure. Communications are down or intermittent, further complicating damage assessment and need.

Given the widespread impact, Catholic Relief Services is coordinating with other humanitarian organizations and partners to determine priorities.

Water, food and emergency shelter will be the biggest needs in the coming days.

The people of Ecuador urgently need your help.

Donate by phone:

Call 877-435-7277 from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Eastern Time

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Catholic Relief Services

P.O. Box 17090

Baltimore, MD 21297-0303

Indiana's Primary is on May 3, and election years are full of challenging questions and situations. Thankfully, the Church provides guidance for our duty in politics and civic participation, through documents like "Forming Faithful Citizenship." Contact Audrey Davis in the Office of Evangelization 260-969-9146, adavis@diocesefwsb.org) about your parish's efforts.

Other useful information and resources can be found online at www.diocesefwsb.org/forming-faithful-citizenship.

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Correction:

Catholic faithful are welcome to attend ordinations to the priesthood, diaconate

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be celebrating the priestly ordination of three men this year: Deacon Bob Garrow, Deacon David Violi and Deacon Craig Borchard. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will be presiding over the Mass for the Ordination to the Priesthood on June 4, at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral.

Bishop Rhoades will also preside over the Mass for the Ordination to the Diaconate on May 21, at 11 a.m. at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. This year, both events will be open to the public and all are invited to attend.

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Groups ask Congress to pass conscience protection for health care workers

WASHINGTON (CNS) — For decades, Congress and U.S. presidents — both Republican and Democrat — have approved federal laws “protecting conscientious objection to abortion,” but it is increasingly clear current laws “offer far less protection in practice than in theory,” said a group of faith-based, health care and pro-life organizations.

A group of 26 organizations made the comments in a joint April 19 letter to members of the House of Representatives urging them to pass the Conscience Protection Act of 2016, or H.R. 4828.

“Even many ‘pro-choice’ Americans realize that the logic of their position requires them to respect a choice not to be involved in abortion,” the group said.

“We represent millions of Americans and tens of thousands of health care professionals with a profound concern about abortion, and particularly about the conscience rights of health care professionals and facilities,” it added.

The letter pointed to several loopholes in current law that it said would be addressed by the Conscience Protection Act, introduced March 22 by Reps. John

Fleming, R-Louisiana, and Vicky Hartzler, R-Missouri. Fleming is a medical doctor.

One example of such a loophole is taking place in California, it said. In 2014, the state began demanding that all health plans under the jurisdiction of the state’s Department of Managed Health Care — “even those purchased by churches and other religious organizations” — cover elective abortions for any reason, “including late-term abortions and those performed for reasons of ‘sex selection.’”

The state allows no exemption of any kind, the letter said, noting that such a policy “flagrantly violates” the Weldon Amendment, a federal law enacted in 2005 to protect the conscience rights of institutions and individuals.

The California Catholic Conference filed a complaint about the policy in September 2014 with the Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. To date, that office has not acted on the complaint, the letter said.

H.R. 4828 “is very similar to the abortion nondiscrimination provision that for the last three years has been part of the House’s Labor/HHS appropria-

tions bills,” the letter said. “It takes the core policy of Weldon — protecting those who decline to perform, pay for, refer for, or provide coverage for abortion — and writes it into permanent law. It clarifies the protections of Weldon, and adds a private right of action to enforce this law and other long-standing conscience laws on abortion.”

Among the signers of the letter are the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; the Christian Medical Association and Catholic Medical Association; the National Council of Catholic Women; the March for Life Education and Defense Fund; the National Association of Evangelicals; the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission; the Knights of Columbus; National Right to Life; and several associations of physicians and nurses.

The group’s letter follows a March 31 letter to House members from the chairmen of two U.S. bishops’ committees urging support for H.R. 4828 and noting its “modest scope.”

“While existing federal laws already protect conscientious objection to abortion in theory, this protection has not proved effective in practice,” wrote New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan and Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, who chair, respectively, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities and Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty.



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TEENS

Continued from Page 1

people and seeing the city" was "all good," he told CNS.

"We will make our confirmation in two weeks so it was definitely great to see the history of the church and (meet) other people who are Catholic because where we live, there's not as big of a following," Emily said.

In his homily, Pope Francis told the more than 100,000 teens present that happiness "is not an 'app' that you can download on your phones" and that love leads to true freedom, which is a gift that comes from "being able to choose good."

The pope's message, Emily said, encouraged people "to go back to the church at the end of the day, not your phone."

Their mother Susan told CNS she hopes that attending the jubilee event will give her children a "fuller and richer experience" as they prepare to receive confirmation in two weeks.

"It was really important for me and for them to have this experience," she said. "To be that close (to Pope Francis) as he was celebrating Mass was truly, I hope, a life-changing experience for them that reaffirms their faith."

When it comes to happiness, there's no app for that

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Happiness "is not an 'app' that you can download on your phones nor will the latest update help you become free and great in loving," Pope Francis told thousands of teenagers.

Youth from around the world flocked to Rome for a special Year of Mercy event for teens aged 13-16. The celebrations began April 23 with confessions in St. Peter's Square.

The pope caught many off guard as he made an unannounced visit to the square. After greeting several people, he placed a purple stole over his shoulders and sat down, joining more than 150 priests offering the sacrament of reconciliation.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said the pope "listened to the confessions of 16 boys and girls," spending more than an hour in the square.

Celebrating Mass with the young people April 24, the pope told them true freedom is priceless and comes from making the courageous decision to do good and not from the mediocre belief that happiness can be easily obtained through worldly possessions and fashion.



CNS photo/Tony Gentile, Reuters

A girl looks through binoculars before Pope Francis arrives April 24 to celebrate a Mass for the Youth Jubilee in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican.

A person's happiness "has no price and cannot be bought," the pope told them during the Mass in St. Peter's Square.

Gray clouds looming over St. Peter's Square did little to deter an estimated 100,000 young teens and pilgrims from attending the final Mass of the jubilee celebration.

In his homily, the pope encouraged the youths to carry out the "enormous responsibility" entrusted to the disciples by Jesus in the Sunday Gospel reading: "By this everyone will know

that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Love, he said, is the "only valid 'document' identifying us as Christians" and the only path to happiness.

True love is free "without being possessive" of people or worldly things, he said. "There is always a temptation to let our affections be tainted by an instinctive desire to take, to have what we find pleasing; our consumerist culture reinforces this tendency. Yet when we hold on too tightly to something, it fades,

it dies and then we feel confused, empty inside," he said.

The freedom that comes from love, he continued, does not come from "doing whatever you want," which only makes people "self-centered and aloof," but is a gift that comes from "being able to choose good."

"Be skeptical about people who want to make you believe that you are only important if you act tough like the heroes in films or if you wear the latest fashions. Your happiness has no price; it cannot be bought," the pope stressed.

The first day of the celebration ended late April 23 with music and testimonies at Rome's Olympic Stadium for an estimated 70,000 youth. In a video message played at the rally, Pope Francis compared the absence of Jesus in one's life to being somewhere without a cellphone signal so it is impossible to connect with each other.

"Just remember that if Jesus is not in your life, it is as though there was no signal," he said. "Let's always place ourselves where we have the signal: the family, the parish, the school, because in this world we will always have something to say that is good and true."

Dive into world's problems with courage, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY — Dive into the world's problems with courage and help people turn their lives of desolation into abundance and hope, Pope Francis said.

"You must take life as it comes. It's like being the goalie in soccer — grab the ball wherever they kick it," he told people gathered in a Rome park for an Earth Day event.

"We must not be afraid of life, afraid of conflict," he said April 24, because it is only by confronting challenges head-on and together that they can be solved.

Making a surprise late afternoon visit to Rome's Villa Borghese park, the pope spoke to more than 3,000 people attending a four-day event sponsored by the Focolare Movement and Earth Day Italy.

In conjunction with the celebration of Earth Day April 22, the Focolare Movement tried to create a "village" in the park in the center of Rome to promote ways for people to live together in friendship and solidarity and with respect for the environment.

After listening to some of the speakers talk about their experiences helping others, Pope Francis said their work was a "miracle" in which they helped transform "deserts into forests."

The arid, lifeless world of the desert can be found "in all of our hearts," in cities, on the margins of society and even in exclusive,

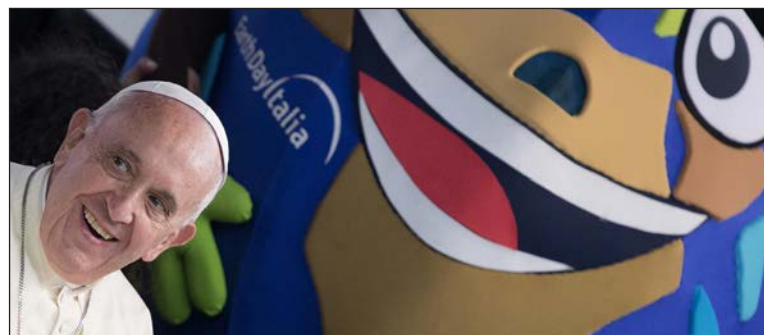
gated communities — "it's terrible, the desert is there, too," he said.

"But we must not be afraid to go into the desert in order to transform it into a forest," bringing about abundant life, even if it is a bit "messy."

"But that's the way life is," he said.

The only way to understand the world's problems — and feel compassion — is to get close to those in need, the pope said.

"It's a risk, but it is also an



CNS/Joe Heller

Pope Francis smiles as he attends an Earth Day celebration April 24 at Villa Borghese Garden in Rome.

opportunity, for me and for the person I draw near to."

Helping others must be "free" without expecting anything in return, he said. The Christian sense of "gratuity" is not to be forgotten "in this world where it seems if you don't pay, you can't live."

Some people will look withdrawn or worried, he said. They are missing "a smile, tenderness" because they lack a kind of friendship or fellowship among people in the community.



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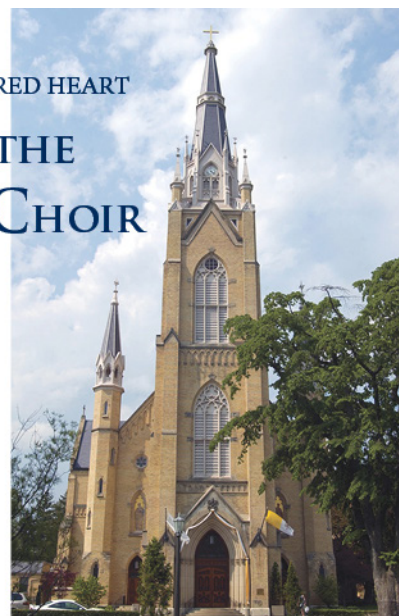
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Visit the Sick



Photos provided by Tess Steffen

The co-producers of the Fort Wayne area televised Mass, Beth Machall-Dwyer and Bob Nicola, finalize paperwork before a live broadcast of the TV Mass. Many volunteers in both South Bend and Fort Wayne assist to provide this ministry to the community every week. Those who are sick or homebound enjoy seeing local pastors and parishioners each week during the 30 minute broadcast.



Volunteer Cathy Bryie focuses her camera on the priest during the half hour TV Mass.

Watch the TV Mass
Fort Wayne area on WFFT- TV,
Channel 55, at 10:30 a.m.
South Bend area on WNDU,
Channel 16, at 10:30 a.m.
Online anytime at
diocesefwsb.org/TV-Mass
For more information contact
the Communications office at
260-744-0012.



Director Nick Stanley operates the control board in the studio at the University of Saint Francis during a live televised Mass.

Sodalitas program serves local community



Photo provided by Bishop Luers High School

Bishop Luers High School students in Fort Wayne offered a day of service to the community through the Sodalitas program on Thursday, April 14. Sodalitas is a program created for students, by students, with its main mission to serve, lead, grow and develop an appreciation for helping others. Sodalitas is a fellowship of students and adults who are helping fulfill a part of the Bishop Luers mission of serving each other and the community through the development, planning and implementation of service projects. Students and staff from Bishop Luers High School participated in service projects on April 14 at more than 22 different locations throughout the community. Bishop Luers students Alex Steffen and Joseph Klinger were with a group of 25 students who played bingo with residents at Saint Anne Communities in Fort Wayne.

Year of Mercy day 145

“May every man and woman who comes to confession find a father who welcomes them and a Father who forgives them.”
— Pope Francis

More photos showing works of mercy can be found at MyYearofMercy.org

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Eagle Scout awarded

GRANGER — Gregory Bycraft, 16, of Boy Scout Troop 572, Granger, was honored Saturday, April 16, at Knollwood Country Club.



GREGORY BYCRAFT

Bycraft earned the Eagle Scout Award while overcoming the challenges of an Asperger's Syndrome diagnosis, an Autism Spectrum disorder.

To achieve Scouting's highest honor Bycraft earned 50 merit badges — 29 more than required. Bycraft served in a variety of leadership positions in his troop and led a service project at Love Creek County Park in Berrien Center, Michigan, with a team of 26 scouts and adults. He built and installed eight bat nesting boxes which will help local bat populations recover from losses due to white nose syndrome.

Additional achievements include National Youth Leadership Training, the World Conservation Award, the Catholic Committee on Scouting Ad Altari Dei Award and membership in the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor and service society.

Bycraft is a sophomore at Saint Joseph High School, and has been a member of Troop 572 for 5 years. Troop 572 is chartered by the Granger Lions Club, and meets at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Faith and Canvas

FORTWAYNE — The Confraternity of Penitents will offer a Faith and Canvas class Friday, May 13, 6:30 to 9 p.m. at 1702 Lombard St. The class will be held monthly on the 2nd Friday of the month. Each class is \$45 and includes all materials, wine, light snacks and instruction by local artist Tim Luncsford. No previous painting experience necessary.

Each class includes a brief Scripture reflection on the theme of that month's painting. The theme for May is a stylized chalice.

Class size limited to 10. Advance registration required by calling Sandy Seyfert at 260-433-1236. All proceeds benefit the Confraternity of Penitents Mary's Glen Development Fund.

Rock and country music concert raises funds for St. Joseph School

GARRETT — Todd Herendeen will perform a benefit tribute to the greats of rock and country music in a concert for the St. Joseph School's Carpenters With Wings memorial tuition assistance fund Sunday, May 1, at St. Joseph School, 301 W. Houston St. Doors open at 4 p.m., show starts at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for children 5-17 and children under 5 are free.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

American Heritage Girls host retreat



Sixty-five girls came together for a St. Vincent de Paul Parish American Heritage Girls retreat. The half-day retreat explored the role of a "Daughter of the King" through the Stations of the Cross, bible study, etiquette, songs, skits, snacks and service — making over 25 first Communion veils for the Fort Wayne parishes of St. Joseph, Most Precious Blood, St. Patrick and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Father Dan Scheidt spoke about what every princess wants: a castle. He used beautiful imagery regarding how the most exquisite material in the land was not found in a ball gown but on the chapel's altar in the heart of the castle. The retreat was open to other parishes and sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Parish American Heritage Girls troop. A third of the troop is Protestant and many attended the retreat and Mass that ended the day. For more information visit www.americanheritagegirls.org.

Family tickets are \$40 and all tickets are \$5 more at the door. Admission includes a meal of Timmy's barbecue sandwich and beverage. Door prizes awarded at intermission. Call the school at 260-357-5137 for tickets or information.

Respect Life dinner draws from all denominations

SOUTH BEND — The St. Joseph County Right to Life held the ninth annual Respect Life Prayer Dinner at the Kroc Center on Tuesday, April 12. The dinner drew a crowd of nearly 240 Catholics and Protestants from the pro-life community.

Attendees were led in prayer by religious leaders of all denominations, including Father Bill Meininger of St. Pius X Parish. During the dinner, music was provided by Joe Higginbotham and Ann Fuchs of St. Bavo Parish and members of the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir.

Mike Spencer, Midwest Regional Director of the Life Training Institute, delivered a keynote address calling upon priests, pastors and congregations to address the evil of abortion and bring it out into the light within

their church communities. St. Joseph County Right to Life also acknowledged the value of young voices speaking out in support of life. Awards for the sixth annual Youth Essay Contest were presented to the following middle and high school students: Joseph Garcia, seventh grade, home school; Catherine Nolan, eighth grade, Corpus Christi; Thomas Garcia, ninth grade, home school; and Emma Barrett, ninth grade, Trinity School at Greenlawn; who was asked to read her essay at the dinner. Winning essays can be read at www.prolifemichiana.org.

Angela Athletic and Wellness Complex breaks ground

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College recently broke ground for the new Angela Athletic and Wellness Complex. When complete in the fall of 2017, the complex will be more than twice the size of the current Angela facility. The project will add 61,000 square feet to the floor plan, creating a total of 105,000 square feet to support the needs of students and College's eight Division III sports. Construction is scheduled to start in mid-May, some time after Commencement.

The groundbreaking marks the successful conclusion of a \$25 million fundraising effort to renovate and expand Angela and the athletic fields into a state of the art complex.

University of Saint Francis to offer summer institute on beauty

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will offer a summer institute for high school students entitled Beauty Will Save the World, June 12-17. The institute seeks to broaden and enrich the theological understanding of high school students not yet graduated through the various ways beauty reveals God in our world.

During the summer institute the students will learn about and explore different methods of prayer, including the Liturgy of the Hours, the Jesus Prayer, Lectio Divina and Sacred Meditation. There will be sessions with an iconographer and they will be exploring and volunteering in organizations that serve the poor and suffering. Students will learn about the beauty of the body and human sexuality as God intended. Religious men and women and laypersons will talk about their various vocations.

The fee for attending is \$360 per student and includes room and board, supplies, activities and transportation. Scholarships are available.

More information, registration and scholarship applications are available at www.philosophy.sf.edu/summer-institute.

Veggie Tales designed for Construction



Corine Erlandson

Mackenzie Lee, Talia Keiffer, and Mrs. Kristin Spoltman work on their canned foods formations.

Veggie Tales designed for Construction

FORT WAYNE — On April 15, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School students and teachers gathered at Glenbrook Square Mall to build their Canstruction entry. Canstruction is an annual competition among local schools that benefits Community Harvest Food Bank. The entries are formations made entirely of canned foods and other foods. This year's theme for the canned food entries was cartoons.

The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School entry was titled "The Veggie Tales of St. Elizabeth"

and included Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber, Laura Carrot, Archibald Asparagus and Mr. Lunt the Gourd.

A group of seventh graders helped to design and build the canned foods formations, which teaches STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) concepts, according to teacher-advisor Jodi Jump. Other teacher-advisors included Deb Brough, Michelle Voigt and Kristin Spoltman. The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School seventh graders taking part were Sarah Busch, Catherine Bougher, Lucy Bryan, Justin Stuczynski, Jacob Schroeder, Talia Keiffer, Mackenzie Lee, Andrea Moloci, Olivia Powers and Christopher Svitek.

Sister Mary Bosco: Responding to God's call

BY JENNIFER MILLER

While in second grade, preparing for her first Holy Communion, Sister Mary Bosco remembers first thinking of becoming a religious sister. "We were learning of how He gave His all for us. And I thought, how can I respond? By giving my all, I thought." Three and a half years ago, she did just that asking to join the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka.

Exuding joy, humility and both a wisdom of a deep active older prayer life and the youthful smile of a young spirit, Sister Mary Bosco is in the second year of her novitiate, scheduled to give her first temporary vows this August 2016, and final vows five and a half years from now. The Sisters have an eight-year program, which allows the young women to discern, live and grow into their final vocational choice. Sister Mary Bosco, originally from Ossian, Indiana, and St. Therese Little Flower parish, finds herself looking upon these days with wonder. One of her current favorite Bible passages speaks of this wonder, from the Old Testament with Moses in liberating God's people from captivity.

"I will smite Egypt with all

of my wonders.' I feel like that is what God has done with my life; there are so many wonders! Jesus in the Eucharistic, in the Incarnation, through creation, in a blade of grass, how good he has been to my family, my spiritual life... The wonder of God smites my pride, smites all my vices, still smiting. We are working on it. Not like an angry God, ferocious but with His wonders and His love... I think Moses was surprised too. And there is a real wonder that in the grand salvation history, in the midst of the cool natural wonders, is that Jesus asks Moses, and asks us, to be with Him in that redemption too, comes with us so personally and asks us to be His partner."

God has surprised Sister Mary Bosco too. She found God using all things to call her to Himself, even the book, "The Adventures of Sherlock Homes" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. "I read about this person whose hope was in God... and it was an annunciation moment for me. I asked myself, "What am I living for?" And found that God was offering me greater intimacy and love."

Even in the convent, Sister Mary Bosco continues to be surprised by God. The beauty of community is even greater than she realized before. "The support of the sisters is wonderful. I



SISTER MARY BOSCO

had a small taste of community in my family growing up and now an even wider family to grow into." She shares with the community her joy of the Lord, listening skills and enjoyment of

acting and being carefree. The older sisters fondly remember how Sister Mary Bosco brought a penguin costume with her for one of their plays and wore it well, also waddling around dur-

ing a high school retreat.

For men and women considering a religious life, Sister Mary Bosco reminds them that it is "O.K. to ask questions of the faith... Search for the truth." She also emphasized the importance and need for silence in everyone's day, to listen and converse with God. Sister Mary Bosco has also found friends in the saints that have helped her spiritual life, most recently St. John Bosco (thus her given, religious name) and St. John Henry Newman, for his humor, simplicity and brilliance.

She recommends that the Church and the faithful help those discerning vocations by continuing to pray for vocations and witness actively to the joy of Christ. Also, teachers who actually witness to what they taught, at her high school, Bishop Luers, had a particular influence. Her youth group and parish diocesan priests all were key players in knowing others similar to her. Also, she suggests that a parish could have a vocations committee, which would pray and actively sponsor events and guests. As for a particular prayer request, she loves her vocational choice and asks for prayers for the decision of the religious freedom case of the Little Sisters of the Poor, which affects her community as well.

OUR SEMINARIANS HAVE OFFERED THEIR LIVES TO SERVE THE CHURCH

Help fund education of the seminarians of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend by giving generously to the Pentecost Collection for the Education of Seminarians on May 14 and 15.

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Following in the footsteps of Father Tom O'Connor

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — In this Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, the Ave Maria House exemplifies a corporal work of mercy, the directive to shelter the homeless. Dubbed the hospitality center, the Ave Maria House on Madison Avenue near St. Mary Mother of God Church in downtown Fort Wayne is a facility where those who are homeless and often in need of companionship may find shelter and comfort.

With the vision of St. Mary's parishioner Dottie Carpenter and the encouragement of its pastor, the late Father Tom O'Connor, the property was purchased in 2007 by the church under the auspices of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Though the house was dilapidated, its structure was sound, the windows were good and the basement was dry, Carpenter says. And with its proximity to the church and its popular soup kitchen, it seemed the ideal location for the ministry to the homeless she envisioned.

After the project was approved by St. Mary's Parish Council, Carpenter got to work by securing approval from the city planning commission, asking for volunteers, calling in favors and soliciting donations for the



Dottie Carpenter

facility. The house was cleaned, necessary repairs were made and everything that was needed "appeared out of nowhere," she says. The late Bishop John M. D'Arcy blessed the home and by June of 2008 Ave Maria House was "ready to go" and has been in operation ever since.

The hospitality center is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is a beehive of activity with 20 to 40 people dropping in daily for conversation and companionship. Coffee and snacks are always available. Guests may use the phone, the laundry facilities and the shower and obtain personal hygiene



Francie Hogan

Ave Maria House is located at 432 Madison St. and is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday in Fort Wayne.

products. Internet access allows on-line job searches and applications, and the home's address may be used to receive mail. Clean, used clothing is often available for those who need it.

But mainly, Ave Maria House provides a home-like shelter where everyone feels safe, everyone is accepted, no one is judged and no questions are asked. They can "leave the street behind," says Carpenter.

As the home's director, she is there on a daily basis to oversee

activities and handle any issues that may arise. "I have the reputation of being hard-nosed," says the feisty, red-haired woman.

"Don't get Dottie mad," is the mantra shared by the facility's clients. But she treats everyone with respect and it is repaid to her in spades. "She has a good heart," declared one client.


Ave Maria House draws assistance from groups like IPFW students, who are slated to give the house a general cleaning as part of their Big Event, a community

service project. Scout groups bring baked goods and school groups collect needed items. Women's groups and church groups of all denominations make donations. Some monies come in from the church's annual soup kitchen fundraiser and funding is occasionally granted by the St. Mary's Heritage Fund. In addition, the 150 Club has 95 members who pledge \$10 per month to help defray expenses. "People are very generous," says Carpenter.

There is no paid staff and Carpenter is a volunteer along with the 20-25 like-minded individuals who share her ministry. Additional help is always welcome and anyone who is interested may call her at 260-705-1690 with inquiries. She will interview prospective volunteers to be sure they share her vision. "I want to know their feelings about the situation," she says. Many of her clients have made poor life decisions, had their share of bad breaks and are down on their luck.

They're homeless and destitute, "but they're still our brothers and sisters," she declares.

In the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the corporal works of mercy give us a guide for how we should treat others, and Dottie Carpenter fully understands and prayerfully carries out Christ's message.



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Seniors among steadfast group of Vincentians

SOUTH BEND — The vocation of the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is to follow Christ through service to those in need. Members, called Vincentians, show their commitment through person-to-person contact with the poor, striving to seek out and find those in need and forgotten, the victims of exclusion or adversity. As such the "Home Visit" is the cornerstone of the work of the Society in the Diocese.

When Vincentians make Home Visits, they bring food and personal items to meet the immediate needs of the person struggling with poverty, but also

the hope that they are not alone in their struggles. Vincentians make home visits in groups of at least two and offer to pray with and for each and every person they visit.

In 2015, Vincentians from the 21 parish Vincentian Conferences in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties made 5,491 unique home visits, visiting 18,512 people in their homes. Home Visits are made 7 days a week, 365 days a year. For more information regarding membership in the St. Vincent de Paul Society, please contact your local parish or www.svdpsb.org.



Photos provided by St. Vincent de Paul Society

Vincentians prepare to make several home visits to a Mishawaka Apartment Complex.



A Vincentian delivers personal items and food to a family living in South Bend.

Accepting what God has chosen for us

I've explained to God that He might want to rethink this free-will business. Yes, my generation can handle it, but those young people may not be able to handle it.

"It seems to me," I've told Him, "it's just too much responsibility and freedom for them." Apparently God disagrees.

I suppose every aging generation feels that way at some point. "Kids today!" And the older one gets, the broader the definition of the word "kids" becomes. When my mother was in her 90s, she still referred to my four siblings and me as "her kids." At the time of our mom's death, the "young one" was 57.

In those later years, Mom and I talked a little bit about God's will. This was after my wife, Monica, had died and Mom had been a widow for 14 years. I would jokingly say, "God's stupid will," and she would smile a little smile and answer, "Well, I wouldn't use that word."

She was joking right back, appearing to say she wouldn't use it, but she didn't completely

disagree with my statement. We both knew God's will was best for us. We both knew that sometimes we didn't understand it or like it. But because we have free will, we could choose to accept it. We could choose to take the time and make the effort to figure out His will for us. We had both been through such a huge and horrible change in our lives.

Truth be told, a lifetime of free will means a lifetime of figuring out and choosing.

In the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, found in No. 1730: "God created man a rational being, conferring on him the dignity of a person who can initiate and control his own actions. God willed that man should be left in the hand of his own counsel, so that he might of his own accord seek his Creator and freely attain his full and blessed perfection by cleaving to him."

It continues: "Man is rational and therefore like God; he is created with free will and is master over his acts. Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and



YOUR FAMILY

BILL DODDS

will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility. By free will one shapes one's own life. Human freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains its perfection when directed toward God, our beatitude."

That's where parenting comes in. A mom's role, or a dad's, includes helping a child grow and mature in truth and goodness whether that "kid" is 6 or 60. From adolescence to being an old-timer, there are so many choices and opportunities to accept and come to grips with our free will. And, as is so often the case, good builds on good. Bad leads to bad.

A parent can also help a son or daughter become better at listening to the promptings — the nudges, if you will — of the Holy Spirit and come to see that "your will be done" is always a good deal. In fact, it is the best deal. It is never "stupid," even when it can seem or feel that way.

That's so because God never lets us know His will for us and then abandons us. Where there's His will, there's always the way, the truth and the life.



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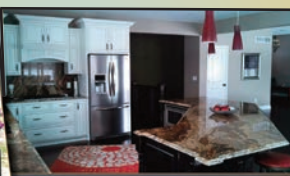
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Questionable use of scare quotes

Southern states have been busy this spring passing laws that follow naturally on the Supreme Court's decision affirming same-sex marriage.

The court concluded its opinion last June by saying that the First Amendment protected religious people who hold traditional views on sex. Since then, a number of state legislatures have passed laws designed to implement that protection. Debates often focus on people in the matrimonial business, like bakers, who might decline to play a role in gay weddings.

The politics of sex roles has moved pretty fast since 2015. Transgender issues are now routinely bundled with claims for gay and lesbian equality. So another bone of contention has been which bathrooms such people can use.

The cultural censors have been on this movement like a chicken on a June bug. When the governor of North Carolina signed one of these laws, Apple, Google, the Bank of America and the National Basketball Association made threatening noises about pulling out their business. PayPal canceled plans to build an operations center in Charlotte. Half a dozen cities (New York, San Francisco, Seattle — you get the idea) prohibited travel to North Carolina by municipal employees.

Mississippi and Georgia felt the same kind of heat. Disney told Georgia it would not film shows there. Coke and Home Depot, both headquartered there, complained. The NFL said it might not hold the Super Bowl in

Atlanta. In the face of this pressure, Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal vetoed that state's bill.

In their accounts of these disputes, the print and electronic media show an increasing tendency to refer to "religious freedom" in scare quotes. Like Chris Farley playing Bennett Brauer on Saturday Night Live or Mike Myers as Dr. Evil in the Austin Powers films.

Quotation marks usually signify that the writer is repeating someone else's words exactly. (Richard Nixon proclaimed, "I'm innocent.") Sometimes we use them to indicate that we are coining a phrase, or stipulating to a particular usage. (He called his flying platform a "hover-board.")

But scare quotes, or sneer quotes as we sometimes call them, signify that a word or phrase is being used in an ironic sense — a shorthand way of saying "so-called." When the *Los Angeles Times* reports that "Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal on Monday vetoed a 'religious liberty' bill," it is telling us that religious liberty is not, properly speaking, concerned with how people live their sex lives.

This notion should strike Catholics as odd. Sex is baked into our sacraments. In Christian marriage, sex is, Pope Francis recently said, "a path of growth in the life of grace." In other circumstances, it is unholy.

Catholics are not alone in attaching religious significance to sexual practice. Jewish law sees sex between husband and wife as a mitzvah. But it frowns on sexual relations



JOHN GARVEY

INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

between men, as does the Quran. Buddhist monks practice celibacy as a form of purification conducive to spiritual enlightenment.

Perhaps the scare quotes are meant to qualify the meaning of the word "liberty" rather than "religion." This is a more disturbing possibility. One who misunderstands what religious people believe will probably be willing to accept correction from them, since they presumably know better. But one who would deny religious people the freedom to act according to their faith disagrees on a matter of principle, not of fact.

I hope I'm not reading too much significance into a couple of punctuation marks. But I fear that we are becoming a society where sexual license is more important than religious freedom. The next step, which the Supreme Court foresaw last year, will be to insist that everyone confess adherence to the new faith or suffer the consequences.

John Garvey is the president of The Catholic University of America in Washington.

Look for opportunities to foster a culture of encounter

My friend, Sister Maura worries about my travels to risky places for Catholic Relief Services. On the other hand, I marvel at how this soft-spoken and diminutive nun of 90 provides medical care in the toughest local neighborhood to which I have never traveled alone.

While CRS abides by strict security protocols, there is no greater "protection" than that offered by our local communities. Beneficiaries and staff know one another as people with names and families, quirks and humor, unspeakable losses and stubborn hope.

Sister Maura, too, knows the residents of her neighborhood: the man whose high school football and work injuries left him in constant pain leading to a succession of drug overdoses, then, the loss of purpose. She has known a biker since he was in grade school and who is trying to help his mother whose abuse he witnessed. They pose no threats to her. They are friends whose lives are difficult.

Getting personal, as in engaging and knowing one another, underlies Pope Francis' urging for a culture of encounter. He speaks against the tendencies to intellectualize, judge, dismiss and demonize the poor, the unemployed, the undocumented migrants, etc. They are categories of social construction with statistics, theories, precedents,



CAROLYN WOO

OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

antecedents and solutions that delineate costs and benefits.

Too often they are devoid of faces, stories, pains and dreams. That need not be the case.

An ad on TV features an insurance company distinguishing itself as not only assigning a number to the policy holder but also knowing the story of the individual and holding her dream in trust. An unlikely source to illustrate a papal teaching, but the message is clear enough: encounter is personal.

An excellent essay by Benjamin Durham lists the four elements that theologian Karl Barth sees as essential for human encounter. The first is face-to-face interaction by which we are both seen and see, eye to eye as equals without class or power distinctions.

The second element requires us to talk and listen or to dialogue, another favorite suggestion of Pope Francis. Shared expressions involve self-disclosure and receptivity of the other.

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Feast days are guideposts



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Sixth Sunday of Easter John 14:23-29

The Acts of the Apostles again provides the first reading for a weekend in the Easter season.

As Christianity grew, it not only expanded beyond its original base in the Holy Land, but it also drew Gentiles in faraway places. This increasingly multicultural nature of the broad Christian community presented problems.

Such a problem is evident in this weekend's reading. A Christian community had formed in Antioch. Most likely, its membership was composed of people from all backgrounds, as Antioch was a large, cosmopolitan city.

Jews would have been among

them. The roots of Christianity theologically, geographically, and historically were in the Jewish culture and in the Holy Land.

The dispute arose in Antioch, at the time one of the major cities of the Roman Empire. (It was located on the Mediterranean Sea north of the Holy Land.)

Many others were former pagans, with no connection to Judaism.

The dispute was about circumcision, the Jewish ritual followed by males to this day. Evidently, in Antioch some Christians were demanding that converts from paganism submit themselves to this ritual.

Neither Antioch's Christian leaders, nor Antioch's individual Christians, resolved the dispute. This is important. It is New Testament revelation. Disputes were not left to the personal thinking of the persons directly involved, namely the converts themselves, but they were submitted to the Apostles back in Jerusalem, for review and resolution.

Replying, the Apostles called the Antioch Christians "broth-

ers." They decided that Gentile converts need not agree to this Hebrew ritual. Very importantly, the Apostles said that this decision was, through them, an act of the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Revelation furnishes the second reading. As all the readings in Revelation, this passage is poetic and symbolic. The city, of course, is heaven, the "heavenly Jerusalem." This heavenly city awaits all who love God. On each of its four sides are three gates. Three was a perfect number. So was twelve.

The gates are open and available to anyone. Salvation is offered to all who truly accept God.

St. John's Gospel gives this weekend its third reading. It is one of the most eloquent passages in the New Testament. Four points are important.

First, Jesus calls upon the disciples to love each other. Second, the mere construction of this passage illustrates the fact that following the Gospel will not be easy.

Third, following Christ will not be impossible. The Holy Spirit

will assist and strengthen.

Finally, for those who truly love God, peace will be with them. It is not necessarily an absence of conflict and turmoil. It is the peace of heart and soul that comes from knowing that right is served, and that God is present.

Reflection

Already the Church is directing us to Pentecost, but it is not dwelling on a mere anniversary. Feast days are not just anniversaries. Instead, they appear in the Church calendar always to inform us and to challenge us.

The Church today tells us that, by accepting Jesus and living by the Gospel, God will be with us in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Then, the Church gives us very practical advice. Being with God in the heavenly Jerusalem is the only true source of peace. Anything else is death.

We reach God's heavenly Jerusalem every day by following Jesus. Our personal judgment in this effort can be risky.

We need God's guidance. If the Scriptures of Eastertime have taught anything, it is that God guides and empowers us through the Church.

If anything was revealed in the New Testament, it was that a visible Church exists, first served by the Apostles.

For this reason, the Church in every generation takes such pains to retain the example and mind of the Apostles.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Rv 21:10-14, 22-23 Jn 14:23-29

Monday: Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps:2-5 Jn 14:6-14

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1 Ps 148:1-2, 11-14 Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18 Ps 47:2-7 Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-10 Jn 16:23b-28

On 'aging gracefully'

It seems odd, even a bit repulsive, when we encounter tales of elderly men running after women who are young enough to be their granddaughters. The wheelchair-bound billionaire oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall was 89 years old when he married the 26 year old Anna Nicole Smith. He had met the Playboy model and reality TV star in a strip club. Anna insisted that she really did love the old man, and wasn't in it for the money.

With age should come wisdom. It's appropriate and fitting for older men to leave behind their former ways, and no longer live and act like college frat boys. It's right to expect growth in self-control as we mature, and to expect a more reflective and sober approach to life. Growing old invariably offers us the opportunity to redirect our focus, and as our body weakens, our mind and soul can be drawn to consider matters we may have previously avoided, like death and that which awaits us beyond death's threshold. Our later years can powerfully provoke us to come to terms with our destiny and with higher truths.

In a recent column, Father Ron Rolheiser, quoting James Hillman, speaks to the graces that aging and infirmity can bring our way:

"Why have God and nature so structured things that as we age and mature and are finally more in control of our lives, our bodies begin to fall apart, and we need a bevy of doctors and medicines to keep functioning? Is there some wisdom in the very DNA of the life process that mandates the breakdown of physical

health in late life? Hillman says, yes. There's an innate wisdom in the process of aging and dying: the best wines have to be aged in cracked old barrels. The breakdown of our bodies deepens, softens, and matures the soul."

I once overheard a hospital nurse chatting with one of her patients and was caught a bit off guard when she nonchalantly declared, with a little twinkle in her eye, "...when we get to be over 40, who doesn't have hemorrhoids?"

The comment, I thought, reflected a healthy, positive attitude toward aging and infirmity. Unavoidably, our bodies decline. Our strength wanes. We get hemorrhoids and warts and cancers and high blood pressure and male pattern balding.

In the midst of it all, we can accept our lot with grace and gratitude. A serene acceptance of our struggles, and even of the specific death that awaits us, is surely a great virtue.

But aging gracefully is not something many of us tend to do well. We resist the idea. We may cling to the fantasy of eternal youth. Some in our society even push the notion that we shouldn't have to put up with the challenges of infirmity, and instead ought to receive help from the medical system so we can beat a hasty retreat to the exit. By pushing for physician-assisted suicide, they encourage us to despise the good of our own lives and to reject the graces that arise from our struggles by choosing to ingest any of a number of doctor-prescribed poisons.

On the other hand, by embracing our particular path into death, and by offering up



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

our trials, we acquire a poise of soul and human maturity that orients us towards our destiny, a destiny in the hereafter that so many seem largely oblivious to. By letting our infirmities existentially speak to us, and coming to realize how true it is that we have no permanent dwelling here, we begin to grapple with that mysterious truth that heaven and home are synonymous.

Aging gracefully also involves recognizing and accepting the shortening of the time ahead of us and the lengthening of the time behind us. Even as we achieve a much-sought independence in our lives, we begin to cycle back towards a renewed dependence on others, on caregivers, family and the community, and we may even come to the realization that our own mind will have to be surrendered if dementia comes our way. All of this can instruct us, if we accept it with grace, in the wisdom of relinquishing our own willfulness once again like little children, and returning to a humble framework of interdependence in our shared destiny with others and with God.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 1, 2016

John 14:23-29

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, Cycle C: a promised companion and advocate. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

MY WORD	MY FATHER	LOVE
COME TO	LOVE ME	YOU HEAR
ADVOCATE	HOLY SPIRIT	NAME
TEACH	REMINDE YOU	PEACE
I LEAVE	I GIVE	THE WORLD
TROUBLED	AFFRAID	AWAY
REJOICE	GREATER	BELIEVE

PROMISE

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

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Stewardship — decisions, big and small

We live in one of the most affluent cultures throughout all of history. No other society has lived as well as we do with all of our modern comforts and conveniences. Even with all that we have, it still seems we still do not have enough. We are inundated, through advertisements, with messages that tell us of all the things that we are missing out on — whether we need them or not.

We are exposed to advertisements many times through our day, even without being aware of it; sometimes they influence us to purchase things that we do not really need. As a result of this treadmill of buy, work, spend, we know the cost of things, not necessarily the value.

We are more concerned about making a living than making a life — which directly reflects God's purpose for our existence. In a lifetime, we throw away far more than we keep.

Many people are trying to keep up with the Joneses, without even knowing why they

want to "keep up." However, we can never really keep up with the Joneses. As soon as we think we have caught them, Mr. Jones gets a pay raise, or takes out another loan, and buys something else and once again, our collection of stuff is less than theirs.

A stewardship way of life is counter to that cultural way of life. A stewardship way of life is a set of values, a spirit that affects our entire life, not based on what we have, or do not have, rather, based on gratitude to God for what we have, and awareness that God expects something of us. A good steward knows that life is beyond living with this constant urge of desire whenever we see what we don't have. We must be careful about what we desire. St. Paul writes, "For the love of money is a source of all kinds of evil. Some have been so eager to have it that they have wandered away from the faith and have broken their hearts with many sorrows." (1Tim. 6:9)

It is not that getting rich is necessarily wrong, in fact it is

a beautiful thing to see God's blessings upon a person who is a good steward with God's gifts and supports Jesus' mission. Scriptures are filled with reminders that we are responsible to care for those in need.

Instead of focusing on being rich in the eyes of the world, we focus on being rich in the eyes of God. When we are faithful stewards, grateful for all that we have, Christ-centered in our thoughts and attitudes, our actions are then motivated by a pure heart to please Him.

Yet, there are consequences to living outside of God's will. James 5:5 states, "Your life here on earth has been full of luxury and pleasure. You have made yourselves fat for the day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered innocent people, and they do not resist you." Sound familiar? Unfortunately, in our society, some call "bad," "good," and "good," "bad."

This is contradictory to God's intent for us, expressed through Jesus' teachings. Jesus



A WAY OF LIFE

HARRY VERHILEY

said many times that He came to do God's will, that He must be about the Father's work. Should we also base our lives on pleasing the Father? Jesus said He is the Truth. Truth is not a philosophy that is simply mixed in with other philosophies and then we choose what we would like the truth to be, according to how it affects me. The truth is a person — second person of the Trinity. That person gave us clear direction on how we should live, through His examples and teachings.

Harry Verhiley is the diocesan Secretary for Stewardship and Development.

WOO

Continued from Page 12

In an encounter, we seek to know and be known.

The third element calls for assistance: We act for the well-being of another person. We do not just see, listen and speak. We act. Barth sees that we can only become human in relationship to the other. Through assistance, we are not simply with the other but for the other.

For the final element, Barth cites the spirit of gladness as the orientation that enables all the other elements. Our encounter with each other is marked by God's gladness in his encounter with us. Anything less, to Barth, does not qualify as encounter but a mere accident of life.

So when you next serve at the homeless shelter or deliver canned goods for the local food pantry, take time to stay and join the residents for lunch or bring a pot of coffee to let the aroma seduce a conversation with a dad collecting food supplies for his family.

All encounters with the other, acknowledged or not, are encounters with God. These are therefore holy, sacramental. They all start with the personal.

Carolyn Y. Woo is the president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services in the United States.

New film is entertainment for entire family

NEW YORK (CNS) — Forest, fauna and beast never looked as good as they do in “The Jungle Book” (Disney), a lavish retelling of the 1894 collection of stories by British author Rudyard Kipling.

What makes this “live-action” 3-D adaptation particularly compelling is that, apart from the “man-cub” Mowgli (Neel Sethi), everything on screen, from the breathtaking jungle landscapes to the meticulously detailed creatures great and small, was created on a computer. A cheeky line at the end of the credits, “Filmed in Downtown Los Angeles,” attests to this surprising fact.

Hence, this “Jungle Book” has much in common with another in-house creation, Disney’s beloved 1967 animated take on the tale. In fact, director Jon Favreau (“Chef”) and screenwriter Justin Marks pay homage to that movie with moments of humor and by incorporating its toe-tapping tunes, “The Bare Necessities” and “I Wanna Be Like You.”

A few scary sequences aside (the jungle is a dangerous place, after all), this version makes delightful, good-natured, heartfelt entertainment for the entire family.

Kipling’s basic plot endures: Mowgli, orphaned as a baby, is discovered by a kindly panther, Bagheera (voice of Ben Kingsley). He brings this child to a pack of wolves which raises him as one of their own, instilling a strict moral code and respect for family and other critters. Fortunately for Mowgli — and the audience — all of the anthropomorphic animals speak perfect English.

But danger lurks in the guise of Shere Khan (voice of Idris Elba), a menacing tiger who threatens the peaceable kingdom. Man is a threat, he warns, especially the “red flower” he commands — fire.

Shere Khan demands that the



CNS photo/Disney

Neel Sethi stars in a scene from the movie “The Jungle Book.”

wolves surrender Mowgli, now 10 years old, to him for killing. “How many lives is a man-cub worth?” he challenges.

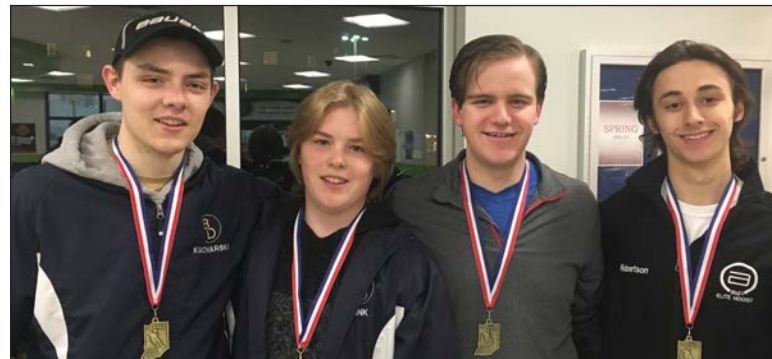
Mowgli decides to leave home to protect his wolf family and, with Bagheera’s help, makes his way toward the distant “man village.” An accident separates the duo, and Mowgli is swept deep into the jungle, where he is threatened by Kaa (voice of Scarlett Johansson), a seductive python.

All hope seems lost until

Mowgli encounters a happy-go-lucky bear named Baloo (voice of Bill Murray). An unlikely friendship strikes up, which will serve Mowgli well in a showdown with Shere Khan and another would-be despot, King Louie (voice of Christopher Walken), boss of all primates.

“The Jungle Book” barrels to an action-packed conclusion that may frighten the youngest moviegoers. But ultimately it’s all good escapist fun.

Bishop Dwenger hockey and Indiana academic all-state team honored



Provided by Tom Centlivre

Four seniors on Bishop Dwenger’s hockey team were selected to the Indiana Academic All-State team based upon their academic success. From left are, Jacob Kucharski, Brandon Zink, Snider High School; Frank Centlivre and Joey Robertson, Bishop Luers High School. Centlivre also received the 2016 Nick Wehring Mental Attitude Memorial Award.

School Nurse

Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne seeks a school nurse for the 2016-2017 school year. School nursing is a specialized practice that advances the well-being, academic success and lifelong achievement and health of students. The school nurse reports to the principal of Bishop Luers and delivers health services to students and staff including assessments and evaluation of injuries and illnesses, treatment, referrals and consultation with parents or guardians and additional health services. The school nurse also provides relevant health education to students and staff. The nurse also attends quarterly health meetings.

Send resume and cover letter to **Tiffany Albertson** at talbertson@bishopluers.org

A job description is available at www.bishopluers.org

Accounts Payable BUSINESS OFFICE CLERK

Bishop Luers High School seeks an Accounts Payable-Business Office Clerk. Candidates should have Accounts Payable and Month-End Accrual experience, able to multi-task with customer service interruptions, two-year accounting degree preferred but not required. Handles incoming cash and bank deposits. In charge of keeping office supplies on hand for teacher and staff use. Order other supplies as needed. Sorts and distributes Business Office Mail. Answers phone for Business Office and relays messages and/or transfers calls. Processes outgoing mail for the school. Other clerical duties as assigned by the Business Manager or Principal. Send resume and a cover letter to:

Tiffany Albertson at talbertson@bishopluers.org

A job description is available at www.bishopluers.org

Director High School Youth and Young Adult Ministry

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, seeks a full-time Director of High School Youth and Young Adult Ministry to implement their evangelization plan. St. Elizabeth is a dynamic Catholic parish with the median parishioner age of 30. This position is responsible for planning and implementing weekly youth group activities and other faith formation events. This position is also responsible for coordinating events for young adults. Applicant must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. A Master’s degree in a related field is desirable but a bachelor’s degree with experience will be considered. A full job description is available www.seasfw.org. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest and resume to:

Carole Yaney at cyaney@seasfw.org or call 260-432-0268.

Deadline for applications is June 1, 2016

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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.

Holy Name Society fish fry

New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, April 29, from 4-7 p.m. Adults \$8, children 5-12 \$4.50 and children under 5 free.

One-day retreat offered May 14

Fort Wayne — The Blessed Eucharist: Our Greatest Treasure — a one-day retreat offered by secular Franciscan Bob Deck at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., on Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided and there will be a free will offering. RSVP by May 12 to Lora McClamrock 260-422-4061 or mclamro@gmail.com.

Bike 101 Lakes event

Angola — St. Anthony Parish will participate in and co-sponsor the seventh-annual Bike 101 Lakes event at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 14. The ride begins at Coldwell Banker Roth

Wehrly Graber Building, 2535 N 200 W, between Crooked Lake and Lake James with five routes of various lengths including a family route. The fees are \$35 for adults and \$10 for students. Proceeds from the event support scholarships for area middle and high school students to attend summer camps in music, art, dance and photography as well as support a college scholarship for Steuben county high school graduates. For information visit www.bike101lakes.com.

Little Flower Theater to present musical

Fort Wayne — The St. Therese Little Flower Theater will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Getting to know The Sound of Music" Saturday, May 14, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 15, at 2 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis north campus. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students K-12. Contact the parish office at 260-747-9139 for information.

Silence of Mary plans yard sale

Fort Wayne — The Silence of Mary group will have a yard sale Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9 at 2607 Sandpoint Rd., from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Silence of Mary serves Jesus in the chronically poor, who live within our family homes both in Harrisburg, PA and Fort Wayne. Visit www.thesilenceofmary.org for information.

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Bluffton

David M Dreiband, 49, St. Joseph

Bremen

Noble R. Heyde, 90, St. Dominic

Fort Wayne

Gregory W. Filloff, 59, St. Vincent de Paul

Lois Ann Schenkel Yergens, St. Vincent de Paul

Gilberta M. Holman, St. Therese

Lucille M. Bowers, 86, St. Therese

Mishawaka

Mary Hutsebout, 96, St. Bavo

Juan M Amezquita, 47, St. Joseph

Valerie A. Standfield, 59, St. Joseph

Phillip C. Ross, 97, St. Bavo

Judith E. Niespodziany, 77, St. Joseph

Debra Buda, 60, Queen of Peace

Aline Leighton, 97, St. Monica

Ruthanne Donahue, 73, Queen of Peace

New Carlisle

Bernice M. Staszewski, 84, St. Stanislaus Kostka

New Haven

Juulianne Waite, 75, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Brother Clarence J. Breitenbach, CSC, 89, Sacred Heart

South Bend

Leocadio Rios, 70, St. Adalbert

Robert P. Dudek, 83, Corpus Christi

Clarice Staunton, 90, St. Therese, Little Flower

Mary Jane Hickey, 84, St. Matthew Cathedral

Patricia Szalewski, 69, St. Adalbert

Wabash

Modesta Stein, 82, St. Bernard



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	Wednesday, May 4	Thursday, May 5	Friday, May 6
8:00 am	St. Joseph County Right to Life	Franciscan Sisters	St. Stanislaus South Bend, IN
9:00 am	Women's Care Center	St. Thomas Elkhart, IN	St. Mary Bristol, IN
10:00 am	St. Bavo Mishawaka, IN	St. Vincent Elkhart, IN	Serra Club
11:00 am	Hannah's House	Diocesan Hour	St. Jude South Bend, IN
Noon	St. Therese, Little Flower South Bend, IN	St. Pius Granger, IN	Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture
1:00 pm	Holy Family South Bend, IN	St. Anthony de Padua South Bend, IN	St. John the Evangelist Goshen, IN
2:00 pm	St. Dominic Bremen, IN	Queen of Peace Mishawaka, IN	St. Joseph High School
3:00 pm	Our Lady of Hungary South Bend, IN	Notre Dame Institute for Church Life	St. John the Baptist South Bend, IN
4:00 pm	Knights of Columbus	Marian High School	Rekindle the Fire
5:00 pm	Corpus Christi South Bend, IN	St. Matthew Cathedral South Bend, IN	Catholic Medical Guild

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DATE, TIME	PLENARY SPEAKERS
MAY 9, 9:00 A.M.	H.E. Msgr. Jean-Louis Bruguès, O.P. <i>Archivist and Librarian of the Holy Roman Church</i>
MAY 9, 4:00 P.M.	Carmela Vircillo Franklin <i>Professor, Columbia University</i>
MAY 10, 9:00 A.M.	Rev. Msgr. Cesare Pasini <i>Prefect, Vatican Library</i>
MAY 10, 9:00 A.M.	Ambrogio Piazzoni <i>Vice Prefect, Vatican Library</i>
MAY 10, 7:30 P.M.	James Hankins <i>Professor, Harvard University</i>

A concert of sacred music, featuring materials displayed in the Vatican Library, will be held May 10 at 4:00 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

An exhibition of twelve highlights from the Vatican Library's holdings will be held at the Snite Museum of Art May 8-22.

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For additional information, please contact **Chuck Lamphier** at Lamphier.1@nd.edu or 574-631-1728.



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