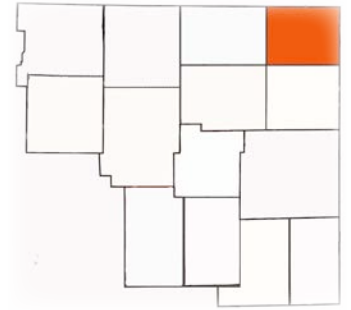


TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Christmas joy comes from knowing God loves and saves us, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) —As Christmas approached, St. Peter's Square was filled with balloons, singing and an incredible variety of Baby Jesus figurines — everything from plastic figures that would fit in a walnut shell to those that were larger-than-life sized.

For Pope Francis, the most important ingredient in the mix was joy.

Reciting the Angelus Dec. 11 and blessing the Baby Jesus statues children brought for their home or school Nativity scenes, the pope insisted that the true meaning of Christmas should bring Christians a deep and abiding sense of joy.

Unlike "superficial happiness" or even the giddiness shopping can bring, he said, "it is a joy that touches the depths of our being while we await Jesus, who already has come to bring salvation to the world, the promised Messiah, born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary."

"God entered history to free us from slavery to sin; he pitched his tent among us to share our existence, heal our wounds, bandage our injuries and give us new life," the pope said. "Joy is the fruit of this intervention of salvation and God's love."

The Christmas decorations and



CNS/Paul Haring

A boy displays his baby Jesus figurine as Pope Francis leads the Angelus from the window of his apartment overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Dec. 11. In an annual tradition, Roman children brought their figurines of the baby Jesus to the Angelus.

lights and the Nativity scenes being set up in homes all over the world are signs of that joy, Pope Francis said. They are a call "to welcome the Lord who always knocks at our door, the doors of our hearts, to draw near to us" and "to recognize his footsteps

in those of our brothers and sisters passing by, especially the weakest and neediest."

Pope Francis asked the children to pray in front of their Nativity scenes with their parents. "Ask Baby Jesus to help us all love God and our neighbors."

Pope calls Coptic Pope Tawadros to express condolences after Cairo attack

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis phoned Coptic Orthodox Pope Tawadros II of Alexandria Dec. 12, expressing his prayers and condolences for the previous day's terrorist attack at the Cairo cathedral that left 25 people dead.

"We are united in the blood of our martyrs," the pope told the Orthodox patriarch, according to a Vatican statement.

The patriarch thanked Pope Francis for his closeness at such a sad time and asked his continued prayers for the Copts and for peace in Egypt, the statement said.

On a December weekend bloodied by terrorist attacks in Egypt and Turkey, Pope Francis condemned the violence and urged people to hold fast to

their faith and renew their commitment to upholding basic human values.

After reciting the Angelus Dec. 11, Pope Francis offered prayers for the "victims of savage terrorist attacks" in Egypt, which also wounded dozens, and Dec. 10 in Istanbul, which killed close to 40 people, mainly police.

"The places are different, but the violence is the same," Pope Francis said. In response to the "death and destruction," there is only one response: "faith in God and unity in human and civil values."

The pope also told the crowd in St. Peter's Square that each day in prayer he is close to the people of the besieged city of Aleppo, Syria.

"We must not forget that Aleppo is a city and that there are people there: families, children, elderly,

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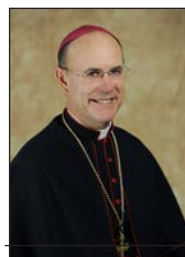
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Preparing for Christmas with Mary and Joseph



IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

As we approach Christmas, the Church invites us to reflect on Mary and Joseph and their courageous faith. I can think of no better models for us to welcome Our Savior than our Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph. Their example invites us to accept, with openness of spirit, Jesus who is Emmanuel, God-among-us.

This Sunday we celebrate the Fourth and Last Sunday of Advent. The Gospel this year is the account of the Angel's Annunciation to Joseph. The Angel's Annunciation to Mary was the Gospel for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Gospel we will hear again this Tuesday, December 20th. These two "Annunciations" are amazing announcements of the Incarnation delivered by heavenly messengers. They also involve the amazing responses, one spoken and the other unspoken, which express the obedient faith of Mary and Joseph to God's will and plan for our salvation.

The angel appeared to Mary when she was awake and the angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. In both Annunciations, the angel said: "Do not be afraid." In the case of Mary, she was troubled by the greeting of the angel, not knowing what it meant. In the case of Joseph, he was in turmoil because of Mary's pregnancy, having decided "to divorce her quietly" since he was "unwilling to expose her to shame." They were both afraid and confused, but God's revelation, which they accepted with obedient faith, filled them with peace. It was the revelation of the Incarnation, that the Son conceived by Mary is of the Holy Spirit.

The angel told Mary: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Holy Spirit will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." The angel told Joseph: "It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her." The angel told both Mary and Joseph that the child should be named "Jesus," a name which means "God saves."

Mary is our exemplar and model of faith in her response to the message of the angel: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Though we have no spoken words of Saint Joseph at the Annunciation to him, the Gospel tells us that "when Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." Both Mary and Joseph responded positively to the word of God. Saint John Paul II wrote that "Joseph is the first to share in the faith of the Mother of God, ... the first to be placed by God on the path of Mary's pilgrimage of faith." We are called to walk that pilgrimage of faith, to walk with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem in these final days of Advent.

I invite you in your prayer during these final days of Advent to contemplate the mystery we prepare to celebrate, maybe even having a little spiritual conversation with Mary and Joseph. Ask them to help you to live the true spirit of Christmas, to be close



The Dream Of Saint Joseph is a painting by Philippe de Champaigne.

to their Son. I encourage you to find some quiet time for prayer during these noisy and busy days before Christmas. There is an aura of silence around Saint Joseph (the Gospels contain none of his spoken words). Yet, that silence speaks eloquently to us of the interior life of Joseph, who, like Mary, is a model of humility and prayer. If we desire to experience the true joy of Christmas, we can learn from Mary and Joseph the secret of silence and reflection on the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Mary and Joseph teach us that the true gift of Christmas is Jesus. The best gifts we can give to others at Christmas are not expensive presents. The best gift we can share is the love, joy, and peace of the Lord. We do so by our prayers for others, kind words and gestures, forgiveness, a welcoming home, and joyful witness. Material gifts have value too, when they are expressions of love and generosity. And let us not forget

the poor in our gift-giving at Christmas! It is a wonderful custom in our diocese to take up a special collection for Catholic Charities at all our Christmas Masses, an opportunity to support the charitable works of the Church in our diocese, to share with our brothers and sisters in need.

I encourage you to prepare for Christmas by contemplating Mary and Joseph: "Mary, the woman full of grace who had the courage to entrust herself totally to the Word of God; and Joseph, the faithful and just man who chose to believe the Lord rather than listen to the voices of doubt and human pride. With them, let us walk together toward Bethlehem" (Pope Francis).

May this final week of Advent be a prayerful time of joyful preparation for Christmas! Through the intercession of Mary and Joseph, may we be free of all worldliness and ready to welcome anew our Savior!

Mideast Christians, especially those displaced, face mounting challenges

BY DALE GAVLAK

WASHINGTON (CNS)—As Christians in the Middle East look back on 2016, they wonder if there will be much to celebrate amid mounting challenges, particularly for those displaced by conflicts in Iraq and Syria.

"As much as we are pleased that our homelands from which thousands of Christians were forced to flee from the extremists have been retaken, we are very concerned about what lies ahead," Father Emanuel Youkhana told Catholic News Service by phone. He referred to Iraq's Christian towns of Qaraqosh, Batnayeh and Bartella, recently regained by the Iraqi military from Islamic State.

The archimandrite is a member of the Assyrian Church of the East and heads the Christian Aid Program Northern Iraq, CAPNI.

Father Youkhana and others have expressed concerns that Iraq's Christians may once again be caught in the country's sectarian violence, this time by Shiite Muslims. If this happens, it will impede the Christians' ability to return home.

Iraq's majority Shiite population comprises the bulk of the country's reconstituted national army, and as it liberates areas from extremist Sunni militants, Iraqi Christians have seen worrying Shiite slogans scrawled on places and property that have always been "100 percent Christian," Father Youkhana noted.

The Ninevah Plain, a region rich in oil and the breadbasket of Iraq, has drawn interest from regional and local powers seeking to exert influence there. Christians are challenged by the widespread devastation Islamic State militants have wrought to the area that has been their ancestral homeland for the past 14 centuries.

The trail of death and destruction left by Islamic State was being fully revealed as the militants were flushed out. There were accounts that some Christians were tortured and crucified. Among the militants' threatening words still visible in red on the wall of a plundered electrical shop: "By God, we will break your cross."

"The volume of destruction carried out by Islamic State militants throughout the Ninevah Plain is hindering my people from returning to their family properties. Infrastructure, including drinking water and electricity, has been badly damaged, and what can we then say about the paramount need for security," Father Youkhana said.

He urged the international community to help Christians and other religious minorities to return home after their forced displacement by the Islamic State.

The militants invaded the



CNS photo/Thaier Al-Sudan, Reuters

A Christian fighter displays a holy card in his vest Nov. 21 in Mosul, Iraq. As Christians in the Middle East look back on 2016, they wonder if there will be much to celebrate amid mounting challenges, particularly for those displaced by conflicts in Iraq and Syria.

Ninevah Plain in the summer of 2014, imposing an extremist and violent form of Sunni Islam and forcing tens of thousands of Iraqi Christians to flee for their lives. Many escaped with just the clothes on their backs, losing their homes, property and their livelihoods.

A number of displaced Christians venturing back to Qaraqosh to assess the damage told CNS that they could not live there again unless they get compensation and guarantees of protection from the international community. Houses have been burned, either to create a smoke-screen against coalition aircraft bombing Islamic State in support of Iraqi forces, or apparently out of spite, while beloved churches have been violently ransacked.

"It's worse than we expected," said teacher Wisam Rafou Poli, trying to exorcise the presence of the militants who occupied his house by emptying its entire contents onto the street to be burned.

"I cried when we entered the house," his wife Zeena said, comforting their young daughter, who was mourning her favorite doll, found filthy and ripped.

Syriac Catholic Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan told CNS he was horrified to see the terrible devastation and what he called "ghost towns" during a visit to northern Iraq in late November.

He celebrated the Eucharist "on an improvised small altar" in the incinerated sanctuary of the vandalized Church of the Immaculate Conception in Qaraqosh for the few who could attend the liturgy.

"I just wanted to strengthen their faith in the redeemer's altar and cross, although both were half broken behind us," the patriarch said. "I reminded them that we Christians are the descendants of martyrs and confessors, with a long history dating back to the evangelization of the apostles."

Patriarch Younan called for a

"stable, law-abiding and strong government" to support the establishment of an eventual self-administrative province in the area under the central government in Baghdad.

Meanwhile, about 5 million Syrians have fled the nearly six-year-old conflict, seeking refuge mainly in Europe. But the European Union tightened its external borders this year, overwhelmed by the arrival of more than a million refugees and migrants in 2015.

Pope Francis made a dramatic gesture by taking 12 Syrian refugees back to Rome with him from his visit to Lesbos, Greece, in April to see the conditions and perils experienced by thousands of refugees fleeing across the Mediterranean. The Vatican also assisted other Syrian refugees arriving in Rome in mid-June. While the Vatican is covering the living costs of about 21 refugees, they are being housed and resettled by the Community of Sant'Egidio, a lay Catholic community based in Rome.

The U.N. refugee agency, UNHCR, reported that the number of people fleeing war and persecution have soared four times over the past decade, to 24 people per minute or more than 65 million people forcibly displaced worldwide.

Franciscan Father Francesco Patton, the new custos of the Holy Land, who is provincial minister of the Franciscans in almost all of the Middle East, told CNS in November Christians in Aleppo, Syria, believe the world is unconcerned about their situation.

Still despite these challenges, the custos said, "there are many, many signs of hope, but we need eyes to see the signs of hope. If we are blind, we cannot see signs of hope."

Contributing to this story were Doreen Abi Raad in Beirut, Rhina Guidos in Washington and Cindy Wooden in Vatican City.



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, December 18: 12 p.m. — Blessing of new Narthex, Sanctuary, and Guadalupe Shrine, followed by 12:30 p.m. Mass, Saint Joseph Church, LaGrange

Monday, December 19: 11 a.m. — Mass and Luncheon for diocesan employees of South Bend area, Saint Francis Convent, Mishawaka

Monday, December 19: 7 p.m. — Theology on Capp, Columbus Club, Mishawaka

Tuesday, December 20: 11 a.m. — Mass and Luncheon for seminarians and their families, Saint Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart

Thursday, December 22: 11 a.m. — Mass and Luncheon for diocesan employees of Fort Wayne area, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne

Saturday, December 24: 5 p.m. — Vespers with Franciscan Friars Minor and Poor Sisters of Saint Clare, Saint Andrew Church, Fort Wayne

Saturday, December 24: 10:30 p.m. — Christmas Eve Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne

Three Franciscan Friars Minor take perpetual vows



John Martin

Three Franciscan Friars Minor prepare to take their solemn vows during Mass at St. Andrew Church, Fort Wayne. From left to right are Brother Mark Maria, Brother Joseph Maria and Brother Peter Marie.

On Dec. 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, hundreds of people gathered at St. Andrew Church in Fort Wayne for the Mass during which three men professed their solemn vows as Franciscan Friars Minor. After several years of discernment and temporary vows, Brother Mark Maria of Our Lady, Star of the Sea; Brother Joseph Maria of Our Lady of Peace; and Brother Peter Marie of the Immaculate Heart of Mary professed perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, along with a fourth vow of consecration to Mary Immaculate, in the hands of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, the celebrant of the Mass.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades reflected on the first word of the angel Gabriel to Mary at the Annunciation, the Gospel of the Mass. The first word of Gabriel to Mary was "rejoice;" in Greek, "chaire." Gabriel said: "Rejoice, full of grace!" The bishop said that this invitation to joy, so often spoken by the Old Testament prophets when they announced the coming of the

Messiah, was God's invitation to Mary whom He called to be the mother of His Son. "On behalf of the people of Israel and of all humanity, Mary said "yes."

The bishop invited the three Franciscan brothers to hear in their hearts the word of the prophets and of the angel Gabriel to rejoice, also reminding them of the words of the angel to Mary: "Do not be afraid." The bishop said: "We experience fears and trials in our lives. We have crosses to bear. But these things should never extinguish our joy, the joy that comes from faith and trust in the Lord." He recalled the joy of St. Francis which, he said, "is the joy of the Gospel, the joy of following Jesus, and the joy of living the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience."

The Franciscan Friars Minor were approved as a religious community by Bishop Rhoades in Harrisburg in 2009, just weeks before his appointment as Bishop of Fort Wayne-South

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Catholic Conference for men scheduled for South Bend

More than 1,000 men will gather at the Century Center in downtown South Bend on Feb. 18 for the Rekindle the Fire Diocesan Men's Conference, the largest annual gathering of Catholic men in Indiana.

For the seventh year in a row, Catholic men of all ages from across the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese and beyond will participate in a daylong event that includes inspiring talks from nationally renowned speakers. Featured this year are Patrick Madrid, from Catholic Answers and Doug Barry from EWTN, who is back by popular demand to speak about spiritual warfare. Catholic Evangelist/musician Chris Padgett will also be featured.

Author, radio host and Catholic apologist Patrick Madrid is among the country's leading defenders of the Catholic faith. Host of the Patrick Madrid Show, he is also the author of such books as "Why Be Catholic?" and "How to do Apologetics." A lifelong Catholic, he earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and master's degree in dogmatic theology from Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. Madrid has conducted countless teaching seminars on Catholic



PATRICK MADRID

themes across the world.

Doug Barry, a devoted husband and father of five, is the founder and director of the Catholic ministry RADIX. "Battle Ready" is a mission of RADIX that aims to help strengthen and encourage the soldiers of Christ to be aware of, prepared for and engaged in the spiritual fight in which men find themselves. Since 1992, he has traveled nationally and internationally to help spread and defend the Catholic faith. Barry is also co-host of EWTN's "Life on the Rock."

Storyteller and musician Chris Padgett is a husband and father of nine children who brings alive the message of God's love shared through powerful storytelling and uplifting music. Padgett entered the Catholic Church in



DOUG BARRY



CHRIS PADGETT

1999 and has since been a passionate champion of the faith. He earned a master's degree in theology from Franciscan University and is pursuing a doctorate in sacred theology from the International Marian Research Institute in Dayton, Ohio.

The theme for this year's conference, "Takin' it to the Streets," will be embodied in a dynamic, spirit-building experience to help men grow closer to Christ, equipping them with the courage, wisdom and strength to "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature" in their daily lives. The faith-filled experience begins at 9 a.m. and includes an afternoon Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The sacrament of reconciliation will be available throughout the day. Catholic vendors will also be present to sell religious goods.

The cost to attend Rekindle the Fire is \$40 until Dec. 31, \$45 after. Registration includes lunch and coffee. To purchase a registration for someone for Christmas, or to register yourself, visit rekindlethefire.net or call 260-452-6875.

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For a more complete job description, please write to Fr. Bob Showers OFM Conv. at frbob@stanthonyangola.com -or- write to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church 700 W. Maumee St., Angola IN 46703.

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COPTIC

Continued from Page 1

sick," he said. "Unfortunately we have become used to the war and destruction, but we must not forget that Syria is a country full of history, culture and faith. We cannot allow this to be negated by war, which is a pile of abuse and falsity."

Around the world, Christians reacted to the bombing at St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral complex with messages of condolences.

In Washington, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, noted that St. Mark himself was no stranger to the persecution of Christians.

"Those who gathered to worship the Lord at his cathedral this morning in Cairo are family to us," he said in a Dec. 11 statement. "We draw near to our Coptic brothers and sisters in prayer, sorrow and comfort. And we are confident in the healing power of our Lord Jesus Christ. The lives lost strengthen the faith of Christians everywhere and offer a testament to the great privilege of worshiping God in peace.

He, too, referred to attacks in other countries.

"This weekend has witnessed the darkness of violence reach into many places, including Turkey, Somalia and the church building collapse in Nigeria. But the light still shines! Today let us offer a special prayer for all those facing persecution," he said.

Egyptian Catholics were quick to condemn Sunday's church attack.

"Our heart is with Patriarch Tawadros II ... and our brother church, and we wish for goodness in Egypt, and call on the heads of state to quickly bring those responsible to justice," said official spokesman of Egypt's Catholics, Father Rafic Greiche.

Father Greiche called the attack "a cowardly, terrorist act on a house of God," adding that "the church in our country is suffering due to the murder and spilling of blood of innocents."

His statements appeared on Church of Alexandria, an official website of Egypt's Coptic Catholic Church, which accounts for a tiny percentage of the country's larger Coptic Orthodox minority.

On the same site, Coptic Catholic Bishop Butros Fahim Awad Hanna also condemned the attack and addressed those behind it.

"We tell the terrorist that no matter what you do, Christians will remain steadfast in their faith and in adherence to their country, Egypt" said Bishop Fahim, whose province of Minya is a traditional Christian stronghold in the predominantly Muslim North African nation.

Egyptian TV showed horrific images of the attack's aftermath:



CNS photo/Amr Abdallah Dalsh, Reuters

A nun cries as she stands inside St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral Dec. 11 after an explosion inside the cathedral complex in Cairo. A bomb ripped through the complex, killing at least 25 people and wounding dozens, mostly women and children.

topped pews and floors stained and covered in blood.

Father Antonious Aloshelemy, general secretary of the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem, expressed condolences about the attack.

"We are not afraid, but this is something barbaric and inhu-

man, to do an attack against people who just love the church and God and who came to worship on Sunday," he said.

Contributing to this story were Judith Sudilovsky in Jerusalem and James Martone in Washington.

FRIARS

Continued from Page 3

Bend. Eight Franciscan Friars Minor came to Fort Wayne in 2010. The Minister General, Father David Mary of Our Lady of Sorrows, spoke at the end of the Mass of Profession expressing gratitude to the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for their welcome and generosity. He noted the growth of the community from the original eight members to the present number of 46, many of whom are in formation for vows. Father David Mary asked for prayers for the community as it grows and seeks to serve the Church through prayer and evangelization according to the Franciscan charism and Capuchin rule of life.

The families and friends of the newly professed friars gathered after Mass in the basement of St. Andrew Church for a buffet dinner celebration. Brother

Joseph serves as guardian of the Our Lady of the Angels friary at St. Andrew's and also as director of the brothers in temporary profession. Brother Mark serves as vicar of the Our Lady of the Angels friary. Brother Peter lives with brothers at the hermitage friary in Decatur.

The life of the Franciscan Friars Minor can perhaps be summarized in the words Bishop Rhoades said at the end of his homily: "It's a life not caught up in its own interests and concerns, but one in which there is room for others because it is life in a community of brothers and solidarity with the poor. It is a life where God's voice is heard in prayer, both individual and communal. It is a life in the Spirit where the joy of the Gospel is not only experienced within the community, but also spread the works of the apostolate, especially evangelization." The bishop concluded: "Like St. Francis, may you be joyful heralds of the Gospel and faithful disciples of our poor, obedient and chaste Lord!"



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John Glenn, American 'icon,' astronaut, former U.S. senator, dies at 95

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — Astronaut legend and decorated World War II pilot John H. Glenn, who served for 24 years in the U.S. Senate and inspired young people to pursue careers in sciences and engineering, died Dec. 8. He was 95. Born in Cambridge and raised in nearby New Concord, Glenn was propelled to fame after being one of seven military test pilots chosen as the country's first astronauts. He was the third American in space and the first to orbit earth when he flew aboard the Mercury Friendship 7 capsule, traversing the globe three times in a flight that lasted just less than five hours on Feb. 20, 1962. Among those watching Glenn's first space flight was St. John XXIII, who asked to be kept regularly informed about its progress. Glenn became the oldest man to fly in space when, at age 77 and still a senator, he blasted into orbit on the Space Shuttle on Oct. 29, 1998, after lobbying the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for two years that he could serve as a "guinea pig for geriatric studies." While on the fourth day of the mission, Glenn, a Presbyterian, said, "I pray every day. To look out at this kind of creation out here and not believe in God is, to me, impossible. It just strengthens my faith."

Vatican updates guidelines for educating priests

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church needs holy, healthy and humble priests and that requires prayers for vocations and the careful selection and training of candidates, said the Congregation for Clergy. Updating 1985 guidelines for preparing men for the Latin-rite priesthood and ensuring their continuing education, training and support, the Congregation for Clergy Dec. 7 released "The Gift of the Priestly Vocation," a detailed set of guidelines and norms for priestly formation. The updated document draws heavily on St. John Paul II's 1992 apostolic exhortation on priestly formation, as well as on the teaching of and norms issued by now-retired Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis and by Vatican offices over the past three decades. The document insists that through courses in pastoral theology, the example of priests and practical experience, candidates for the priesthood learn that priestly ministry involves — as Pope Francis says — being "shepherds 'with the smell of the sheep,' who live in their midst to bring the mercy of God to them."

NEWS BRIEFS

Posada Without Borders, in San Diego



CNS photo/David Maung

Erica Nellessen, left center, from Pasadena, Calif., sings with others at the U.S.-Mexico border fence in San Diego during the 23rd Posada Sin Fronteras (Posada Without Borders) Dec. 10. "Posada" commemorates Joseph and Mary's search for shelter before Christ's birth. The border event is held in honor of migrants and is celebrated simultaneously on both sides of the fence at a place called Friendship Park.

Oakland Catholic community offers prayers, support for fire victims

OAKLAND, Calif. (CNS) — The local Catholic community in Oakland — parishioners, priests, school students and Catholic Charities' workers — have been offering prayers and support for victims of the Dec. 2 fire that erupted in an Oakland warehouse, killing 36. The fire started during a dance party at a warehouse that had been converted to artists' studios and illegal living spaces, dubbed the "Ghost Ship." The cause of the fire, reported to be the most lethal building fire in the U.S. in more than a decade, has not been determined. "We owe it to the community and those who perished in this fire, and those who survived the fire to be methodical, to be thorough and to take the amount of time it takes to be able to look at every piece of potential evidence," said Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, according to The Associated Press. Bishop Michael J. Barber of Oakland said in a Dec. 3 statement that his "prayers and thoughts are with all those who have died or are suffering from the tragic fire."

Mary shows what good comes from wholehearted 'yes' to God, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Although she was just a humble young woman from a small town, Mary's total "yes" to God was "the most important 'yes' of history" and overturned Adam and Eve's prideful "no," which unleashed sin into the world, Pope Francis said. "With generosity and trust like Mary, may each of us say this personal 'yes' to God today," Pope Francis prayed Dec. 8 as he recited the Angelus prayer with visitors in St. Peter's Square on the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Even when they do not say "no" to God, human beings can be experts in saying, "yes, but ..." to God, the pope said. "To avoid saying 'no' outright to God, we say, 'Sorry, but I can't,' 'Not today, but maybe tomorrow,' 'Tomorrow I will be better, tomorrow I will pray, I'll do good tomorrow,'" he said. But in responding that way, "we close the door to what is good and evil profits." Nevertheless, Pope Francis said, God keeps trying to reach out and save us. And through the "yes" of Mary, he became human, "exactly like us except for one thing, that 'no,' that sin. This is why he chose Mary, the only creature without sin, immaculate."

Black pro-life leaders hold rally outside Planned Parenthood in D.C.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — African-Americans make up just under 13 percent of the U.S. population, but "they represent over 30 percent of all abortions," said Alveda King, an evangelist and director of Civil Rights for the Unborn. King, who is the niece of slain civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., was one of several African-American leaders and other pro-life advocates from the District of Columbia, Md., and Northern Virginia who held a prayer rally Dec. 3 outside Planned Parenthood's new facility in Washington. The nearly \$20-million, 27,000-square-foot facility, which opened in September, also is administrative headquarters for Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington. It is located in a semi-industrial area in the city's Northeast quadrant. "Planned Parenthood has built a profitable enterprise largely on aborting black babies," said King, who is director of Priests for Life's African-American outreach, recently renamed Civil Rights for the Unborn. "This is even more troubling when you consider that they receive over half a billion dollars a year from the federal government."

Ohio lawmakers send governor two bills restricting abortion

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — The Ohio Legislature has sent two abortion bills to Gov. John Kasich for his signature. On Dec. 8, lawmakers passed a measure to ban abortions in the state after 20 weeks, or five months of pregnancy. On Dec. 6, they approved legislation that would ban abortions when a fetal heartbeat can be detected, which is usually at about the sixth week of pregnancy. Current law bans abortions after a fetus has begun its 20th week of gestation, unless a doctor determines that the fetus isn't viable outside the womb. The latest measure, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, or S.B. 127 — would eliminate the viability test and simply ban abortions past 20 weeks. The current exception for the woman's health would still apply. "The bold pro-life action taken by the Ohio Legislature is reflective of the message the voters sent on Election Day, and that is a rejection of the status quo," said Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of Washington-based Susan B. Anthony List. "Americans reject the status quo of abortion on-demand, especially painful late-term abortions," she said in a Dec. 8 statement. "Instead, voters and lawmakers are recognizing the humanity of the unborn child: its heartbeat around six weeks and the pain the child can feel at 20 weeks."

Bishop Murphy of Rockville Centre retires; Bishop Barres named successor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., and appointed as his successor Bishop John O. Barres of Allentown, Pa. Bishop Barres, 56, has headed the Diocese of Allentown since 2009. Bishop Murphy, who has been Rockville Centre's bishop since 2001, is 76. Canon law requires bishops to turn in their resignation to the pope when they turn 75. The changes were announced Dec. 9 in Washington by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Bishop Barres' Mass of installation will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Agnes in Rockville Centre Jan. 31. Until that time, Bishop Murphy will serve as apostolic administrator of the diocese. "It is my deep conviction that he will be a bishop for all of us without exception," Bishop Murphy said of his successor in a statement. "He has shared with me his love of youth and his care for the elderly. He has a keen sense of parish life and has a special expertise in education. He has a deep love for the poor."

Apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe recalled with Masses, festivities

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

Across the diocese, remembrances of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe took place in fervent and festive form Dec. 10-12 despite a winter-weather challenge. St. Robert Bellarmine, North Manchester, and St. Dominic, Bremen, were among the many Hispanic parishes where the sounds of worship, traditional Mexican “Mañanitas” song and drumming rang out.

St. Robert Bellarmine has celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe as a parish community since 2012. Today it’s a popular tradition that has expanded to include a number of events. One of the reasons is the expanding Hispanic population within the parish.

“The celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe has become bigger as our Hispanic community grows,” St. Robert’s Pastoral Associate Isabella Duran-Price said.

Spanish Mass and a mariachi band appearance have remained staples since the first celebration. Last year, folkloric dance and a communal rosary were added.

This year St. Robert kicked off its celebration at 5 p.m. on the feast day, Monday, Dec. 12. A Spanish Mass was celebrated at 6 p.m., and a live mariachi band played from 7-10 p.m. The evening culminated with a firework display.

“This is such a meaningful celebration for everyone, not only because it means a lot to the Mexican parishioners, but also to the rest of the community,” Duran-Price reflected. “It is one of the most stunning visitations of our dear mother in the world. She is not only the patroness of Mexico, but the patroness of the New Evangelization, as the popes have said. She is our dear mother, always looking out for her most hum-

ble and suffering children.”

St. Dominic celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with an afternoon potluck on Sunday, Dec. 11, in the parish’s St. Isidore Hall, and a 6 p.m. Spanish Mass the following day.

Approximately one-third of St. Dominic’s parish community is Hispanic, and several members of this Hispanic segment immigrated to the United States from small towns in Mexico.

According to a parish representative, the opportunity to celebrate a feast day that is so very important to the country of Mexico, where the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe occurred, means a lot to those members of the parish of Mexican descent.

“Their faith and traditions run deep and strong. They wish to continue celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe with music, dancing, food and fellowship, just as they have through the years.”



Stephanie Patka

Children and adults at St. Joseph Parish, LaGrange, dress like the Aztecs at a Mass held Dec. 11 in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe’s 1531 appearance to St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin in what is today Mexico City.

The traditional image of Our Lady of Guadalupe as she appeared to the Indian and Catholic convert St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin was displayed at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester, and stood witness to the weekend celebration of her feast day.



Jennifer Miller

Eighth-grade students of Holy Family School and parish perform a reenactment of Our Lady of Guadalupe’s apparition at a Mass and celebration Monday, Dec. 12.

2017 diocesan directories arrive

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend 2017 Directory is now available for purchase from the Office of Communications. Orders can be placed online at www.diocesefwsb.org/directory. The directories may also be purchased at the Cathedral Bookstore, downtown Fort Wayne or at the St. John Paul II Center, Mishawaka. For more information or to request an order form, call Geoff Frank at 260-422-4611.

Earthworks programs will continue

DONALDSON — During the last several months, Earthworks has been going through major transitions and actively planning for the future.

Earthworks is an environmental education ministry located at The Center at Donaldson. Its mission is to teach, demonstrate and promote the interconnectedness of all creation. Earthworks is an advocate for environmental education and serves as a resource for local communities that seek to live in harmony with nature. In collaboration with the Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, it will continue to offer children's summer day camps for children 6 to 10 years old. Dates identified for the 2017 weekly summer day camps are June 12 to July 28. Registration will begin in April. In addition,

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Holy Hour offered for children



Provided by Father Daniel Whelan

On the Solemnity of Christ the King, Father Daniel Whelan offered a children's holy hour at St. Felix Catholic Center in Huntington. About 100 people attended, including many children. Father Whelan gathered the children around the monstrance for prayer and songs, and they prostrated themselves before the Lord. The Holy Hour was sponsored by St. Mary Catholic Church in Huntington.

it will also offer new customized programs to meet the needs of the individual groups it serves.

Earthworks' office is now located in Lindenwood at P.O. Box 1, Donaldson, IN 46513. Cheri Ringer, Coordinator of Earthcare Education, can be contacted at earthworks@poorhandmaids.org or 574-935-1746, or for more information see Earthworks' website at www.earthworksonline.org.

Building Bridges of Faith program now online

FORT WAYNE — The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne, 5200 Old Mill Road, held an opening program for the photographic exhibition, "Building Bridges of Faith: Photographs of Papal Visits to the Holy Land, 1964-2014."

Rabbi Yehiel Poupko spoke on "The Advancement of the Roman Catholic Church's Relations with the Jewish People under the Stewardship of John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis."

Special guests included Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend; Sister Elise Kriss, president and CEO, University of Saint Francis; and Itay Milner, deputy consul general of Israel to the Midwest.

The exhibit runs through Dec. 15. The program, including speakers, is now available online at <http://fwjf.org/Events/BuildingBridgesofFaith.aspx>.

Knights and community come together to make Christmas brighter

BY DENISE FEDEROW

A visit to the Knights of Columbus hall on East Lexington St. in Elkhart Friday night, Dec. 9, was as busy a place as one might imagine Santa's workshop to be this time of year. Hundreds of volunteers from all over Elkhart County had come to work a well-oiled assembly line, where boxes were filled with food for families in need.

This is the 32nd year that the Knights of Columbus has provided Christmas baskets for people in Elkhart, Goshen, Middlebury, Bristol, Nappanee and Wakarusa, covering the county.

The Knights of Columbus Council 1043 includes members from St. Vincent de Paul and St. Thomas the Apostle Churches in Elkhart. Knights from St. John the Evangelist in Goshen also joined in.

Phil Kile, 4th Degree member of the Knights, said this year the effort yielded 500 "baskets" — which meant the busy volunteers filled 1,000 boxes, because each

family or individual received two boxes of food. The Knights do all of their own fundraising and purchase a lot of the food, but they also received donations of canned and dry foods. Bimbo's Bakery in Elkhart donated 5-pound hams and bread.

In past years the Knights rented warehouse space to assemble the baskets, but empty warehouse space is hard to find since the economy improved. So the Knights adjust their operations inside of the very limited space in their hall, and staggered times for volunteers to come in.

According to Kile, a lot of families come to volunteer because parents want their children to have a charitable service experience. Several area school sports teams were also working together to fill the boxes.

"It's become kind of a social event for some of them," Kile said.

Joe Tinervia, trustee for the Knights, said the effort started with just 12 families, years ago, and up until about three years ago they delivered all the boxes. Now, the different groups who provide the names of the needy

come to pick the boxes up and deliver them. Kile said they baskets are also provided for senior citizens at the Council of Aging.

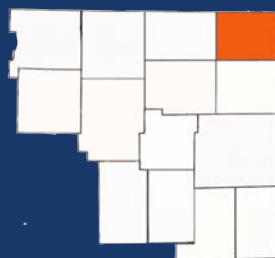
Young people who were busy working, like Maddie Cross from Goshen High School's softball team, said she liked "volunteering in the community to help others." Matthew Early, a St. Thomas student, said he was there to help others in the community who "don't have a meal this Christmas."

Parochial Vicar Father Zachary Barry of St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart, blessed the baskets at the beginning of the work night.

St. Thomas the Apostle students and Girl Scouts Olivia Fullhart, center, and Giara Wood were happy to help fill boxes with food items to help make others' Christmas a little brighter this year. Shown with the girls is Jackie Fullhart, scout leader and Olivia's mom. The Knights of Columbus of Elkhart have sponsored the food-gifting event for 32 years.



Photos by Denise Federow



In **MY** diocese **Steuben County**

A small faith community with a big heart

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

A driver on the back roads of Hudson, Ind., in time will come across a tiny, white church. The somehow-comforting, rural surroundings are fitting for this intimate faith community known as St. Mary of the Angels Oratory.



FATHER DAVID CARKENORD

According to Mary Bartlett, the oratory's secretary and bookkeeper, "We are a close community partly because of our numbers and partly because we are ... as long as I have been attending St. Mary's, a very welcoming community."

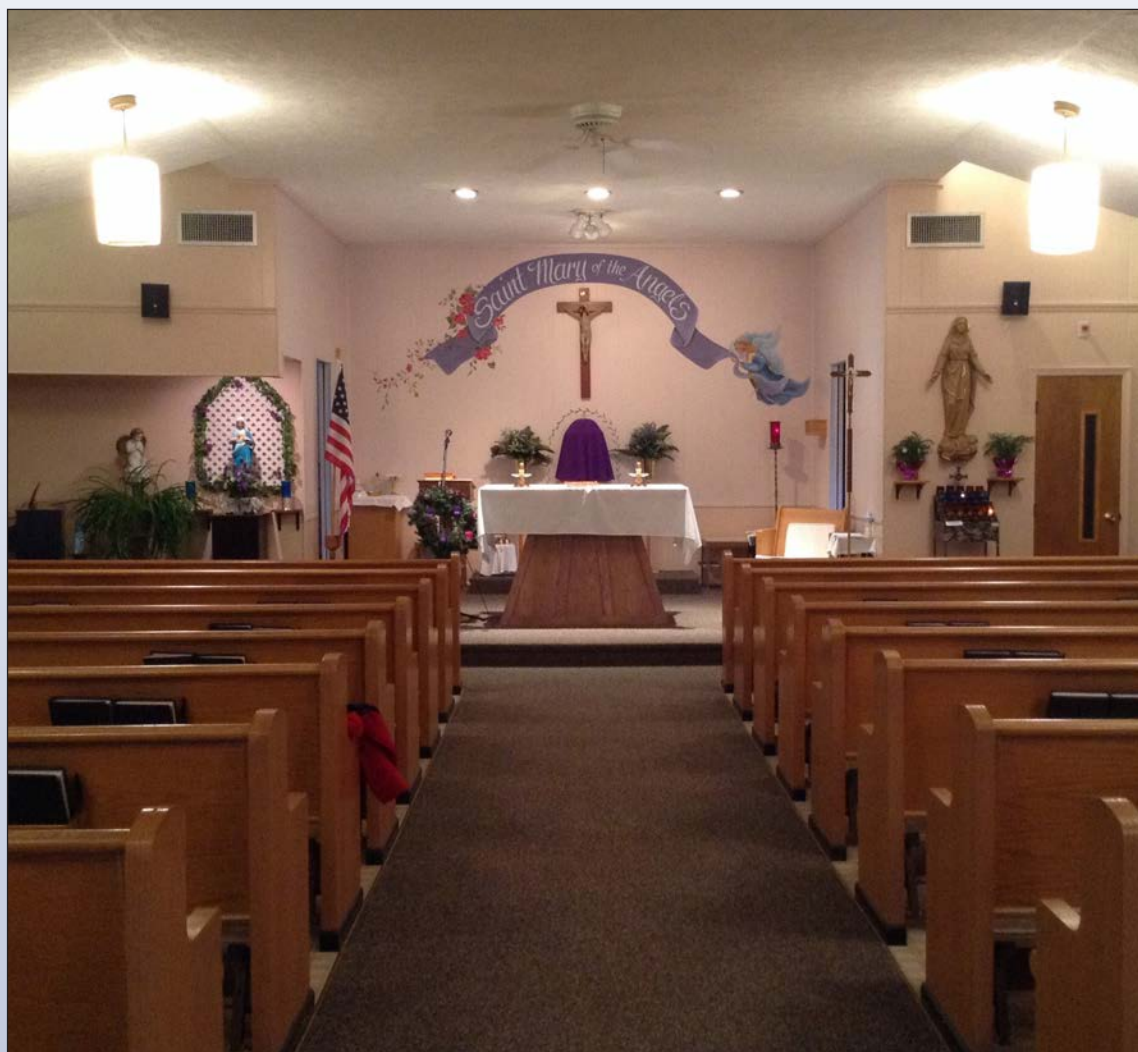
Bartlett first started attending Mass at the church as a young girl and has worked at St. Mary's in some capacity since 2001.

She has witnessed firsthand some of the church's history. Built by the Franciscans, the church's design very much aligns with the order's simplistic nature. Bartlett believes this outlook exudes "beauty in its simplicity."

The first Mass was celebrated in 1949. Since then the church has gone through a lot of change, but maintains a loyal membership.

"We have approximately 50 families in the parish and, in the summer months ... our numbers triple each weekend, as we welcome those who vacation or live at the lakes in the warmer months," Bartlett said.

The St. Mary's community joined that of St. Michael the Archangel, Waterloo, in 2006, when Bishop John D'Arcy decided that St. Mary's would be



Photos provided by Mary Bartlett

St. Mary of the Angels Oratory celebrates Mass regularly and enjoys some of the other benefits of parish life. It collaborates with St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Waterloo.

administrated by St. Michael's due to a shortage of clergy. Shortly thereafter, St. Mary's was officially declared an oratory, a place of prayer typically reserved for Holy Days or special occasions.

The bishop did allow the community to continue to have Mass outside of Holy Days and special occasions, if they could find a priest to do it. That they did: Dedicated retired priests in the area have made it possible for St. Mary's to continue to celebrate regular Masses.

Bishop D'Arcy eventually granted St. Mary's permission to function administratively as an independent unit. Today, even though no pastor is on site, the community continues to operate with its own administrative team, under the direction of administrator Father David Carkenord, the pastor of St. Michael's. It collaborates with St. Michael's in other aspects as well.

Currently, St. Mary's offers Mass on Saturdays at 5 p.m.,



Members of St. Mary's can get involved in the church's rosary group. "Our numbers vary each month, but we pray for the sick of the parish and their families and let them know we care with cards," said secretary and bookkeeper Mary Bartlett.

and Sundays at 9 a.m.

Members of St. Mary's actively give back to their local community.

"We support various organizations in the area who serve the needy, such as the food banks, with our tithing and the little jar at the back of church. Other organizations are Elijah House in LaGrange, St. Martin's Soup Kitchen in Garrett, Faith Community Free Clinic in Angola, Friendship Pantry in Kendallville and many, many more," Bartlett explained.

In addition to activities offered through St. Michael's, members of St. Mary's can also get involved in the church's rosary group.

"We have an active Ladies Rosary Club that meets once a month. Our numbers vary each month, but we pray for the sick of the parish and their families and let them know we care with cards," Bartlett said. The rosary is said each first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. in honor of Our Lady of Fatima.



St. Mary of the Angels Oratory can be found at 5965 S. 1025E in Hudson.

St. Mary of the Angels Oratory

5965 S. 1025E
Hudson, IN 46747
260-837-7115

Mass Times:
Saturday: 5 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m.

Reconciliation:
Half-hour before Mass

St. Anthony of Padua and St. Paul Chapel: Reaching out

BY MARILYN KARPINSKI

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Angola and St. Paul Catholic Chapel in Clear Lake Township, just outside Angola, are two Catholic churches in Steuben County whose members consider themselves a single Catholic community.

Steuben County prides itself on its 101 lakes.

Being a resort destination has repercussions, though, and residents and county officials alike attest to the increase in population during the summer months, when "lakers" partake of the natural beauty of the area. The situation is equally evident for the Catholic Church in Steuben County, where an increase in summer residents means extra Masses, extra opportunities for sacraments and extra outreach in different forms. Some of the summer attendees are familiar faces who have had cottages on the lakes for many years; others are new to the area, or just passing through. Either way, they receive a welcome at St. Anthony's and St. Paul's.

In addition to Masses at the two churches, from Memorial



FATHER ROBERT SHOWERS,
OFM Conv



FATHER BERNIE ZAJDEL,
OFM Conv



Provided by Patti Webster

The parish of St. Anthony of Padua, Angola, is a vibrant and active community of believers with a history of witness in the surrounding area.

Day to Labor Day an outdoor Saturday evening Mass at Manapogo Campground is celebrated amidst lawn chairs, blankets and campfires.

75 years at Clear Lake

As the world went to war in 1939 and 1940, American involvement seemed unavoidable. With that came gasoline rationing, and the Catholics of Steuben County worried these hardships would make it difficult or impossible for people in the northern part of the county to get to Sunday Mass. Especially, it was feared, summer residents might lose their connection with a parish.

In response, several families

in Clear Lake Township, together with the Franciscan Friars of Angola, decided to open out an outreach on the lakeshores. In the spirit of the mission bands that the Franciscans were known for, they purchased an old school house and opened a mission chapel. Dedicated to St. Paul the Missionary Apostle, St. Paul's Catholic Chapel in Clear Lake has continued this spirit of outreach for 75 years. The community has grown to several hundred permanent residents and many more summer residents. The Catholic community of St. Paul's runs itself as a quasi-parish, with its own faith formation program, pastoral and finance councils, clubs, groups and associations.

St. Anthony's — more than brick and mortar

In 2010, parishioners of St. Anthony of Padua realized their dream of replacing their temporary church, a pole barn built in 1959, with a permanent structure. While the walls of the new church were no more than metal studs, and the floor leveled dirt, a service was held in the roughed-in structure. Parishioners brought stones decorated by their families to be placed within the frame the contractor had erected for pouring the concrete for the altar platform. Some marked the lives of loved ones who had passed, while others bore prayers and dreams for the future, but each held special meaning to the parishioner placing the stone. The messages on them were made more poignant by the fact

that they would be encased in concrete to support the altar upon which every Mass for generations to come would be celebrated.

The Holy Spirit was the architect

Throughout the fundraising and building process, parishioners, through a parish prayer recited at each Mass, called on the Holy Spirit to be their architect. He answered.

Fundraising experts projected \$1.7 million would be a realistic fundraising goal, given the demographics of the parish. This was far short of the \$4.3 million needed to complete the project. Rather than scrap the plans, parishioners called on the Holy Spirit and the full amount was raised. Only three years after completion, all debt was retired.

When incorrect materials were delivered, the parishioners found the ones delivered in error were more appropriate than those ordered. When a shipping strike threatened the delivery of a large glass art piece for above the altar in time for the dedication, parishioners once again put their faith in the Holy Spirit. The piece arrived at 6 p.m. on Friday, and workers labored through the night to install it in time for the Saturday evening dedication. A window fragment from the original church building of 1932 was also incorporated into the new rose windows of the church, which have become the symbols of the community.

The Franciscan friars and the spirit of Assisi

The Catholics of Angola have, for decades, been accustomed to the presence of friars living on church grounds and participating in the life of the community. Today, four friars live in the St. Anthony of Padua Friary next door.

The Franciscans founded a Midwest province in the 1920s under the patronage of the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Consolation. Their headquarters is in Southern Indiana at a place called Mount Saint Francis, in Floyd County. They took the name of the new province from the pilgrimage shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio, which the friars care for.

In 1931, the Conventual Franciscans came to Angola. They were given the care of St. Rita's parish, founded in 1926. The first friar-pastor was Clem Orth. The friars established the province novitiate in Angola and for many years, every friar of OLC Province spent time in Angola. The bishop changed the name of the parish to St.



Provided by Patti Webster

Every day at noon the large, stained glass window above the altar in the sanctuary at St. Anthony of Padua Church reflects perfectly in the submersion pool of the baptismal font, located in the back of the church.

St. Anthony of Padua

700 W. Maumee Street
Angola, IN 46703
260-665-2259
www.stanthonyangola.com

Winter Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 5 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 and 10 a.m.

Summer Mass Schedule:
(Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend)
Saturday: 5 p.m.
Sunday: 7, 8:30 and 10 a.m.
Manapogo Park:
Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
Daily Mass in chapel:
Monday-Saturday at 8 a.m.
Rosary at 7:30 a.m.

Spanish Mass
Every 3rd Friday at 7 p.m.

St. Paul Chapel

98780 E. 700
Fremont, IN 46737
260-665-2259
www.stpaulcatholicchapel.org

Winter Mass Schedule:
Sunday at 9 a.m.
Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Summer Mass Schedule:
(Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend)
Saturday at 5 p.m.
Sunday at 9 a.m.
Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration:
4th Wednesday every month
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Anthony of Padua, a great Franciscan saint, to honor them.

After 15 years of Mass in rented buildings, the Franciscans helped build a new church in 1940. It still stands as the Knights of Columbus meeting space and is called Maximilian Kolbe Hall, after another great conventual saint. The friars also helped build St. Paul's chapel, a new pastor's residence (since torn down), a second St. Anthony's church in 1959 and, finally, a third St. Anthony's church in 2010.

Evangelization through outdoor drama

The outdoors has always been a big part of the life of St. Anthony and St. Paul parishes. The Manapogo Campground Mass is just one example.

In 2013 parishioners of St. Anthony were looking for a way to make the true meaning of Christmas more visible. They decided to present a "live, drive-thru Nativity" where people of the community, from the comfort of their cars, could experience the Christmas story told through four biblical scenes: Mary and Joseph at the inn, the angel appearing to shepherds in the field, the Wise Men traveling to Bethlehem, and the manger.

Parishioners in costume — with live animals, including a camel — grace each scene. The road through the scenes is outlined with over 500 luminaria and each scene includes a corresponding Bible verse. A related carol is broadcast. Over 100 parishioners volunteer their services to make the event possible and while many cars stop to offer a donation, they are told donations are not accepted. The Drive-Thru Nativity is the parish's Christmas gift to the community. This year's event took place Sunday, Dec. 11 on the parish grounds at 700 W. Maumee Street.

In the spirit of the great Passion plays, the Hispanic



Provided by Katie Waltke

"The Chapel" at Clear Lake shares a pastor with St. Anthony of Padua, Angola, as well as administrative resources.

Ministry at St. Anthony's produces a living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. This drama, too, involves almost 100 people. Attendees walk each of the stations with Christ, from His presentation to Pilot to His crucifixion. The "live crucifixion" is a vivid reminder of the Passion of our Lord. The accompanying narrative is offered in both Spanish and English.

At St. Paul's, besides the annual "Mass in the Grass" and other outdoor events, this summer a new children's Bible school was introduced, with emphasis on enjoying God's nature and learning to love what He has wrought. There are also annual boat rides, bicycle rides and more. The outdoors seems to be an important part of the parish spirit: no wonder, then, that even the Human Life and Dignity Group seeks to emphasize the care of God's creation in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

Never a dull moment

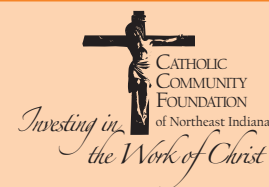
A brief review of the St. Anthony of Padua parish calendar finds many nights with multiple events scheduled. Traditional organizations such as the Altar and Rosary Society and the Knights of Columbus provide service to the community, while sacramental preparation programs — from RCIA to baptism and marriage preparation groups — deepen parishioners' faith. Hundreds of children, youth and adults take part religious education program at both campuses. Students from Trine University in Angola, located across the street from St. Anthony's, find it to be their parish away from home and participate in Mass and the liturgical ministries, as well as their own Newman Fellowship group. The St. Paul Chapel Boosters, Men's Club, Women's Club and other groups keep the Gospel lively in the northern end of the county. In fact, the parish websites list over 40 groups and ministries, so there is something for everyone.



Provided by Katie Waltke

The faith community at St. Paul Catholic Chapel swells in size during the summer, which is also when many outdoor events, including an annual outdoor Mass, happen. This gathering took place during the chapel's 75th anniversary celebration in July.

What is the Catholic Community Foundation?



The Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana consists of 137 endowments collectively invested to fund the various ministries and services of the Church throughout the diocese.

Making a Gift to the Catholic Community Foundation

There are currently no endowments in the Catholic Community Foundation for schools and ministries in Steuben County, and there are many ways to create an endowment besides a cash gift. Talk to a financial advisor to determine what would be best for a particular situation.

To find out more, contact the Secretariat for Stewardship and Development by email at plannedgiving@diocesefwsb.org.

Best wishes for this holiday season and for a wonderful New Year.



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Dr. Gianna Beretta Molla, physician and saint

We are encouraged by our religious leaders to study and emulate the saints to receive inspiration and guidance in our daily lives. I would like to share the story of a physician, mother and saint that our local Catholic medical guild regularly prays to, Dr. Gianna Beretta Molla.

Born in Italy in 1920 to a large Catholic family, she was the 10th of 13 children. She studied at the University of Pavia, where she received her medical degree. She went on to practice medicine, concentrating on babies, mothers, the elderly and the poor. She fell deeply in love and married Pietro Molla in 1955.

When she was two months pregnant with her fourth child, she began to have unexplained pain and was diagnosed with a fibroid tumor growing next to the baby in her womb. Her doctors recommended a complete hysterectomy, which would have sacrificed her baby. She refused any treatment that might harm her unborn child. Instead, she decided to take the risk of having only the fibroid removed and continuing the pregnancy. Her baby was born healthy on April 21, 1963, and named Gianna Emanuela. Over the next week she suffered unbearable pain from complications related to the delivery. She died seven days after she gave birth, repeatedly exclaiming, "Jesus, I love you!"

Dr. Gianna Molla's first adjudicated miracle, required for beatification, occurred at a hospi-

tal in Brazil that was founded by her brother. He was a missionary priest, Father Alberto Berretta. In 1977 a woman delivered a stillborn infant at this hospital and subsequently developed a life-threatening vaginal abscess that spread quickly. The hospital did not have the expertise on staff for the needed surgery and recommended transfer to another hospital, 600 km away. A nun by the name of Sister Bernardina joined with two nurses in prayer, asking Gianna Molla to intercede before they embarked on this long and dangerous transfer. The patient was immediately healed.

Dr. Gianna's beatification occurred on Mother's Day in 1994, the Year of the Family. Pope John Paul II presented her as a model for all mothers, saying, "A woman of exceptional love, an outstanding wife and mother, she gave witness in her daily life to the demanding values of the Gospel. By holding up this woman as an exemplar of Christian perfection, we would like to extol all those high-spirited mothers who give themselves completely to their family, who suffer in giving birth, who are prepared for every labor and every kind of sacrifice, so that the best they have can be given to others."

In 1997, at the second International Celebration of the Family, Gianna Emanuela, a physician as well, gave testimony to her mother.

"Dear Mom, thank you for having given me life two times: when you conceived me and

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

when you permitted me to be born ... My life seeks to be the natural continuation of your life, of your joy of living, of your enthusiasm, and it finds its full meaning in the engagement and dedication to whoever lives in suffering. Dear mom, intercede always for all mothers and all families who turn to you and entrust themselves to you." Pope John Paul II was in attendance and it was reported that this prayer brought tears to his eyes.

The second official miracle also occurred in Brazil, in 2003. A young lady was 16 weeks pregnant when her water broke. She was told that there was no chance of a successful pregnancy. The doctors recommended an abortion to save her life, since infection was inevitable. She and her husband refused to accept this and asked their bishop, who had married them, for guidance. They all prayed to Blessed Gianna Molla, asking for a miracle. Despite the absence of amniotic fluid, the baby continued to grow in the womb and on May 31, 2000, was born healthy. The baby was appropriately named Gianna Maria. Their obstetrician

DOCTOR, page 13

Respond to God's gifts with love, not guilt

Last month I went on a weeklong silent retreat to address a nagging concern. I felt heavy guilt for how I could be enjoying my life when there are profound deprivations and unspeakable suffering.

Catholic Relief Services serves people who do not have enough nutrition, sometimes no decent shelter nor water, very little access to proper medical care and, often times, crippling insecurity from violent conflicts and lost livelihood.

From these interactions I get to go home to hot showers, cook with spices that cost more than these individuals' daily incomes, have appointments with dentists, enjoy vacations, plan home improvements — and you can imagine the rest. For these, I feel like I should apologize that I am not giving my all to God or His people.

My spiritual director focused me on the concept of gift. What is a gift? Why do we give gifts? What do we hope for from the recipients?

Recently I had to choose a present for a little boy of 2. Reaching into fond memories of how much our son enjoyed "Thomas the Tank Engine" at that age, I selected a Thomas book that included a mat of train tracks and little replicas of Thomas and his coterie of engine friends.

It was a great success. The little boy loved the book, studied each page and carefully lifted the trains from their packaging. He clutched the book so tightly that



OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

CAROLYN WOO

he would barely free one arm at a time for his mom to put on his coat. I got much pleasure watching this.

Reflecting on my spiritual director's questions about gifts, I wanted the boy's family to know that we value and welcome this little one. The only hope, not even expectation, was that the gift would be used and enjoyed.

This exercise was an invitation for me to think about God, the giver of all gifts. Why does God endow us with blessings? What does He want for us, not from us, in his generosity? How should we, the intended beneficiaries, receive?

Scriptures from Genesis to the New Testament tell us that God gives out of His profound love for us, that He wants us to flourish and to live life fully; and that all His creation reflects Him and His generosity. Simply, God takes delight in us.

We, the blessed, are to recognize Him in and as the source of this bounty, to give thanks, glory and honor, and to imitate His goodness and generosity in the way we engage the rest of His family. Never in Jesus' parables

WOO, page 13

There is still time to reach out to our God



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday Of Advent Matthew 1:18-24

The church is observing the last Sunday of Advent. In only seven days, joyfully and in great faith, it will celebrate the feast of the Nativity of the Lord, or Christmas.

The church chooses for the first reading on this weekend a passage from the Book of Isaiah. Central in the reading is King Ahaz of the southern Hebrew kingdom of Judah, who reigned in the last third of the eighth century before Christ. His reign is not remembered as having been particularly distinguished. He was no great leader.

For Isaiah the definition of a good king, of course, was that the monarch genuinely led the people to God by inspiring them to follow the covenant. Regardless of any other duty, confirming the covenant and requiring submission to its terms were the essential responsibilities of the kings. Nothing else mattered.

Although Ahaz was not spectacular in his role, God still used him as an instrument to bring the people back to fidelity to the covenant. Ahaz served God's purpose to save the people from their own sins by fathering a son. When the king's spouse, a young woman, conceived, Isaiah saw in the event a sign of God's caring for the people. What the lackluster Ahaz could not accomplish would be achieved by the son. Thus, the coming of the new prince was a cause for rejoicing.

As its second reading on this weekend, the church selects a section from Paul's Epistle to the Romans. No Christian today would think of challeng-

ing Paul's status as an Apostle. When Paul was alive, however, his credentials were hardly so universally acknowledged. He himself wrote of usurpers who vested themselves with the cloak of being Apostles, and who led the faithful astray. Here, Paul stresses that he indeed is an Apostle, because the Lord called him.

St. Matthew's Gospel is the source of the last reading. This reading recalls the miraculous conception of Jesus. Jesus is the Son of God, but also the son of Mary, always a virgin. He entered human history directly as a result of God's love for humanity, fulfilling God's promise to give the fullness of life to the people who were faithful.

The Incarnation, as theologians call the mystery of the Son of God's birth as a human, is beyond human comprehension. Not even Joseph, holy as he was, could understand it. God's ways are not our ways.

Reflection

Only one week remains in Advent, and given the frenzy usually connected with preparing for Christmas in our society, these remaining days of Advent are apt to be quite busy.

Nevertheless, one week will be enough for any of us to use the opportunity of Advent to cleanse ourselves of attachments to sin and instead make our souls worthy of receiving the Lord. Christmas can be deeply personal for us, for if we have made ourselves worthy, Jesus will come to us personally on this great feast.

The church encourages us, therefore, to accept its Advent invitation to come to God. If we have conscientiously observed Advent, then the church urges us to continue doing so until Christmas. If we have allowed Advent to slip past us, the church calls us to use the time left.

God wants us to love Him as He loves us. Again and again, God has reached out to people to empower them in coming in Him.

He sent a son to Ahaz, that the nation might have a good king. He sent Jesus to us. Jesus sent us the Apostles. He sent Paul.

God loves us so much. He never leaves alone or without guidance. He provides for us in ways we cannot understand. Even in one week, we can reach out to God, if we so wish. Time remains.

READINGS

Sunday: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17 Lk 1:5-15

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8 Lk 1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4bc-5rab, 8-10, 14 Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Lk 1:67-79

The persecution of professor Esolen

Professor Anthony Esolen is a bright jewel in the crown of Catholic higher education in the United States, a scholar whose brilliant translation of, and commentary on, Dante's Divine Comedy is appreciated far beyond the boundaries of Catholic literary and intellectual life. Tony Esolen is also a wonderful man, a scintillating spiritual writer and a teacher who takes character formation as seriously as intellectual formation, because he wants his students to be virtuous and happy, not just smart and employable. If I were drafting a university-level dream team of instructors for my grandchildren, Tony Esolen would be a very high, first-round pick.

So why is professor Esolen being persecuted at the school where he has taught for 25 years, Providence College?

Because he spoke his mind plainly on questions of great consequence for the future of Catholic higher learning and got the PC Stormtroopers into an uproar. To make matters worse, the college's administration has shown more sympathy to those determined to bully Esolen into silence than to one of Providence's star professors.

The offenses? Two articles that professor Esolen wrote, which proposed that diversity (which the professor welcomed) be located within a biblical vision of the ultimate unity of all humanity in God: a vision that would, he suggested, deepen Providence College's Catholic identity and distinguish it from competitors. Absent that purifying vision, he warned, making a fetish of diversity risks creating a coercive campus ethos inimical to true learning.

Anyone paying attention to campus life in recent years knows that America's colleges and universities are filled with pampered millennials who require "trigger warnings" if their tender sensibilities might

be offended by this, that or the other idea or text. Well, Tony Esolen provided no trigger warning, only robust and bracing arguments. Certain students and faculty at Providence College reacted with fits of rage more befitting a day care center than an institution of higher education: which, of course, perfectly illustrated one point Esolen made in his articles.

This is sad beyond words. I've long been happy to point parents, students and donors to Providence College as a school that takes the classic liberal arts tradition seriously, and does so with a distinctively Catholic flavor. It will be much harder to do that in the future unless the college administration reverses its present course, calls the faculty and students who have been brutalizing professor Esolen to order and reaffirms Providence College's commitment to genuine academic freedom and to a Catholic vision of the human person that challenges the tribalism and identity politics eroding our culture and our politics.

As for that erosion, recent data from the World Values Survey tells us that only 30 percent of U.S. millennials (i.e., those born after 1980) think it "essential" to live in a democracy; 24 percent of those same millennials think democracy a "bad" or "very bad" way to run a country; and only 19 percent judge it "illegitimate" for the military to take over when the government is incompetent or failing to do its job. Those numbers might seem appalling. But what should we expect when other survey data tells us that something like 50 percent of recent colleges graduates are historical illiterates who, as George Will recently pointed out, don't know that George Washington led the Continental Army at Yorktown, that Theodore Roosevelt had a role in building the Panama Canal or that FDR designed



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

the New Deal? When almost half of recent college graduates don't know the length of terms served by members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, is it really surprising that so many in their age cohort claim to value efficient autocracy over the often-messy business of democratic self-governance?

Catholic higher education is uniquely positioned to do something about these twinned problems of historical amnesia and political-cultural corruption. The church invented the university and its ethos of open inquiry, which was rooted in the conviction that human beings can, with effort, get at the truth of things. Anthony Esolen stands firmly in that great Catholic tradition of liberal learning. A college whose leadership is committed to that tradition, and to Catholic leadership in the reform of an increasingly incoherent and authoritarian American intellectual and educational culture, would celebrate Tony Esolen's contributions. It certainly wouldn't coddle his persecutors.

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

DOCTOR

Continued from Page 12

was so amazed and inspired that he converted to Catholicism.

In 2004 Dr. Gianna Molla was canonized a saint by Pope John Paul II. Not only were her children present, but so was her 92-year-old husband.

Dr. David Kaminskas is a board certified cardiologist and member of The Jerome Lejeune Guild of Northeast Indiana.

WOO

Continued from Page 12

did He ask for guilt, but for trust, persistence, recognition of the gift, gratitude and a new way of being.

Christmas is the season of gifts. For all our preoccupation with shopping and giving, we may have underinvested in our preparation of ourselves as receivers of the divine gift: God Himself comes into our world to live our lives and frailties, to teach us how to be truly human and to be with us on our journeys.

Our response is not hard nor particularly complicated. We are to pay attention, as we should

with all gifts, to engage the giver in recognition of the love behind the act of giving; to let that gift become part of us, thus warming and changing us in the knowledge that we are loved beyond human limit. In all this, we are to bask in God's delight in us.

On my list of Christmas wishes to God, I ask that His gift of Himself help me become more openhanded, openhearted, joyful, loving and retire the other "g" word.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for December 18, 2016

Matthew 1:18-24

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Cycle C: how the birth of the Lord came about. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

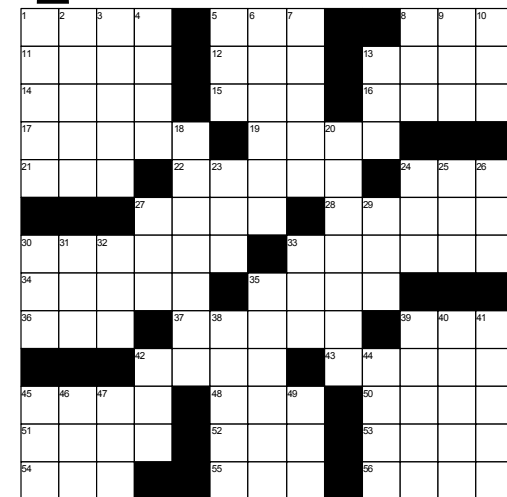
MOTHER MARY	BETROTHED	JOSEPH
BEFORE	FOUND	CHILD
HUSBAND	SHAME	DIVORCE
BEHOLD	THE ANGEL	APPEARED
DREAM	DAVID	CONCEIVED
A SON	SAVE	PEOPLE
PROPHET	EMMANUEL	AWOKE

IT CAME ABOUT

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

The Cross Word

December 18 and 25, 2016



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Based on readings: Is 7: 10-14; Rom 1: 1-7; Mt 1: 18-24 and Is 52: 7-10; Heb 1: 1-6; Jn 1: 1-18

ACROSS

- 1 Oils
- 5 North American country
- 8 _____, 2016
- 11 Prayer ending
- 12 Scottish nickname
- 13 Halo
- 14 _____-nuel
- 15 Brooch
- 16 Resurrection from the _____
- 17 Frizzy
- 19 He persecuted Christians
- 21 Colony insect

DOWN

- 22 Beat
- 24 Symbol of St. Simon
- 27 Tussle
- 28 Philippine dish with marinated meat
- 30 Paul's Letter to the _____
- 33 Poland city
- 34 Projection
- 35 Moist
- 36 Kitten's cry
- 37 Water retention
- 39 Constrictor
- 42 Middle East dweller
- 43 Opp. of old
- 45 Erode

- 48 Religious profess one
- 50 Opera solo
- 51 Glance over
- 52 No room here
- 53 Horse's gait
- 54 Ash day
- 55 Manna fell like this
- 56 Sharpen

DOWN

- 1 Passes at the bull
- 2 Capital of Jordan
- 3 Test the Lord
- 4 Break a twig
- 5 Sports official
- 6 Holy ones
- 7 Pimpled
- 8 Past deadline
- 9 Epoch
- 10 Bounder
- 13 Hoopla
- 18 James the _____
- 20 Vehicle path
- 23 Ship initials
- 24 The virgin shall bear
- 25 Type of brake system
- 26 Chinese cooking pan
- 27 Son of _____
- 29 The Lord's _____
- 30 Revolutions a minute
- 31 Miner's goal
- 32 Cut grass
- 33 Ruby
- 35 Clean a fish
- 38 Royal House of _____
- 39 Donkey
- 40 White vegetable
- 41 Multi-colored rock
- 42 Lord has a mighty right one
- 44 Commitment
- 45 Compass point
- 46 Stretch to make do
- 47 Assist
- 49 Compass point

ADVENT love

Showing love for our fellow man during Advent

BY EMMA WARD

Someone recently described Advent to me as being a time of preparation for the coming of Christ, but also as a time for allowing Jesus to come into our hearts in a very intimate way. Rather than the penitential, somber reflection of suffering during Lent, this approach to Advent is a very broad focus on spiritual life. One can take many different routes to better allow Jesus into one's life, but there are several basic steps all must take to properly prepare for the coming of Christ, both during Advent and at the end of our lives.

There is a reason why many churches are magnificently constructed and why numerous great artists depict scenes from the Bible; God does deserve all the finest the world can offer, but the Lord is beauty itself. This reality is one that can be reflected upon. God is the creator of the universe: All has order, and the things that He created were good and, therefore, beautiful. Yet, God is the greatest of all. God, who created beauty, is beauty Himself. All things created by God have a part of Him within, which is something all can ponder.

A great justice that can be done as preparation during Advent would be to recognize the

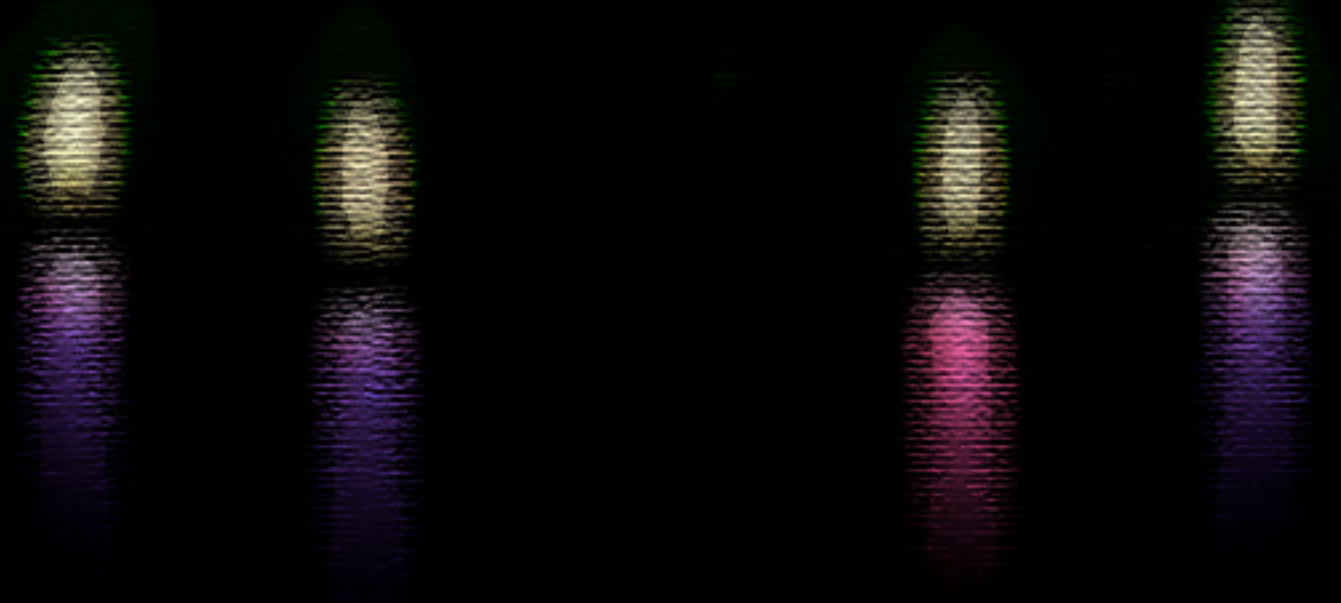
beauty of God in all things good, especially in the good and beautiful parts of the people we sometimes think have the most ugly interiors. An example is seeing that a person, even though he or she has a tendency to be uncharitable, is trying to deal with a very hard family life and trying to find solutions to their problems. Understanding that sometimes the person straying from the truth is truly trying to find themselves and figure out what truth is: This is a good and beautiful intention, yet often I think we do not see the human person for the entire depth that we are. People were created good and beautiful, in God's image. We all have a right and duty to see God in others and treat ourselves well, too. That is a part of what makes us human.

One of the main actions that directly inhibit us from seeing God in others is gossip. Gossip is extremely judgmental, simply because what is seen of the victim is only one side of them. We have no right to tear others down for actions performed under circumstances that may have been extremely stressful for them. To counter this habit of gossip, a priest once advised me to thank God for the many gifts

He had given me, especially the gifts that challenge me the most. After several minutes of calling to mind rather small gifts from God, and not being fully engaged, I found myself falling into a mental gossip of my own. I was astounded by myself and decided that I needed to change. I prayed in thanksgiving for all those people whose words or actions I had incorrectly judged, and I have never felt so close to God before. I felt in true communion with the church, and I felt at peace with myself and with God. It was amazing to experience that grace.

This Advent, I encourage others to open their hearts and walk the path of justice and treat our fellow men for who they really are, which is fragile and beautiful children who longs to hold their Father's hand and share an intimate bond of love. Let us seek God's beauty in all that is good and be thankful for the challenges with which Advent presents us.

Emma Ward is a junior at Bishop Luers High School.



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 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

Bishop Dwenger plans trivia night

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School will host a trivia night on Saturday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person in advance or \$15 per person at the door. Additional information, registration and sponsorship opportunities can be found at www.bishopdwenger.com/trivianight or call Molly Schreck at 260-496-4775.

Divorced/Separated Catholic support group

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1502 E. Wallen Rd., will continue "The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide" on Thursday, Jan. 5, with the session "Handling Money Wisely," from 7-9 p.m. in the parish library, located off of the gathering space in the church. For more information visit www.saintv.org and select the Community Life/Support link or call 260-489-3537 ext. 208.

German Christmas concert

FORT WAYNE — St. Peter Church, 518 E Dewald St., will host a Christmas concert Sunday, Dec. 18, at 4 p.m. The Fort Wayne Männerchor/Damenchor will offer traditional German Christmas music in the beautiful sanctuary. No admission charge. Visit www.fortwaynemaennerchor.org for information.

Christmas concert planned

FORT WAYNE — Most Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St.,

will have a Christmas concert Thursday, Dec. 29, at 7 p.m. in the church. Admission is free.

Bishop Luers to offer Christmas prayer in music

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will offer Christmas Prayer in Music on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 4 p.m. in the new Chapel of Saint Francis of Assisi at the school. The Bishop Luers choirs and musicians will offer a reading and Christmas prayers in the form of music. The service is expected to last one hour. The annual Christmas Concert will be Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m., where the bands and choirs will perform music of the season.

Cupertino Classic scheduled

FORT WAYNE — The third annual Cupertino Classic will be Tuesday, Dec. 27, at Bishop Luers High School, 333 E. Paulding Rd., at 6:30 p.m. The friendly basketball competition between priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is family friendly and admission is free. More information will be posted on the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CupertinoClassic.

March for Life

FORT WAYNE — Join over 1,000 pro-lifers for a march through downtown.

The Fort Wayne March for Life is an annual pro-life rally held near the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in Roe v. Wade. The rally will begin at noon at the University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center, followed by the march at 1 p.m. Peter Heck will be the guest speaker.

The CrossWord

Dec. 18 and 25, 2016

F	A	T	S	U	S	A	D	E	C			
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REST IN PEACE

Auburn

Hazelann Kimmel, 82, Immaculate Conception

Decatur

Thomas J. Niblick, 64, St. Mary of the Assumption

Fort Wayne

Forrest Newton Jackson, 99, St. Peter

Carmen L. Gamboa, 50, St. Peter

Joseph B. Stoodly, Jr., 76, St. Therese

Christopher Levy, 26, St. Jude

Nancy L. Cox, 79, St. Vincent de Paul

Nu Thi Lam, 65, St. Patrick

Patrick C. Langin, 77, St. Jude

Patty J. Hickey, 78, St. Charles Borromeo

Carolyn J. Myers, 84, Our Lady of Good Hope

John Sosenheimer, 93, St. John the Baptist

Huntington

Martin A. Altman, 64, SS. Peter and Paul

Allen D. Stetzel, 85, SS. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Mary Elizabeth (Mannix) Rice, 84, St. Joseph

Paula Ann Schimizzi, 68, Queen of Peace

Alpha Vander Heyden, 96, St. Joseph

New Haven

Jeanne Irvin, 70, St. Louis Besancon

Hubert Joseph Sorg, 90, St. John the Baptist

South Bend

Betty June Stuart, 91, St. Anthony de Padua

Arnold A. Cater, 89, Christ the King

Ruby Latowski, 91, Holy Cross

Angela Rose Kolodzie, 30, St. Adalbert

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Flight INTO Egypt



Flight Into Egypt by H.O. Tanner, 1923 – Used with Permission

The Christmas story goes well beyond that beautiful moment of the Nativity. From the Annunciation to the Flight into Egypt, it is a story of obedience to God's will and the self-sacrificial love of family. For Catholic Charities, Christmas is our call to aid the vulnerable, the homeless, and the refugee. So in this holy season, we renew our commitment of service and offer our heartfelt thanks to all who make our work possible.

From all of us, we wish you a Blessed Christmas and Prosperous New Year,
Gloria Whitcraft, CEO

ccfwsb.org

Gloria



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