

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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50¢

TODAYSCATHOLICNEWS.org

## Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion



Photos by Kevin Haggengjos

Above, candidates and their sponsors stand as the candidates' names are read aloud at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, during the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion. The South Bend-area rites took place Sunday, Feb. 26, and will be followed by a Fort Wayne-area liturgy on Sunday, March 5. Also present at the rite were the unbaptized elect, who will receive baptism, confirmation, and the Eucharist during the Easter Vigil.



At left, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades signs the "Book of the Elect" during the Enrollment of Names.

### 'Under Caesar's Sword'

Documentary on Christian persecution debuts

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### Joyous noise

ND choirs lend their talent in Fort Wayne

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### St. Martin de Porres

Parish prepares duo for first Communion

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### 'An Exorcist Explains the Demonic'

Book exposes Satan's tools, offers hope

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## Saint Joseph High School triumphs at state

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, saw its student athletes excel over the weekend at state competitions in two sports.

On Saturday, the SJHS girls basketball team defeated North Harrison 57-49, taking the Class 3A State Championship title. Senior Killian Mountford also won the Class 3A Patricia L. Roy Mental Attitude Award.

"It feels great," said Mountford on the award. "We have some really deserving seniors on the team. Anyone could have won it."

SJHS made IHSAA history that night for another reason as

well, with head coach Sydney Smallbone becoming the first individual to win a girls basketball state championship as both a player and a coach.

"I knew coming into the season we had such a talented group," said Smallbone. She and the coaching staff worked on building chemistry to create a perfect balance with this victorious team.

Helping this chemistry was a coaching staff made up of other SJHS alumni; namely, Melissa Lechlitner, Kristen Dockery and Tim Walsh.

The school will host a welcome home celebration for the state champion girls basketball team

at 12:30 p.m. Sunday afternoon at the high school.

Four SJHS swimmers, Cole Short, Peter Jachim, Luke Barrett, and Joe Deahl, also competed at the state level Feb. 25-26 and took 14th in the 200-yard medley. Short and Barrett also placed well in individual events.

Additionally, two SJHS music students participated in the Indiana State School Music Association Solo and Ensemble Event at the state level earlier in the month.

Freshman Libby O'Brien, playing the flute, won a Gold award. Junior Miquel Enriquez, playing the alto saxophone, won a Silver.

Both earned Gold in Group I

(the highest group) at the regional ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Event held on Feb. 4. Music listed on the Group I list is considered the most difficult literature for an instrument.

Students play their solo at the district level in front of a judge who rates them on their performance, looking at things like technique, tone quality, and musicianship. If they play a group I solo, which they must choose from a list of challenging pieces and receive a gold rating at the district level, they qualify for state.

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## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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# Lent: A penitential mobilization



## IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

*The following is the text of the homily of Bishop Rhoades on Ash Wednesday at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, a Lenten message for the whole diocese:*

“Return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God.” These words of the prophet Joel introduce us to the season of Lent. They teach us that the basic feature of this time of grace, these 40 days of Lent, is conversion of our hearts. Lent is a time to get back on the right path by detaching ourselves from whatever keeps us distant from God. That’s why we do works of penance during these 40 days. They are not done for their own sake, but with a higher purpose: inner renewal and conversion.

We pray more during Lent. We deny ourselves certain foods or drink. Hopefully, we also practice almsgiving more fervently. And amidst these penitential practices, we are asking pardon of the Lord for our offenses. It is the conversion of our hearts, interior change, that is most important. We pray in the words of King David in Psalm 51: “A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.”

We observe these 40 days of Lent not as isolated individuals, but as members of the community of the Church. Repentance and conversion is deeply personal, taking place in each of our hearts. When we go to confession, for example, it is individual. Yet, our reconciliation also involves the community. When we are restored to God’s grace in the sacrament of Penance, we are also reconciled with the Church. The sacrament repairs or restores our communion with the Church. It “has also a revitalizing effect on the life of the Church which suffered from the sin of one of her members” (CCC 1469).

So we don’t journey through Lent as isolated individuals, but together as brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ. Notice that the prophet Joel called the whole community to repentance. He said: “Blow the trumpet in Zion! Proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the people, notify the congregation; assemble the elders, gather the children ...” There was what St. John Paul II called “a penitential mobilization.” That’s what this season of Lent is: a penitential mobilization. All of us, young and old, children and elders; no one is left out. That’s why the Church has communal penances during Lent, like today, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: We all fast. And on every Friday of Lent, we abstain from meat. So besides our individual Lenten penances, we do these common penances as a community, showing that we are all in this together.

It is beautiful to see how many attend daily Mass during Lent, gathering with brothers and sisters every day during this holy season. It is beautiful to see communities in our parishes and schools doing almsgiving together, engaging in projects like Operation Rice Bowl to assist the needy around the world. It is beautiful during Lent to gather together to meditate on the Lord’s



Today's Catholic file photo

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades places ashes on the forehead of a student from Bishop Dwenger High School during a pastoral visit in 2015.**

Passion through the Stations of the Cross. I encourage you in these communal practices, a way to walk together on the penitential journey of Lent, while also doing private penance, individual acts, “going to your inner room,” as Jesus says in the Gospel, knowing that “your Father who sees in secret will repay you.”

The Church calls us to a penitential mobilization. You’ve heard that call. That’s why you are here at this Ash Wednesday liturgy. As individuals and as a community, today we recognize, in the ceremony of the ashes, that we are creatures, made of dust and destined to return to dust. We also recognize that we are sinners, in need of God’s pardon in order to be able to live according to the Gospel. We hear St. Paul’s exhortation: “We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”

Even more important than receiving ashes

today is our receiving the Holy Eucharist. The Lord comes to strengthen us with His grace and to revive our love. The Eucharist helps us to resist the temptation of sin. In Holy Communion, we receive the Lord who is the Way that leads us to salvation, the Truth that sets us free, and the Life that knows no death!

I hope and pray that you will have a good and fruitful Lent. Let’s not waste this opportunity to draw closer to the Lord. Let us live this season well. By God’s grace, may our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving renew us in our Christian life! Let us walk together in this Lenten journey and pray for one another. May our Blessed Mother Mary walk with us and support us with her prayers during these 40 days, so that purified in our hearts, we will be able to celebrate Easter with the deep joy that comes from authentic conversion!

# Trump administration announces wide-ranging immigration guidelines

BY RHINA GUIDOS

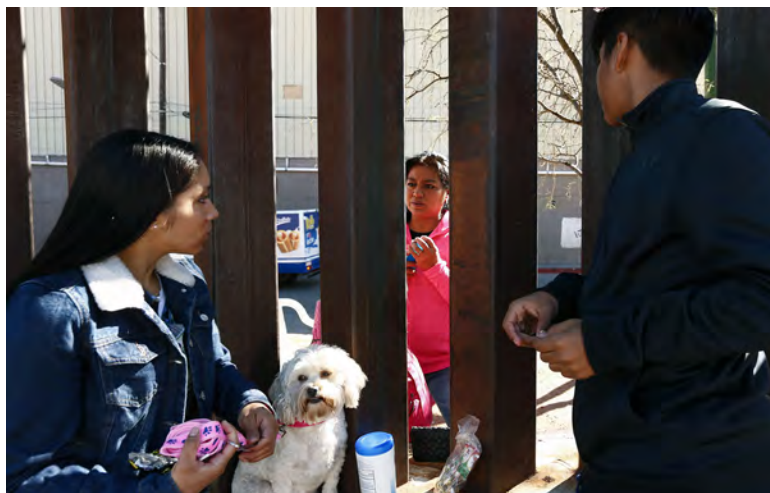
WASHINGTON (CNS) — In two memos published Feb. 20, the Department of Homeland Security outlined guidelines that White House officials said would enhance enforcement of immigration laws inside the country as well as prevent further unauthorized immigration into the U.S.

In a Feb. 21 news briefing, White House press secretary Sean Spicer said the guidelines include hiring more border agents, construction of a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, and hiring more personnel to “repatriate illegal immigrants swiftly.”

The memos by Department of Homeland Security Secretary John F. Kelly also called for state and local agencies to “assist in the enforcement of federal immigration law” and for hiring “additional border patrol agents, as well as “500 Air and Marine Agents/Officers.” The cost of implementing such programs, whether there’s enough funding and how Congress will be involved, was not discussed.

While there have been two arrests under the new administration involving recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, known as DACA, the policy was not mentioned in the new guidelines. The program grants a reprieve from deportation and allows a work permit for those who were brought as minors to the U.S. without legal permission.

In the news briefing, Spicer said the guidelines were meant to prioritize for deportation anyone who was a criminal or posed a threat in some form, but he also said “laws are laws” and that anyone in the country who is here without permission is subject to removal at any time.



CNS photo/Nancy Wiehede

People talk with relatives across the fence at the international border in Nogales, Ariz., Feb. 19.

In a Feb. 23 statement, Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Migration, said that while public safety is important, the memos detailing the new guidelines “contain a number of provisions that, if implemented as written, will harm public safety rather than enhance it.” Bishop Vasquez added that it will break down “the trust that currently exists between many police departments and immigrant communities, and sow great fear in those communities,” if local enforcement is used to enforce federal immigration laws.

The memos also addressed the issue of unaccompanied minors who cross the border, fleeing violence in their home countries or seeking reunification with family in the U.S. They said that “regardless of the desire of family reunification,” smuggling or trafficking is “intolerable” and said “exploitation of that policy led to abuses by many of the parents and legal guardians.”

Bishop Vasquez said the policies in the memos “will needlessly separate families, upend peaceful communities, endanger the lives and safety of the most vulnerable among us” and urged the Trump administration to “reconsider the approach” expressed in the Feb. 20 memos but also “reconsider the approach it has taken in a number of executive orders and actions issued over the last month. Together, these have placed already vulnerable immigrants among us in an even greater state of vulnerability.”

Department of Homeland Security workers, the memo also said, should prioritize for deportation “removable aliens” who “have abused any program related to receipt of public benefits.”

Reports from major outlets such as *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* said the administration in a conference call said it was seeking to calm fears among immigrant communities by saying only those who “pose a threat or have committed a crime”



## Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

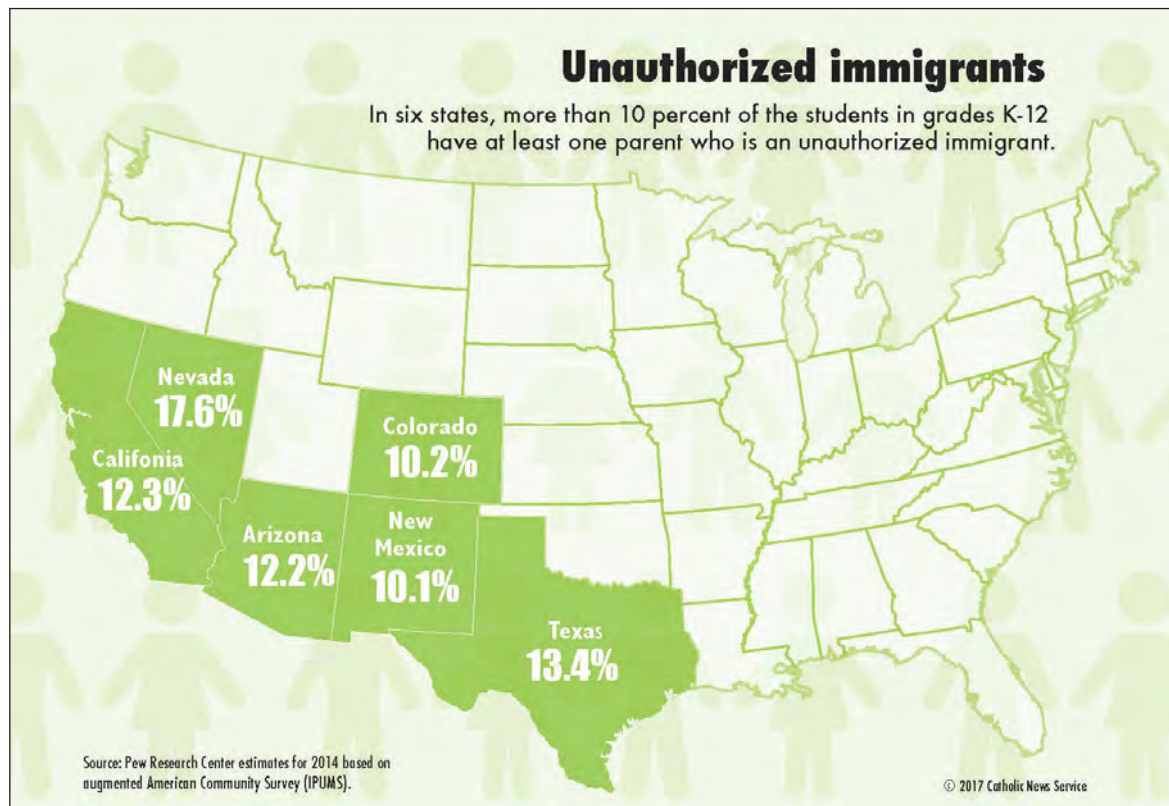
Sunday, March 5: 10 a.m. — Mass, St. Joseph Church, Bluffton  
 Sunday, March 5: 2 p.m. — Rite of Election, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne  
 Monday, March 6: 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop’s Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne  
 Tuesday, March 7: 7 p.m. — Little Flower Holy Hour, St. Theodore Guerin Chapel, Fort Wayne  
 Wednesday, March 8: 10:30 a.m. — Lenten Day of Recollection for Priests, St. Martin de Porres Church, Syracuse  
 Wednesday, March 8: 6 p.m. — Meeting with Diocesan Review Board, Holiday Inn Express, Warsaw  
 Thursday, March 9: 8 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Corpus Christi School, South Bend  
 Friday and Saturday, March 10-11 — Conference for Project Tamar, Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame



## Priest appointment

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

**Reverend Msgr. Owen Campion** to Administrator of Saints Peter and Paul Parish, Huntington, effective Feb. 28, 2017.



**It's been too long...**  
 On March 14th, every parish in the Diocese will offer confession between 6-8pm.  
 Will you join us?  
 The Light is ON for You.  
 Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 diocesefwsb.org/Light

need to worry about being priorities. But during the news briefing, when asked about a woman who was deported despite having no major criminal convictions, Spicer said he wouldn't comment on specific cases.

After drafts of memos leaked out in mid-February proposing use of the National Guard in immigration operations, The Associated Press reported that the New Mexico's Catholic bishops called the ideas in the memos “a declaration of some form of war.” AP provided documents to back up the claim but the White House denied it and the final guidelines made no mention of the National Guard.

Catholic leaders have been urging dignity and respect for migrants and have acknowledged the rampant fear among communities.

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men Feb. 21 issued a statement denouncing the recent arrest by immigration officials of six men exiting a hypothermia shelter at Rising Hope Mission Church in Alexandria, Va., saying it violated Immigration and Customs Enforcement policy “not to conduct enforcement actions at or near ‘sensitive locations’ like houses of worship.”

The conference said it invited “others to join us in denouncing these deportation efforts that harm the ‘least of our brothers and sisters.’ We especially denounce the irreverence, disrespect and violation of sensitive locations, such as houses of worship and ministry which belong to God and the erosion of our Constitutional right to be free from religious oppression by our government.”

# Mass and film increase awareness of Christian persecution

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

On Thursday, Feb. 20, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame, to pray for persecuted Christians. The Mass preceded the showing of a film on Christian persecution, sponsored by the Under Caesar's Sword program at Notre Dame.

In his homily, the bishop noted the connection between St. Polycarp, a bishop and martyr of the second century, the film and the first reading of the Mass. The connection was the city of Smyrna (modern-day Izmir) in Turkey. St. Polycarp was bishop of Smyrna. One of the persecuted Christians in the film was from Izmir and the first reading from the Book of Revelation was a message to the ancient persecuted Christian community in Smyrna. Bishop Rhoades explained how the message of the Lord to the church in Smyrna, recorded in the book of Revelation, was a message that would have given strength and courage to St. Polycarp and can inspire persecuted Christians today.

That message is: "Do not be afraid of anything that you are going to suffer. Indeed, the devil will throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will face an ordeal . . . Remain faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life." The bishop recounted the martyrdom of St. Polycarp and his trust that, sharing in the chalice of Christ, he would rise to eternal life. The bishop urged all to pray for those today who share in the chalice of Christ those who suffer for their faith in Him.

"The foundation of Christian courage is trust that God is in control, that He cares for us and those we love and that He will save us — perhaps not from

earthly death, however, as in the case of the martyrs," Bishop said. "Instead, God promises the ultimate victory, eternal life."

Following the Mass, many joined the bishop for the public viewing of "Under Caesar's Sword," a documentary detailing Christian persecution in the world today, focusing on the Middle East, Turkey and India. The "Under Caesar's Sword" film is part of the larger Under Caesar's Sword project, which explores the response of Christian communities to persecution. A collaborative global research project led by Notre Dame and the Washington, D.C.-based Religious Freedom Institute, it is housed within the university's Center for Ethics and Culture. The project explores three key questions:

1. How do Christian communities respond to repression?
2. Why do they choose the responses that they do?
3. What are the results of these responses?

Other project initiatives include or have included a December 2015 conference in Rome that discussed the issue of Christian persecution; a public report of the team's research discoveries that will be translated into four languages, an edited volume of essays describing the work of the scholars on this project; and curricula on Christian persecution.

In his introduction of the movie, the bishop talked about a conversation he had with a few years ago in Rome with the former Chaldean Catholic Archbishop of Mosul whose diocese was decimated by ISIS. ISIS expelled the Christians, most of whom were Chaldean Catholic, from Mosul and surrounding Christian towns. Some of the faithful were killed. Bishop Rhoades related how he asked the archbishop if any of the faithful denied the faith in order to save their lives and liveli-



Courtesy of Jason Cohen Productions

**Under Caesar's Sword is a collaborative global research project that investigates how Christian communities around the world respond when their religious freedom is severely violated. A Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, and a showing of the short documentary film of the same name, took place at the University of Notre Dame Thursday, Feb. 23.**

hoods. The archbishop replied that there were none that he knew of.

Bishop Rhoades then offered advice on how fellow Catholics can support their persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ. He highlighted prayer and advocacy for persecuted Christians and other religious minorities and advocacy for international religious freedom. The bishop also encouraged generous material assistance through organizations that are assisting refugees escaping violence and persecution because of their faith, including Catholic Relief Services, Aid to the Church in Need and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association.



Daniel Philpott, professor of political science at the University of

Notre Dame and co-director of the Under Caesar's Sword project, also spoke at the event.

"Funded by a grant of \$1.1 million from the Templeton Religion Trust, Under Caesar's Sword began in summer 2014 with the formation of a team of about 15 scholars who traveled around the world to study Christian communities in many of the worst sites of persecution in the world," he said in his remarks to the viewing audience. "The current phase of the project seeks to disseminate the results of their research, so that the world may be in closer solidarity with persecuted Christians."

The Under Caesar's Sword project is a pioneer in its realm of research.

"(It is)...the world's first systematic global investigation of how Christians respond to persecution," Philpott explained.

In an interview with *Today's Catholic*, Philpott described the group's research.

"Generally we found that Christians respond to persecution through creative pragmatism," he said. "They build bridges with other communities and find ways to keep their worship and basic activities going. Yet, they do this with creativity, courage, and a deep faith that one day, when the clouds have lifted, the church will enjoy a new springtime."

The film's other directors include Thomas Farr, president of the Religious Freedom Institute, and Timothy Shah, who serves as a senior advisor for the Religious Freedom Institute and associate professor of the Practice of Religion and Global Politics at Georgetown University.

The project team is optimistic that Thursday's film event will help to spread a message of unity. Their hope is that the event would inspire people in the Notre Dame community and in the diocese at large to stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians through prayer and action.

The film was followed by a reception on campus. An estimated 150 people attended the event.

View the film for free online at <http://ucs.nd.edu/film/>.



## THE BOOK OF EXODUS: A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

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Professor of Theology  
Director, McGrath Institute for Church Life

Visit [icl.nd.edu/events/exodus](http://icl.nd.edu/events/exodus) for more information.

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# Pro-life bills supported by Indiana Catholic Conference advance

INDIANAPOLIS — Two pro-life bills supported by the Indiana Catholic Conference have advanced at the mid-point, commonly called “crossover,” in the Indiana General Assembly. “Crossover” refers to the point in the legislative session when House bills cross over to the other chamber — the Senate — and Senate bills cross over to the House.

Senate Bill 404, authored by Sen. Erin Houchin, R-Salem, would require parents who seek an abortion for their minor children to verify their parental status. The measure would prevent adults who are not a minor’s parent from posing as the minor’s parent. The bill also would prohibit a person from aiding or assisting a minor who is pregnant in obtaining an abortion without the consent of the minor’s parent or guardian. If an adult did aid and assist a minor in obtaining an abortion without parental consent, it would allow parents to collect damages against an adult who either posed as the minor child’s parent to obtain an abortion, or aided or assisted the minor in obtaining an abortion.

“Currently in Indiana we have a parental consent law, but we don’t have verification that

that person is an actual parent,” said Houchin. As a former Department of Children Services employee, Houchin said she’s seen this happen. “We can clarify in our state law that someone must verify they are the parent of a child seeking an abortion.”

Corrine Purvis, an attorney with Bopp Law Firm who serves as general counsel for Indiana Right to Life, testified in support of the bill, said Senate Bill 404 would strengthen parental rights by protecting parents’ ability to give consent for their minor child to obtain an abortion by ensuring that parental verification is required and enforced. Eight other states require parental verification. Purvis said the bill also would strengthen parental rights in a judicial bypass process by raising the judicial standard to “clear and convincing evidence” if a minor seeks a judicial bypass to go around parental consent to get permission from a judge to obtain an abortion. Purvis said 15 other states have the clear and convincing evidence, the highest judicial standard, for minors seeking a judicial bypass to obtain an abortion without parental consent.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the Indiana Catholic Conference, testified in support of the bill and said Senate Bill 404 provides a clarification regarding parental notification and protection of a minor seeking an abortion, and assures notification to the proper authorities. It allows

## INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



BRIGID CURTIS AYER

minors to be protected against sexual predators and abuse by persons who may pose as a parent of a minor so the minor can get an abortion.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 6-4 to advance the bill, Feb. 22, and the full Senate approved the bill. The bill crosses over from the Senate to the House for further consideration.

A bill to add information on the abortion reversal process for chemical abortions to Indiana’s informed consent law also advanced.

House Bill 1128, authored by Rep. Ron Bacon, R-Chandler, passed the House Public Policy panel 7-5 on Feb. 21, and passed the full House.

The bill would add to Indiana’s informed consent law information and referral services for a procedure to reverse a chemical abortion if a woman

changed her mind. Reversing a chemical abortion drew disagreement from local obstetricians and gynecologists. Some physicians who testified cited actual instances of them successfully treating patients with this process to save an unborn child. Other physicians said the process was not based on vetted Science. Bacon said the bill would give women who regret trying to end their pregnancy by taking abortion inducing drugs, a chance to reverse it and potentially save their unborn child. House Bill 1128 crosses over from the House to the Senate for further consideration.

A third pro-life proposal was introduced this year, but it failed to move. House Bill 1134, authored by Rep. Curt Nisly, R-Goshen, would define that human life begins at conception and the state has a compelling interest to protect it. The bill would ban abortion. If passed, the state law would be challenged in federal court based on the long standing constitutional right to abortion since the 1973 landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision of Roe v. Wade.

While the bill didn’t advance this year, Tebbe said it might be “a good thing.” Tebbe explained that the goal of the bill was laudable; however, the timing of the bill was not prudent. “If the protection at conception bill passed now, it would be challenged in federal court and struck down,” said Tebbe.

“There is no guarantee the U.S. Supreme Court would uphold the state of Indiana’s law to define protection of a human life at conception. If that happened, it could cause the reverse effect of the intent of the bill,” said Tebbe.

The Indiana Catholic Conference offers several public policy and legislative resources on its Web page at [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org).



SEN. ERIN HOUCHIN



REP. RON BACON

**The ICC offers several resources** to stay up to date with legislative action reports, review position papers or join the Indiana Catholic Action Network. As a part of its 50-year anniversary, the ICC produced videos to explain the role and importance of its involvement in public policy making. Visit [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org).

## State resolution honors ICC 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Charles Schisla

The Indiana General Assembly on Feb. 13 unanimously passed a resolution congratulating the Indiana Catholic Conference on the 50th anniversary of its founding. The ICC represents the Catholic Church in Indiana on national and state matters of public policy. Pictured at left reading the resolution is Rep. B. Patrick Bauer (D-South Bend), who authored the bill. To his right are Glenn Tebbe, ICC executive director; Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville; and Bishop Timothy L. Doherty of Lafayette.

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## Discovery of Earth-sized planets boosts hope of finding alien life

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The quest to find life on other planets got a boost when astronomers confirmed the existence of at least seven Earth-sized planets orbiting a red dwarf star just 40 light years away. Three of the planets are located in the so-called “habitable” zone, a kind of “Goldilocks” sweet spot in that their distance from the sun makes them not too hot, not too cold, but just right for having liquid water — an essential ingredient for life. The pope’s own astronomers applauded the new discovery around the dwarf star, TRAPPIST-1, named after one of the many telescopes that detected the planets. The study’s results were published in *Nature* magazine Feb. 22. “The discovery is important because, to date, it has revealed the highest number of Earth-sized planets revolving around a single parent star,” U.S. Jesuit Father David Brown told Catholic News Service. “Depending on different factors, all of the planets could potentially harbor conditions for the possible existence of life on them,” he said in an email response to questions Feb. 24. “It is also significant because it shows the existence of such exoplanets — planets outside of our solar system — around low-mass — smaller than the Sun — cool, red, dim stars, which are the most common types of stars in galaxies and which have long lifetimes,” said the astrophysicist, who studies stellar evolution at the Vatican Observatory.

## Promote life by protecting, sharing clean water, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Access to clean drinking water is a basic human right and a key component in protecting human life, Pope Francis said. “The right to water is essential for the survival of persons and decisive for the

## Catholic Relief Services supports new lives of refugees



Sevket Kizildag for Catholic Relief Services

Working closely with Syrian and Iraqi refugees in the Middle East and Europe, Catholic Relief Services staff get to know about the fear and terror they fled, and also about their hopes and dreams for a peaceful future. Malak, for example, at left, is a young Syrian woman who fled from war-torn Aleppo a few years ago. She is now fulfilling her lifelong dream as a teacher working in Turkey.

future of humanity,” the pope said Feb. 24 during a meeting with 90 international experts participating in “Dialogue on Water” at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. Looking at all the conflicts around the globe, Pope Francis said, “I ask myself if we are not moving toward a great world war over water.” Access to water is a basic and urgent matter, he said. “Basic, because where there is water there is life, making it possible for societies to arise and advance. Urgent, because our common home needs to be protected.” Citing “trou-

bling” statistics from the United Nations, the pope said, “each day — each day! — a thousand children die from water-related illnesses and millions of persons consume polluted water.”

## South Sudan bishops condemn atrocities, appeal for help

MANCHESTER, England (CNS) — South Sudan’s Catholic bishops asked for the world’s help to prevent mass starvation that threat-

ens the lives of more than 5 million people. In a separate statement, they also said the looming famine was a man-made catastrophe. They denounced government and rebel troops for attacking the civilian population and at times operating “scorched-earth” policies in defiance of international law. In a Feb. 23 appeal for humanitarian assistance, the bishops said farmers have fled lands without planting crops as civilians are targeted by both sides in the country’s increasingly bloody three-year civil war. Food shortages have been compounded

by problems of unemployment, soaring inflation and poor rains, meaning that the country had now entered a critical time, the bishops said. Citing government predictions, they estimated that about 4.9 million people would be facing famine by April and about 5.5 million people by July. Among the most vulnerable are more than 3 million refugees and people internally displaced by fighting between the supporters of President Salva Kiir and former Vice President Riek Machar.

## Governor’s veto on defunding Planned Parenthood called ‘deeply offensive’

RICHMOND, Va. (CNS) — Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe has again “demonstrated his unwavering commitment to the nation’s largest abortion provider” by vetoing a bill that would have defunded Planned Parenthood, said the state’s Catholic conference. They said his action comes at the “expense of comprehensive health care for women” because the defunding measure would have redirected state dollars to community health centers that provide primary care to women and their families. The comments came in a statement issued Feb. 21 by the Virginia Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the state’s bishops. Earlier that day when McAuliffe vetoed the bill, known as H.B. 2264, Planned Parenthood and its supporters held a veto ceremony on the steps of the governor’s mansion in Richmond. He vetoed a defunding measure last year as well. “Attempts to restrict women’s access to health care will impede the goal of making Virginia the best place to live, work, and run a business,” he said in a statement. New reports said pro-life supporters also rallied at the mansion, holding signs that read “All Lives Matter” and “Say No to Planned Parenthood.”

# USCCB committee applauds decision on transgender directive

BY CINDY WOODEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairmen of two U.S. bishops’ committees Feb. 24 praised President Donald Trump’s repeal of the Obama administration’s directive on transgender access to bathrooms.

The guidance, issued last May by the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Education, “indicated that public pre-K through 12 schools, as well as all colleges and universities, should treat ‘a student’s gender identity as the student’s sex,’” said the bishops’ joint statement.

The document “sought to impose a one-size-fits-all

approach to dealing with sensitive issues involving individual students,” said Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, and Bishop George V. Murry of Youngstown, Ohio, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Catholic Education.

“Such issues are best handled with care and compassion at the local level, respecting the privacy and safety concerns of all students,” they said.

In rescinding the directive, the Trump administration said that addressing of transgender access to bathrooms is best left to the states and local school districts,

not the federal government.

The Obama administration said it applied to all public schools as well as colleges and universities that received federal funding. The directive “summarizes a school’s Title IX obligations regarding transgender students,” administration officials said, and that it also explained how the Education and Justice departments will “evaluate a school’s compliance with these obligations.”

The federal Title IX statute prohibits sex discrimination in educational programs and activities, like sports. Some months before issuing the directive, Obama administration had warned schools that denying transgender students access to

the facilities and activities of their choice was illegal under its interpretation of federal sex discrimination laws.

Officials at the Justice and Education departments in the Trump administration rejected the previous administration’s position that nondiscrimination laws require schools to allow transgender students to use the bathrooms of their choice.

That directive, they said, was arbitrary and devised “without due regard for the primary role of the states and local school districts in establishing educational policy.”

“Pope Francis has taught that ‘biological sex and the socio-cultural role of sex (gender) can be distinguished but not sepa-

rated,” said Archbishop Chaput and Bishop Murry, quoting from “Amoris Laetitia,” the papal document on marriage and family.

“The Catholic Church consistently affirms the inherent dignity of each and every human person and advocates for the well-being of all people, particularly the most vulnerable,” the two prelates said. “Children, youth and parents in these difficult situations deserve compassion sensitivity, and respect. All of these can be expressed without infringing on legitimate concerns about privacy and security on the part of all young students and parents.”

## St. John the Evangelist donation

GOSHEN — John Shafer, founder of Michiana Five for the Homeless, accepted a donation from Susan Woolley, representing St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen, in early February. Parishioners donated approximately 45 gift cards to fast food restaurants, valued at a total of \$435, so homeless residents of the area might be able to get in out of the cold for a hot meal or drink. In addition, approximately 67 pairs of socks, 12 pairs of gloves, 10 hats and miscellaneous coats, boots, sweaters were donated.

St. John's Welcoming Committee sponsored the collection, conferring with Shafer to fill their greatest needs. For the past few years the St. John the Evangelist Welcoming Committee has sponsored a collection for the homeless each January. Past recipients have included Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network and the Bashor Children's Home teen homeless shelter.

## Holy Cross Sisters launch '19:33 Offering' Initiative

NOTRE DAME — In ongoing response to the needs of immigrants and refugees in many parts of the world, the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is undertaking a new initiative called the "19:33 Offering." The name of the initiative is inspired by the Bible's Book of Leviticus: "When foreigners live with you in your land, do not mistreat them. You shall treat the foreigner who lives with you no differently than the citizens born among you; you shall love them as yourself; for you too were once foreigners in the land of Egypt. I, the Lord, am your God. — Leviticus 19:33-34

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## Auburn Lions club donates coats to Catholic Charities



Provided by Liz Flaherty

The Auburn Classic Noon Lions Club made a donation of 264 coats, plus hats and gloves, to the Auburn office of Catholic Charities in January. The donations were purchased with the proceeds of its annual Christmas Stroll and will be distributed to the clients of the Catholic Charities organization.

"In Leviticus 19:33, God commands us to love the stranger as we love ourselves, and to treat the stranger no differently than we treat the citizens born among us," said Sister Sharlet Ann Wagner, CSC, a member of the General Council of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, who, with others on the

leadership team, developed the 19:33 Offering initiative. She noted that the number 1933 has historical significance in the fight against religious-based persecution, as it was in that year that the first anti-Jewish laws were passed in Germany.

The Sisters of the Holy Cross

will donate \$1,933 to each of six organizations that serve immigrants and refugees, either through direct service to these vulnerable groups, or through pursuing legal challenges to unjust laws and practices. The six organizations are:

- Academy of the Holy Cross,

Kensington, Md., a ministry of the congregation

- American Immigration Council, Washington, D.C.
- Council on American-Islamic Relations, Washington, D.C.
- Holy Cross Ministries of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, a ministry of the congregation
- International Refugee Assistance Project, New York City, N.Y.
- Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, a ministry of the congregation

## Center for Spirituality hosts lecture series

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College Center for Spirituality is proud to announce the speakers for the annual Endowed Spring Lecture Series titled, "Called to Intervene: Violence, Spirituality, and Solidarity." The lectures, given by distinguished scholars from across the country, are free and open to the public.

"To Redeem the Soul of America: Toward a Moral Vision for a New Civil Rights Movement," by Rev. Bryan N. Massingale, STD, professor of theological and social ethics, Fordham University, Wednesday, March 22, 7 p.m. Madeleva Hall, Carroll Auditorium.

"Who Are My People?: Christianity, Violence, and Identity Politics in Sub-Saharan Africa," by Emmanuel Katongole, Ph.D., associate professor of theology and peace studies, The Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame, Thursday, March 30, 7 p.m., Student Center, Vander Vennet Theatre.

More information on the Center for Spirituality and lecture series can be found at <https://www.saintmarys.edu/spiritual-life/center-for-spirituality/lectures-events>.

# Forever Learning Institute appoints new director

BY DEB WAGNER

In early December 2016, Eve Finnessy began her role as the new executive director of Forever Learning Institute in South Bend. In this role she is responsible for all the daily operations of Forever Learning and also works closely with the board of directors, who appointed her to the position, in promoting the purpose and future growth of the ongoing education center for senior citizens.

Finnessy brings extensive, relevant experience to Forever Learning. After graduating from Purdue University with a degree in journalism and telecommunications, she was a writer and editor for a newspaper in the Fort Wayne area. She then developed an interest in marketing and became director of marketing and member services for a large nonprofit professional

association in Chicago. She has also substituted for Penn Harris Madison School Corporation and served as interim director of religious education for St. Pius X Catholic Church.

Finnessy also makes time to give back to the community in Granger, where she resides with her husband, John, and their three children. She volunteers at the Women's Care Center, REAL Services and as a catechist at St. Pius X.

The Forever Learning Institute was founded by Father Louis J. Putz, CSC, in 1974. He emigrated from Germany alone, at age 15, following World War I. He entered Holy Cross seminary and remained involved with the University of Notre Dame his entire life. Finnessy said, "We consider him to have been a visionary, particularly as it relates to a population that is aging, but not done living. He referred to people in that phase of life as

third-agers, meaning a phase of life where the pressures to earn a living have passed and now there is time to return back all that you have learned. This was the concept that led to the establishment of Forever Learning."

The institute is open to area residents age 50 and older. Students and instructors learn from each other through their career and life experiences. The average age of the students is 73. Finnessy said, "We are a unique program, and I believe the only one like it in the country. We have 120 faculty members and teach 1,600 students each year. Many faculty are also students."

The offices and main campus of Forever Learning Institute are at St. Therese, Little Flower Catholic Church. Classes also take place at the St. Joseph Valley Jewish Federation. Forever Learning Institute partners with Fernwood Botanical Gardens, St. Joseph County Parks and

Chippewa Bowl. During the upcoming spring semester 93 classes are offered and the subject areas are quite diverse. General areas of study include arts and creative crafts, business and finance, computer and technology, cooking, dance, health and fitness, history, languages, literature, music, science and nature, and spirituality and religion.

All of the instructors with Forever Learning Institute are volunteers. For students, tuition is \$45 per class and scholarships are available. The not-for-profit organization largely operates through grants and donations. There are two office staff members, who are the only paid employees. However, there is a very active and involved board of directors dedicated to maintaining a quality program for students and faculty to enjoy.

Little Flower Parish Center allows the Forever Learning Institute to use six classrooms,

a full gymnasium and the kitchen for food preparation for functions as well as cooking classes. Class size is determined by each instructor or as space allows. Technology classes are limited to allow for hands-on instruction, and these classes fill up quickly. Other classes, like Zumba or dance, are held in the gymnasium and can hold 60 students if needed. Foreign languages including Spanish, French, German and Hebrew are also taught. Watercolor, literature, knitting, crocheting, quilting and sewing classes are available. For those interested in spiritual growth or music, there is spiritual collage and piano. The institute even has its very own Silvertones singing group that performs at senior centers, churches and club meetings.

Forever Learning Institute is online and on Facebook, and visitors are welcome to stop by and take a campus tour.

# Candidates committed to Hispanic Diaconate Formation

BY DENISE FEDOROW

Once a month on a Friday evening, after finishing their jobs and saying good-bye to their children, a group of about a dozen men — many with their wives along — gather at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center for Spanish-language continuing education in the Diaconate Formation Program.

Their education starts Friday evening and continues all day on Saturday. The men are in the third year of the four-year diaconate program — the first to be held in Spanish in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

During the February weekend, Peter Caserrella, a professor of theology at Notre Dame, instructed about the sacraments. He began Friday night's lesson by talking about how the Hispanic culture relates to the sacraments, as well as the sacramentals that are important to those of Latino heritage.

During his presentation, Caserrella utilized "Language of Worship" ("El Lenguaje de la liturgia") by Dora Tobar. He said that along with language, art and music are also expressions of faith and heritage. He told the candidates that before they start to study the sacraments they have to understand this "language of the heart."

The group also discussed the prevalence of consumerism versus what God wants for us; at which point Huberto Vasquez held up the example of the Amish. Caserrella responded that even the Amish have challenges, and said, "We need to be bridges, not walls. If we isolate ourselves, how can we be bridges?"

During a break, Vasquez, of St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne, spoke to *Today's Catholic* about the journey toward the diaconate. Huberto and his wife, Virervia, have four children aged 14, 12, 10 and 2 years. The 2-year-old was not even born when he began his formation.

He admitted it's 'hard sometimes' to stay committed, because his children demand a lot of time — then there's his job and other family commitments.

"Some days I wish there were more hours in the day, but God always gives me the grace to continue — and my wife and kids are very supportive," he said.

Huberto said he's been learning a lot about the teachings of the church, but also about the great need that exists in the community. He said his home parish is a large one, with three communities — English, Vietnamese and Spanish.

"Since day one, everyone knew me and Victor (Sandoval) were doing this and they've given us a great deal of support and prayer," he said. "Every time they see me and us, they say they're praying for us."



Photos by Denise Fedorow

**Candidates in the Hispanic Diaconate Formation Program and their wives listen intently to the teaching of Notre Dame Professor Peter Caserrella during a Friday-night session of classes held at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center.**

Vasquez added that since this is the first diaconate formation in Spanish it has definitely garnered interest; not only in Fort Wayne, but also at other parishes that have Spanish Masses.

He said his children are supportive, and always ask when he'll be ordained. He said one son has expressed an interest in becoming a priest. His children always tell him to have a good class when he leaves and ask about it when he comes home.

"We have fun together as a family," he said. "I miss them when I'm gone for the weekend, but it's worth it."

Juan Campos from St. Patrick Church in Ligonier, and his wife, Martha, also have four children, ages 22, 21, 14 and 4. He also spoke of feeling challenged by meeting the needs of his family, job and studies. He said his youngest child wants to be with him all the time when he is home. Campos does his best to divide his time and makes sure he sets Sundays and Mondays aside as family days.

He's grown a lot through the process, especially by praying the Liturgy of the Hours; and in personal prayer, and has shared that growth with his family.

At the beginning he admitted it was hard sometimes to get the family together to pray at meals and at bedtime.

"Now it's become a need — It has brought the whole family



**The candidates break off into small groups during the session to discuss quinceñeras.**

closer in prayer," Campos said.

He likes the spiritual service, not just at the altar but also outside the church, with people in need. He said he feels a special calling towards the sick. Thirty years ago he was a seminarian, and even though he left the seminary a part of that desire stayed. So when the opportunity for diacon formation came up he decided to take the 're-call' that he didn't take so seriously the first time. He said believes people see him as a bridge between them and the priest.

Saturday morning began with 7 a.m. prayers and Mass in the chapel, celebrated by Father Wilson Corzo of St. Patrick, Ligonier. Prior to the Mass one of the men led the group in prayer, as another had done the night before.

During his homily Father Corzo told the candidates that their ordination is not the end of their work. He advised them to heed the words of Pope Francis, who said not to exalt ourselves but to strive to do God's work with humility. He also challenged them to participate more

in the singing during Mass, because as deacons they have to lead the congregation and cannot count on the choir, because sometimes there isn't one. He said they need to be excited to praise God in word and song, because it is all-important. His words inspired the men to sing an extra song together after the end of Mass.

At breakfast, Marco Castillo of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw, said through formation his faith has matured. He's become more motivated in all aspects of his life; as a husband, a father and at work. He and his wife Maria, who accompanied him, have a 17-year old daughter. He said sometimes it's not easy to take care of all his commitments; his daughter will be graduating high school the same time as his ordination. But he is motivated and as a couple and as a family he wants to be a good example of Christian family life.

Castillo said he hoped his parish could see the growth in him, and he believes some are more motivated to serve the church or to look into the diaconate formation program. He said his relationship with his wife and his daughter are blossoming as the fruits of this labor, and more trust is developing between them.

Saturday's class time was also about the sacraments, using the Catechism of the Catholic Church as a reference.

**Those wanting more information about the diaconate program can visit the website [www.diocesefwsb.org/Permanent-Diaconate](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Permanent-Diaconate).**

Candidate Fred Everett and his wife Lisa have seven children, ages 14-28, and two living grandchildren. They attend Corpus Christi in South Bend. When asked what the kids thought of his becoming a deacon, Everett laughed and said, "Funny thing — one day out of the blue my youngest said, 'Dad, you should become a deacon.'" They've all been supportive."

"Every once in a while you're able to have an interaction where you can show mercy," he said, "And it has deepened my prayer life, because as a deacon you promise to pray the Liturgy of the Hours and pray for the people of God."

Everett pointed out that the word "deacon" is derived from the Greek word "diakoneo," which means to serve and Jesus called us to serve.

Giovani Muñoz, from St. John the Evangelist, Goshen, has three children, ages 7, 6 and 5, with his wife, Virginia. He said his children are excited for him because they think it's like college, which he told them he didn't have an opportunity to attend. Muñoz said he's at the point in formation where he's seeing the big picture and it reminded him of when he was in marriage preparation classes.

He had a lot of emotion upon beginning the program; he was excited, but also a little afraid and admitted that's how he's feeling now. "I want to be a witness. I don't want to do anything that can cause someone to lose their faith," he said. "But at the same time, I trust that God has called me to this and I need to be humble and ask for prayers."

Deacon Stan LeMieux is the coordinator of the diocesan Diaconate Formation Program, and is supported in the Spanish-language iteration by Enid Roman and Lourdes Silva of the Office of Hispanic Ministry. Deacon LeMieux said each summer the men do a work of charity consistent with the role of a deacon: The first summer they ministered to the poor, the second summer they ministered to the sick and this summer they will teach in their parishes.

"I'm very thankful to Bishop D'Arcy and Bishop Rhoades that they thought of the Hispanic community," said Vasquez. This is a great gift, and they saw the need. I just hope and pray God gets us through."



## Regional Knights free throw champion



Provided by Janice L. Comito

The Knights of Columbus recently held its annual Free Throw Contest for diocesan students. This year an eighth grader from St. John the Baptist, New Haven, won the honor of participating at the state competition on March 12. Rachel McCarthy also set the record for the most baskets this year, 22 of 25.

## Seminary basketball tournament



Provided by Msgr. Michael Heintz

Patrick Hake, at bottom left, and Dan Niezer, far right, seminarians of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, were members of the intramural team earning the No. 1 seed in the recent Mount St. Mary University basketball tournament. Led by Deacons Andrew Labenz of Wichita, Kan., and Cole Kennett of Lincoln, Neb., others on the team include seminarians from Peoria, Ill., Norwich, Conn., and Harrisburg, Pa. Msgr. Michael Heintz serves as the team's conditioning coach.

## Franciscan friars musical performance



Jodi Marlin

Franciscan Friars Minor, from left, Brother Lucas, Brother Mariano, Brother Leo Maria (obscured), Brother Felice and Brother Cassian Maria warm up the crowd during a concert Friday, Feb. 24 at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne. Worldwide Seminarian Support hosted the concert to benefit four Franciscan Friars Minor who will enter the seminary in the fall. The musicians hailed from five area FFM friaries.



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**GRAPHIC CONTENT.** May not be suitable for young children.

# Gift ideas for first communicants

BY BARB SIEMINSKI

It's a milestone like no other in a young child's life, and it means that a young person is growing up in the sanctity of the church. To celebrate the big day, most people want to give their children or grandchild something that will last a lifetime and that will make him or her smile proudly in remembrance of the big day.

Area gift stores offer many choices, but one might also consider opening a college account or buying some stock in the child's name, with annual contributions from the donor taking place over the coming years.

For more tangible selections, Pat Harrington of All Saints Religious Goods in Fort Wayne recommends statues of Christ, children's Bibles and saint books as good choices for first Communion gifts. When getting a Bible, consider making it even more special by having the front cover personalized in gold leaf with the child's name.

"If you're looking for one thing that is truly beautiful, it would be the tradition of giving a young lady her first miraculous medal for her first communion," said Sue McFarland of Divine Mercy Gifts, South Bend.

Additional selections include religious jewelry, personalized religious picture frames that say "My First Holy Communion"



Items of attire for the big day, and keepsake items such as Bibles, rosaries and photo frames, all make appropriate and meaningful gifts for young people who are making their first Communion.

Provided by Divine Mercy Gifts

and that will hold a photo of the child from the big day; or attractive music or jewelry boxes and first Mass books.

According to Kara Slocum,

proprietor of Cathedral Bookstore, located in the Bishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne, the store is having its annual spring sale March 20-25, which means 20 percent off the entire purchase for first Communion shoppers.

"Jewelry is a favorite gift for little girls," said Slocum. "Cross

necklaces, rosary bracelet, cross earring and miraculous medal rings are big sellers. Rosaries for both boys and girls are very popular too — we sell them with small beads, ideal for a small child. They come in a variety of colors from black, olivewood and blue for the boys to the

pink, purple, multicolored and even flower and butterfly-shaped beads for girls.

"We also have ties, gloves and veils," said Slocum. "Other appropriate gift items we carry include missals and prayer books, wooden keepsake boxes and musical figurines."

Another exceptional — and popular — gift idea, especially for a young child, is a glow-in-the-dark rosary that he or she can use as they lay in bed. These are a little more expensive than non-glow beads, but thoroughly enchant the children who receive them and encourage children to say the rosary.

A small wooden gift box for a child's rosary is even more treasured if personalized with a Bible verse and the child's name. The verse could say something like, "First Communion blessings for Samuel" followed by a simple Bible verse.

Parents and grandparents, consider buying a small, medium or large first Communion gift sack and wrapping paper to hold your gift. These, if not found locally, can be purchased online. And even though Christmas is a long way off, a personalized "My First Communion" ornament — available as a boy angel or girl angel — makes an unusual gift that the recipient will remember each Advent when decorating the tree.

Finally, one of the most priceless take-away moments of this big day is the use of a camera to photograph or videotape the big smiles and the actual event, and share it with family and friends.



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# St. Martin de Porres students prepare for first Communion

BY JENNIFER MILLER

At St. Martin de Porres in Syracuse — a lake community parish whose attendance swells significantly in the summer, but in winter is modest — the number of students preparing for first holy Communion is frequently small. Nonetheless, they're excited.

The pastor of St. Martin is Father Andrew Nazareth, and the director of religious education is Cathy McGonigal. McGonigal said there are a total of 29 students in the religious education program. The second grade catechist, Jessica Martin, is grooming her students to receive the Eucharist for the first time.

This is Martin's third year as a religious education instructor, and she was an assistant for a year prior to that. This is her first year teaching the students preparing to receive the sacrament of first holy Communion. She said she enjoys interacting with the kids and loves to "see the growth the kids achieve as they go through the year." Her students this year are Landon Gerber and Malia Schrader.

Malia's mom is planning to enter the church at the Easter Vigil. Because of a family situation, Malia is only at St. Martin every other week.

Martin said the children have been learning about the parts of the Mass, kindness, the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, Lenten sacrifice and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Landon said he was looking forward to receiving Jesus, but when asked if he was excited he replied, "Kinda yes and kinda not. I want to receive Jesus, but I get stage fright and don't want to sweat a lot in front of the whole church community."

At first Landon didn't think receiving first Communion would make him feel differently. But as they talked more about his favor-



Denise Fedorow

**St. Martin de Porres Religious Education teacher Jessica Martin and her students, Landon Gerber, left, and Malia Schrader pray before the start of a recent class. The students are preparing to receive first holy Communion in May.**

ite story of Jesus on the cross, and how Jesus died to save all of humankind, things changed.

When asked why Jesus left us the sacrament of Eucharist, Landon replied, "So He could be in us. So we would choose to do only right and so He can love us."

"Now since I did that whole talk, now I think I will feel differently because Jesus is in me. I think I will be filled with joy!" the young man added.

Landon also spoke of his first reconciliation, saying he was nervous and excited beforehand and confused and excited afterwards. He described how feeling absolved of his sins by saying, "I was confused but excited because it was like, whoa — what just happened in there?"

Malia said one of the best things she's learned so far is how the Eucharist is Jesus' body and blood. Both children said they believe that transformation is possible because, as Landon said, "Jesus can do anything — anything is possible!"

As the students began their lesson a couple of weeks ago, they read the parable of the

teacher's question asking why the young man was sad, he said, "He didn't want to give up his stuff, but he wanted to be with God."

"Is it okay to love your things as long as you love God more?" Landon wanted to know.

Martin said that most people like their things, but she reiterated that nothing should be more important to us than God.

Martin said her students "definitely keep me on my toes, but they're fun to teach and it's fun to see their growth. I'm excited to see them receive the sacrament."

The teacher and students talked about the experience of being such a small class. Landon said his Sunday school classes have usually been one or two people, which he thought was nice, although he still wishes there were more kids. Martin agreed, saying that in a way, it's easier to have a larger class because there's more interaction and the students can bounce ideas off each other. She said the advantages, however, are that

her students get more individual attention and they get through lessons quicker.

Malia read the definition of sacrifice: giving up something out of love and the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus died for our sins. Landon wanted to clarify that "nothing could top that, right? Not even if someone else did the cross thing?"

The students then discussed types of things that people sacrifice during Lent — giving up a favorite food or donating favorite toys. The Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist also came up, and Martin explained it was then that Jesus said to his disciples, 'This is my body, this is my blood' and taught the apostles it was what He wanted them to do for us.

Landon remarked, "If Jesus hadn't done the Last Supper and no one knew it, we wouldn't have first Communion."

First Communion at St. Martin de Porres is scheduled for May 7 at the 11 am Mass.

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# In MY diocese

## St. Pius X, Granger

## St. Joseph County

### Former St. Joseph's Farm became St. Pius X Parish

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

Just after crossing the state line from Michigan to Indiana, one comes across a parish that sits on Fir Road in Granger. With roots dating back to 1870, St. Pius X Catholic Church is home to over 10,000 registered parishioners.

The parish began at St. Joseph's Farm in Granger, the farm that Father Edward Sorin, CSC, founder of the University of Notre Dame, shared with his Holy Cross brothers, sisters and fellow priests. The farm allowed the Holy Cross Order to serve the surrounding rural community. It was not until 1936 that the farm started to become unofficially referred to as a parish community, and 20 years passed before it officially became known as a parish. Since its formal establishment in 1956, the community has grown from 145 families to more than 3,100. In order to accommodate



MSGR. WILLIAM SCHOOLER

increasing interest from the surrounding community in joining the parish, St. Pius broke ground a few years ago to build a new church building scheduled to open next month.

St. Pius' mission statement reads, "St. Pius X Catholic Church is a faith community that proclaims the Word of God and celebrates the Sacraments, with the Eucharist as the source and summit of our spiritual life. Our parish, rooted in Granger and part of the Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend, invites everyone to respond to God's call to salvation by developing a sense of Christian fellowship. This is done through life-long religious education and stewardship: calling all members to serve others, to share our blessings with those in need, and to promote Catholic social justice."

Betsy Quinn, St. Pius director of stewardship and evangelization, has been in her position for about 15 years. In the role, she works to maintain a close community despite the continual growth of the parish.

"With over 3,100 parish families, we are challenged to maintain a tight-knit, family feel,"



Provided by St. Pius X Parish

**Despite being one of the largest parishes in the diocese in terms of membership, the ministries of St. Pius X in Granger help parishioners feel connected to each other as well as to their faith. Construction of the new St. Pius X Church in Granger is near completion, with the dedication Mass to be held on Saturday, March 25, at noon.**

Quinn said. "Yet, by continually developing our stewardship efforts, in prayer, service and sacrificial giving, and a dedicated effort to parishioner engagement, we see parishioners becoming more spiritually committed people who are engaged in our faith community."



Derby Photography

faith, the body and blood of Jesus Christ."

The parish has approximately 75 active programs and ministries, including Life Skills, Young Adults Group, Bible Study, Outdoor Gardening Ministry, Friends 'N Stitches Ministry, Kids of the Kingdom Ministry, Art and Event Ministry, Children of St. Angela Merici and Bereavement Team.

Beth Murphy, a long-time parishioner and current kindergarten teacher at the parish school, is also actively involved in St. Pius' Young Adults Group. The relationships cultivated through participation in the community have been formative to her faith life.

"I truly value the people I have met here at St. Pius," Murphy said. "I started working at the school right after graduating from college in 2010. I believe the relationships I have built over the years, by being involved in various ministries, have helped me create a balanced adult faith life."

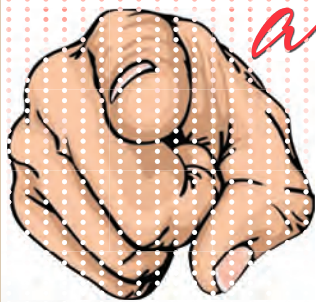
Msgr. Bill Schooler and Father Bill Meininger — referred to as "Father Bill 1" and "Father Bill 2" respectively, and Deacon Lou Giovannini, serve the parish community.

Deacon Giovannini has only been at St. Pius for a few years, but feels very much a part of the community.

"St. Pius X is everything that I had hoped for in a parish new to me: warm, inviting, engaging and full of the love and spirit of Jesus Christ," he said. "Under the leadership of Msgr. Bill Schooler and Father Bill Meininger, I have found a happy home, a prayerful community and a vibrant ministry!"

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Granger, IN 46530  
574-272-8462

#### Mass Times:

Sunday: 8, 10 a.m.; noon, 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 5 p.m.  
Weekday: 8:15 a.m. M-Th;  
6:45 a.m. W-F; 6 p.m. T; 9 a.m. F

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday 8:30-9:30 a.m.;  
3:30-4:30 p.m. or by appointment

# In MY diocese

St. Adalbert, South Bend

St. Joseph County

## An immigrant church, then and now

BY DENISE FEDOROW

Given the beauty of the architecture at St. Adalbert Church, South Bend, it's understandable why it has been nicknamed "the cathedral of the west side."

The fact that such a magnificent church, with gorgeous stained glass windows, numerous arches, intricate gothic styling and triple spires, was built not from wealth but from the sweat of hard-working Polish immigrants, makes it even more impressive.



FATHER PAUL MICHAEL YBARRA

### History of St. Adalbert

St. Adalbert has a rich background that's closely tied to the history of Polish immigrants to the South Bend area. The parish was the last and the largest of four Polish Roman Catholic Churches founded in South Bend.

According to a history book printed for the parish's 50th anniversary, Polish immigrants started settling in South Bend around 1868, even in the face of what were, at one point, determined to be insurmountable obstacles. They formed fraternal aid societies, whose members then organized to build churches. The St. Adalbert society became official in 1905 with 80 members. Its land committee went house-to-house, taking collections and offerings that varied from \$.05 to \$.25 per family. When a total of \$402.10 had been collected two lots were purchased and then sold in order to purchase land on Olive Street, between Huron and Grace, where the present church, school



Photos by Denise Fedorow

The beautiful sanctuary altar at St. Adalbert Church has statues of St. John the Evangelist on the left and St. Adalbert on the right. The murals on the walls surrounding the sanctuary depict different saints and Biblical scenes.

and rectory are located. The parish also held many socials, bazaars and picnic fundraisers. In the fall of 1909 the foundation for the combination church and school building was laid.

St. Adalbert's first pastor, Father John Kubacki, was greeted by a huge delegation waiting to follow his car in a huge procession, carrying banners. More church societies were formed before the church building was even completed, including the Young Ladies Holy Rosary Society, The Children of Mary, The St. Joseph Young Man's Society, the Woman's Holy Rosary Society and more. The first baptism was performed in

the rectory on Aug. 4, 1910.

A dedication for the new church/school took place on Sept. 4, 1911, with Bishop Paul Rhode, the first Polish bishop in the U.S. and auxiliary bishop of the Chicago diocese, presid-

ing. The church was on the first floor, eight classrooms on the second and the parish hall on the third. The following fall the Felician sisters from Detroit came to open the school. The sisters had living quarters in the school until the new and present rectory was built at the rear of the church. The three-story brick rectory — the largest in the city — was completed in June 1915.

Although not in the recorded history, St. Adalbert pastor Father Paul Ybarra, CSC, said the rectory was built so grandly — with stained glass windows, even — in the hope it would become the seat of the bishop.

### A new church

The large gothic church that is St. Adalbert today was built in 1926 at a cost of \$230,000. Bishop John Francis Noll officiated at the church's dedication Mass on April 25, 1926 — the feast of St. Adalbert. According to the history book, 9,000 people, including 32 local and out-of-town priests, societies from all four Polish churches, the mayor and other city officials joined in the procession and celebration.

The church building has changed little since that time. Numerous stained glass windows tell the story of the Catholic faith: The seven sacraments are represented on the windows surrounding the altar, and the two largest windows on

the north and south side depict the Feast of Cana and Christ with the little children. Statues of saints circle the entire church, each in its own niche. Murals of saints and Bible scenes are painted on the walls in the front of the church. Many of the stained glass windows and murals in the parish feature Polish inscriptions.

Father Ybarra said it is a "beautiful space to celebrate Mass," and added that he often feels the angels are watching him, as a mural facing the altar has angels looking that direction.

### St. Adalbert today

St. Adalbert is still an immigrant church, but now Masses are celebrated in Spanish and English instead of Polish and English. When St. Stephen Church was closed in 2003, its Hungarian and Spanish parishioners were divided between St. Casimir and St. Adalbert. Father Ybarra was assigned to the now-combined parishes in July 2016.

Linda Zakowski Shaw grew

ADALBERT, page 14



### St. Adalbert

2505 Grace St.  
South Bend, IN 46619  
574-288-5708  
www.stadalbertparish.org

Mass Times:  
Sunday: 8 a.m. (English);  
9:30 a.m., 1 p.m. (Spanish)  
Saturday: 5 p.m. (English) 1st, 3rd  
and 5th Saturdays of the month-  
Weekday: Mon-Fri. at 6:30 a.m. in  
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Reconciliation: 8:30 a.m. Saturday

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## 'We can save SJC for future generations'



Provided by Father Tim McFarland, CPPS

Staff members and alumni of Saint Joseph's College, Rensselaer, which is slated for closure, hope to raise \$20 million to keep the school open. Jordan Leising, '11 and professor of political science, hopes SJC will continue to be a place that ministers and educates the marginalized, the disenfranchised and those who would not otherwise be able to attend college but got a chance at SJC. Visit [www.involvedforlife.net/fundraising](http://www.involvedforlife.net/fundraising) to donate by April 1, and follow the school on Facebook at Involved for Life or Twitter @Involved4Life.

## Bishop Luers students receive art accolades



Provided by Bishop Luers High School

Bishop Luers High School art students participated in the Scholastic Awards program held at the Fort Wayne Grand Wayne Center on Feb. 12. Four Bishop Luers students won awards at this year's program. They are: Apolonia Edwards, a Scholastic Gold Key in painting; Yolanda Linan, a Scholastic Silver Key in photography; Marissa Wigent, a Scholastic Honorable Mention in printmaking; and Riley Mintch, a Scholastic Honorable Mention in mixed media.

## ADALBERT

Continued from Page 13

up at St. Adalbert, and her parents still live across the street. Her grandfather helped to get the church built, collecting those nickels, dimes and quarters. Her parents spoke Polish, but Shaw didn't. When she attended St. Adalbert school she said there were about 600 kids — two classes for each grade level, and back then there was no restrictions on the number of students per class. She remembers when St. Adalbert Hall burnt down in the early 1970s, because that was where her parents' wedding reception was held. Parish leadership decided at the time that rather than rebuild, they would make the parish hall on the first floor of the school.

Shaw started working for the parish part-time and has been full-time office manager for many years. Father Ybarra is the eighth pastor she's worked for, starting with Father Eugene Kazmierczak. "The parish has evolved and sometimes change is hard," she admitted, noting it was particularly an adjustment for everyone when the merger happened. But they have a beautiful church, and if something hadn't happened to increase attendance they might've lost it, she said. "I think we've progressed a lot," she added, smiling.

Of the approximately 1,000 families at St. Adalbert, 90 percent are Hispanic. Father Ybarra cites the young, Latino population as one of the parish's strengths.

"The community is growing

— we're able to fill St. Adalbert for the Spanish Masses," he said. In fact, the Hispanic community is starting to spill over into the English Masses. It's interesting, he noted, that there are multiple generations at the Spanish Masses, but mostly seniors at the English Masses. Older Polish-Americans are still connected to the parish and make up a good part of the English community: Polish hymns are still sung during Masses, but Mass in Polish is no longer offered. Father Ybarra is "totally open to doing a Polish bilingual Mass again," though.

### Ministries

Ministries in English that have long histories include the Harvest House Senior Group, in which 100 seniors meet once a month for Mass, meals and social times including bus trips. The Felician Sisters Auxiliary is still very active and helps support the Polish community as well, as do the Felician Sisters. St. Adalbert also has a large St. Vincent de Paul Society.

A bilingual youth group recently restarted, led by Deacon Ryan Pietrocarlo, and has about 30 kids, 18 of whom took part in the Right to Life March in Washington, D.C. in January. There's also an 18-35 young adult team.

Christ Renews His Parish started in English at the parish, but is now being held only in Spanish. A few of the largest Spanish ministries include Grupo de Oracion, a charismatic prayer group carried over from St. Stephen, and Grupo de Matrimonios, a charismatic group focused on marriage and family. There are about 100 members in each.

Father Ybarra would like to see more involvement in the church and would like to build up the attendance at English Masses again.

"This is their heritage — this is still their church," he said, adding that, for the most part, the second and third generations who grew up in the parish no longer attend.

### St. Adalbert School

St. Adalbert has a vibrant school community, with approximately 230 students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. The Felician Sisters who started the school are still a part of it today. Principal, Andrew Currier came to St. Adalbert five or six years ago, according to Father Ybarra, who said he turned the school around and got it up to an "A" grade for state testing.

Currier created a "house system" with the students in third-eighth grades. There are four houses named after notable members of the Holy Cross order: Children in different grades are grouped together into a "house" designated with a particular color of ties and T-shirts. The idea is to create unity and combat bullying.

The school and parish have a strong connection to Notre Dame: Several of the teachers are or were Alliance for Catholic Education teachers, and they work with the program to help provide classroom training for those still in the program. He said they also receive funding from some Notre Dame events. St. Pius X, a sister parish, also provides generous support for the students.



  
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# SJHS

Continued from Page 1

Libby O'Brien played Suite in A Minor by Telemann for flute and piano. She has played flute for six years and this is the second year she has earned Gold in Group I.

Miguel Enriquez played "Csárdás" ("Hungarian Dances") by V. Monti with the alto saxophone. He has played the alto saxophone for eight years and earned Gold at the state level in Group I in 2015. He also played clarinet for two years and earned a Silver in 2015 and 2016 at regional for clarinet.



Missy Conboy

Pictured are the Saint Joseph High School 2017 state champions in girls Class 3A basketball.



Photos provided by Lisa Kochanowski

Nicole Konieczny, of the Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, winning Class 3A basketball team, cuts down the net after the 2017 state championship game.



LUKE BARRETT



JOSEPH DEAHL



COLE SHORT



PETER JACHIM

The Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, swimming relay team of Cole Short, Peter Jachim, Luke Barrett and Joe Deahl took 14th in the 200-yard medley during state competition last weekend in Indianapolis. Short also took fifth in the 100-yard butterfly and Barrett took eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke.



Freshman Libby O'Brien and junior Miguel Enriquez won Gold and Silver awards, respectively, during ISSMA state music competition early in February.

# The Johnson Amendment

At the National Prayer Breakfast this month, President Donald Trump promised to “totally destroy” the Johnson Amendment “and allow our representatives of faith to speak freely and without fear of retribution.” I must confess that, on the list of things I hope the new administration will accomplish this year, this one is fairly far down.

The Johnson Amendment is named for President Lyndon Johnson, who inserted the provision as a floor amendment to the 1954 tax code. Johnson was then a freshman senator, engaged in an unpleasant primary election fight with a young conservative Catholic state representative from Beeville, Texas.

This was at the peak of Joe McCarthy’s anti-communist witch hunt, and several right-wing nonprofits had supported Johnson’s opponent. Johnson worried that their charges of liberalism would hurt him.

So he proposed a prohibition on political activities by nonprofits: Organizations exempt from tax under section 501(c)(3) should not “participate in, or intervene in ... any political campaign.” It applies to all kinds of nonprofits (my university, the Open Society Foundation), not just churches. What it means for churches, though, is that they can’t make campaign contributions, and they can’t endorse (or oppose) candidates from the pulpit.

They can still take positions on issues like abortion, family life, immigration and health care. The Catholic Church does this all the time. And the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Office of General

Counsel offers elaborate guidelines for parishes and dioceses so they can observe the distinction between permitted and prohibited political interventions.

Though the Johnson Amendment was uncontroversial in 1954, there have been a lot of complaints about it lately. The Pew Research Center reported last year that 1 in 4 black Protestants heard their clergy endorse Hillary Clinton during the election campaign.

The Alliance Defending Freedom has worked for almost a decade to provoke a legal challenge to the rule. The Alliance Defending Freedom’s Pulpit Freedom Initiative asks pastors to preach about the moral qualifications of candidates seeking office.

The day before the National Prayer Breakfast, Sen. James Lankford and Rep. Jody Hice introduced a bill, the Free Speech Fairness Act, to amend the ban on endorsements, though not the one on contributions.

I’m not sure this is a good idea, though my reasons are probably different from the ones the secular left will advance. The Constitution does not require the Johnson Amendment. Separationists may say that giving churches a tax exemption and letting them participate in political campaigns is a forbidden mixture of church and state.

But repealing the Johnson Amendment would also free the Open Society Foundation to do the same thing. When the government is giving out subsidies, it should be allowed to treat churches the way it treats other, secular, institutions.

I might go even further. The idea that the government con-



JOHN GARVEY

fers a benefit on churches when it declines to tax them — the “tax benefit” argument — rubs me the wrong way. It assumes that everything we have really belongs to the government (like whales and sturgeon belong to the queen), and anything we’re allowed to keep is a matter of grace. This kind of omnivorous statism is what got Trump elected.

But looking at the matter from the church’s point of view, rather than the government’s, I see a good deal of wisdom in the principle the Johnson Amendment expresses.

The Catholic Church does not align very well with either Republicans or Democrats, as events the week before the National Prayer Breakfast reminded us. Vice President Mike Pence spoke at the annual March for Life; that same day President Trump issued an order banning travel from seven Muslim-majority countries.

Political endorsements really aren’t the mission of the church — not of our church, anyway. When it comes to voting, better she remind us at all times what the Gospel requires and leave it to us to figure out how to comply.

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

## INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

## Greater horizons:

# Tending to each other and our common home

The old farmers used to say you should leave a field better than you found it. Sometimes that called for heavy lifting. Other times it just meant picking up a rock as you crossed and placing it at the field’s edge.

That counsel stuck with Amy Hereford, who grew up on a 10-acre Missouri farm where sheep roamed and blackberries grew wild. She planted whatever vegetable seemed to be lacking.

For Amy and her three younger sisters, singing lightened their footsteps. “This Land Is Your Land,” “Turn, Turn, Turn,” “Edelweiss.” The music never ceased. At night, she carried the earth inside — under her fingernails, on her cheeks, scenting her hair.

Studying biology in college added an intellectual appreciation for the things she already knew. Then life carried her from the farm: teaching, entering religious life, attending law school, traveling and working in canon law.

She arrived at each new stop with gratitude, as Catholic sisters seem to model so well, thinking, “Who would’ve thought I’d be here now, doing this?” At 58, Sister Amy describes being a Sister of St. Joseph as a life of adventure, with some tough challenges and many amazing opportunities.

About a decade ago she found herself coming full circle, getting her hands back in the dirt. Her work coalesced with her con-



## TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

tinued study of sustainability. She moved into the Dogtown Ecovillage on the edge of St. Louis and tried to cultivate new life with her neighbors.

“There’s something so wholesome about the soil, about growing things,” Sister Amy told me. “When I’m out working on the garden, I feel like I’m tending the garden and the garden is tending me. God is tending me.”

In the summer, it’s how she starts her day, heading out in the quiet of early morning. Then, before she sets to her business, she prays. “That flow from garden to prayer is a natural one.”

When Pope Francis released “Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home,” Sister Amy devoured it. “I think the linking of ecology, technology, economy and sociology was spot on,” she said.

Just as we can no longer think in terms of individual species, but rather an ecosystem, she said, we also must be mindful of our social ecosystem. “Half of our native bird species is in

CAPECCHI, page 17

# We are guilty of sin, but acquitted through Jesus



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

## First Sunday of Lent Matthew 4:1-11

The first reading for this first weekend of Lent is from the Book of Genesis.

Few passages in the Scriptures are as abundant in literary technique, and in theological message, as is this reading from Genesis. Bluntly confronting paganism and the tendency of all humans to avoid accusing themselves of fault, it goes to the heart of sin.

The heart of sin is that it is the result of a freely chosen act by humans. While in this reading the role of the tempting devil is clear, it also is clear that

the devil only tempts. The devil does not force the first man and woman to sin. They sinned of their own will.

The temptation in itself has a lesson. Rebelling against God, the perfect and the perfectly just, was foolhardy. Yet, imperfect even in their pristine state of holiness, the first man and woman listened to bad advice and trusted not God but another. It is a process that has been repeated untold number of times in the lives of us all.

The second reading is from the Epistle to the Romans. In this reading, the epistle looks back to the incident described in Genesis. It reminds us that by the original sin the first humans introduced sin, and resulting chaos and trouble, into earthly existence.

Thus, death and hardship are not God’s designs for us. They were not curses sent upon the human race by an angry God. Believe it or not, the first humans chose them when they sinned. Sin, voluntary and delib-

erate, brought such devastatingly bad results into the world.

God is the center and source of everlasting love and mercy. He did not leave humanity in the whirlpool of death and despair created by human sin. Instead God sent Jesus, the Redeemer, the Son of God.

St. Matthew’s Gospel provides the last reading. It recalls the temptation of Jesus. It is a Synoptic tradition not unique to Matthew. Similar stories appear in Mark and Luke.

As was the case with Genesis, this reading is heavy in its symbolism. For example, bread in the time of Jesus much more obviously represented survival than bread would be today.

Modern refrigeration and quick transportation of food products have given us, in our day, a great selection as to what we will eat. In the time of Jesus the selection was considerably less. There was no refrigeration. Few foodstuffs could be transported at any distance without spoiling, but grain and flour

could be stored. Bread was a principal food. So the devil tries to convince Jesus that the devil can give true life.

In another example, the devil takes Jesus to the top of the temple. Even the earth, created by God, can be contaminated by evil.

The final and most powerful message is that Jesus can command even the devil. Jesus is God.

## Reflection

This weekend is the first weekend of Lent. The church uses the opportunity of this weekend to teach us one of the most basic facts of spiritual life. Sin removes us from God. Sin is not thrust upon us. We are not captured by sin against our will. We choose to sin.

Perhaps, ultimately, the deadliest effect of original sin was the human tendency to minimize the danger of sin and to deny personal responsibility.

In these readings, the church calls us to awake and then turn away from sin. It reminds us of

our own personal role in sin. It pleads with us not to underestimate temptation. It reassures us that, although temptations may be strong, Jesus is our Redeemer and our strength. His strength is enough to overcome any temptation. But we must fortify ourselves by asking for the Lord’s strength. This is the purpose of Lent.

## READINGS

**Sunday:** Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

**Monday:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:** Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48



# What does it mean to be a part of God's global family?

Each week of Lent, this reflection series will provide ways to incorporate global solidarity and the struggles of our brothers and sisters throughout the world into your Lenten journey. Here is this week's installment.

## Nation focus: India

**Catholic social teaching principle:** Preferential option for the poor

**Question:** What does it mean to be a part of God's global family?

**Scripture quote:** "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of Mine, you did for Me." — Matthew 25:40

**Prayer intention:** For all those who struggle to grow crops amidst flooding and other natural disasters.

**Almsgiving challenge:** Give \$.50 to CRS Rice Bowl for each type of food you ate that grew in a field.

In India, over 250 million people live on less than \$1.90 per day. At the same time, 48 million children under the age of five suffer from stunting. Stunting, which indicates malnutrition, affects children's

physical growth, brain function, organ development and immune system in a way that is long-lasting. Catholic Relief Services works with over 900,000 people in India to improve the lives of families suffering due to hunger and malnutrition in India.

This week CRS shares the story of the Singh family, who are adversely affected by flooding along the Malaguni River in East India. This flooding makes it impossible for the family to get to the town market to buy and sell food. With the help of CRS, Megha and Raj Singh are able to prepare for flooding with new farming techniques. These techniques help them grow vegetables in a kitchen garden and keep other crops safe from flooding so they will have access to good healthy food for their two children and extended family.

It would be hard to talk about our brothers and sisters in India without including St. Teresa of Kolkata. She was a witness to the social principle of preferential option for the poor in vulnerable. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops tells us that "a basic moral test is how our most vul-

## CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES: RICE BOWL

MELISSA WHEELER

nerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the last judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first." Through St. Teresa's caring for the poorest of the poor, "Jesus in His most distressing disguise" as she put it, we see a model for how to serve our brothers and sisters who are in need. This legacy continues in the 4,500 Missionaries of Charity who serve the poor through basic care still today. These sisters serve refugees, the terminally ill, abandoned children, the elderly, and many others. We are challenged to see Christ in our neighbor. We are called to recognize the radical humanity of every human person. Seeing each human being as worthy of care and support will impel us to want basic needs to be met. A dignified person deserves food, shelter, basic health care, etc. As St. Teresa told us, "Nakedness is not only for a piece of cloth. Nakedness is for human dignity, for respect. Homelessness is not only for a home made of bricks. Homelessness is being rejected, unwanted, unloved, uncared for, having forgotten what is human love, what is human touch." When we see a brother or sister living in poverty we must not only be concerned with their material need, albeit important, but we must recognize the multifaceted needs of the human person ... our spiritual well-being. This week, strive to see the radical humanity of your brothers and sisters in need.

Melissa Wheeler is the diocesan director for Catholic Relief Services.



Photo by Jennifer Hardy/Catholic Relief Services

**Priyanka Baliar Singh, age 12, cooks outdoors with her mother, Megharani (Megha) Baliar Singh. The Singh family lives in Deipur Village in Block Kanas, Puri district, Odisha state in Eastern India. They receive assistance through CRS' Community-Based Disaster Preparedness program.**

## CAPECCHI

Continued from Page 16

decline, if not endangered. A lot of that is because we're not planting the right plants that bring the right insects that these birds want to eat. It's all interconnected. As a society, we're also interconnected. What I do affects you, what you do affects me. We are all in this together. It really is our common home."

This month, as winter melts

into spring, she's joining in the fourth annual celebration of National Catholic Sisters Week March 8-14, an official component of Women's History Month, by hosting an event in her eco-village called Sisters and Sustainability. She'll be teaming up with other women religious and lay people to install a bat house and a bee house and plant Missouri-native plants to help support pollinator populations and increase soil fertility.

To me, it embodies what women religious do best and why we salute them this month:

They tend to their neighbors and our common home. They practice the simple living Pope Francis called for in "Laudato Si," resisting the "constant flood of new consumer goods" in order to "be serenely present to each reality" and open to "greater horizons of understanding."

"It is not a lesser life," he wrote. "On the contrary, it is a way of living life to the full."

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

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for March 5, 2017

Matthew 4:1-11

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent, Cycle A: the time after Jesus fasted for 40 days. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

- |               |               |              |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| BY THE SPIRIT | TEMPTED       | DEVIL        |
| FORTY DAYS    | TEMPTER       | THESE STONES |
| BREAD         | IT IS WRITTEN | NOT LIVE     |
| ALONE         | EVERY WORD    | MOUTH        |
| HOLY CITY     | TEMPLE        | ANGELS       |
| DASH          | A STONE       | TEST         |
| WORSHIP ME    | SATAN         | SERVE        |

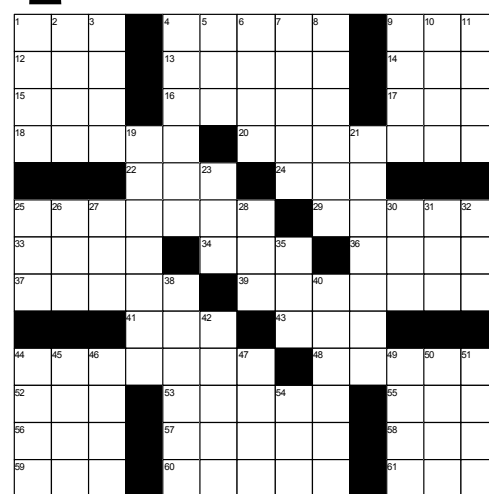
### AFTER FORTY DAYS

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

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## The Cross Word

March 5 and 12, 2017



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Based on these readings: Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Mt 4:1-11 and Gn 12:1-4; 2Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

### ACROSS

- 1 Dove's call
- 4 A deadly sin
- 9 Moose relative
- 12 Scientist's office
- 13 Jeweled headdress
- 14 Fled
- 15 Adam and Eve did wrong
- 16 \_\_, James & John
- 17 \_\_ Jima
- 18 Animal kingdom division
- 20 Tempted Adam and Eve
- 22 Father who art

- 24 Sun's name
- 25 Puzzle
- 29 Eve
- 33 Sculls
- 34 Farm credit administration (abbr.)
- 36 Made cloth
- 37 Rumormonger
- 39 Eyelet
- 41 Time period
- 43 Certified public accountant
- 44 Alcohol
- 48 Done
- 52 Cereal
- 53 Devil
- 55 Poem of praise

- 56 Regret
- 57 Run away and marry
- 58 Galilee water
- 59 Tree
- 60 Stitched
- 61 Finis

### DOWN

- 1 Thunder \_\_
- 2 Curse
- 3 Jesus did to God
- 4 London Cathedral
- 5 Bear false witness
- 6 Makes hot cereal
- 7 Two in the middles of the Garden
- 8 Breaks up soil
- 9 Canal
- 10 Grass
- 11 Our Lady undoes
- 19 Boiled crustacean
- 21 Uses 9D
- 23 Official
- 25 Nose
- 26 Caviar
- 27 Possess
- 28 Microgram
- 30 Mother
- 31 Hail Mary
- 32 Peter used
- 35 St. Joan of \_\_
- 38 Stands up
- 40 Adam and Eve's eyes were
- 42 Dickens' " \_\_ of Two Cities" (2 wds)
- 44 Achy
- 45 Apostle to Gentiles
- 46 Line \_\_ veto
- 47 Pack
- 49 Medicine amount
- 50 Adam and Eve lived here
- 51 Jesus rose from
- 54 Gorilla

Answer Key can be found on page 19

# Late exorcist's words lift the veil on the demonic, Satan

BY ALLAN F. WRIGHT

*"An Exorcist Explains the Demonic: The Antics of Satan and His Army of Fallen Angels" by Father Gabriele Amorth with Stefano Stimamiglio. Sophia Institute Press (Manchester, New Hampshire, 2016). 145 pp., \$14.95.*

The world-renowned exorcist, Pauline Father Gabriele Amorth, who died this past September, has left his wisdom and experience in dealing with evil forces through this lucid and insightful compendium gleaned from interviews published in *Crede* magazine over the past few years.

Father Amorth founded the International Association of Exorcists and performed tens of thousands of exorcisms in his life. He is refreshingly direct throughout the book and doesn't mince words when it comes to the reality of the demonic, evil spirits and Satan.

In addition, his writing conveys a sense of comfort and hope for those suffering from physical and spiritual ailments such as possession, vexation, obsession and infestation, all believed to stem from demonic forces.

Father Amorth attributes the rise on demonic activity to the decline in faith in God. "When faith in God declines, idolatry and irrationality increase; man must then look elsewhere for answers to his meaningful questions," he writes. The principle of total and complete liberty apart from God and the denial of truth itself are indeed seductive in appearance but ultimately fail to satisfy the "desires of the human heart."

Young people in particular, he states, "are easily deluded and are attracted to these 'seductions' which has been the desire of Satan since the beginning." Extreme danger arises when these demonic spirits are invited into a person's life and Father Amorth goes into detail on specific cases he has personally encountered.

While we are all victims of seductions or temptations, not

everyone is a victim of what the late priest calls an "extraordinary action of Satan." Nor are extraordinary actions of Satan or evil spirits the fault of those who are victim of these attacks, he affirms.

However, there are an incredible amount of people who declare their allegiance to Satan, the "father of lies." The casting of spells and "infestations of the demonic" are in fact a reality and chronicled in this book.

In chapter three, "The Cult of Satan and Its Manifestations," topics such as spiritism, Satanism, occultism, wizards, fortunetellers, magic, piercings, tattoos and satanic music are addressed.

He states that the three rules of Satanism are: "You may do all you wish, no one has the right to command you, and you are the god of yourself." One doesn't need to be exposed to the satanic heavy metal band Slayer to see those three elements alive and operating in our culture.

Although "An Exorcist Explains the Demonic" is profoundly disquieting, Father Amorth reminds readers of God's victory over Satan and the tools for growing in holiness and fighting evil provided by the church in the sacraments, sacramentals and prayer. God loves us as a father and desires to protect us.

The reader will perhaps be surprised by the amount of demonic activity that Father Amorth records in a matter-of-fact manner and yet always with the confidence that God is stronger. He recalls invoking with much success Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Father Amorth also was the exorcist for the Diocese of Rome during St. John Paul II's pontificate so he has firsthand knowledge of at least three exorcisms that the pontiff performed in his private chapel. The demons

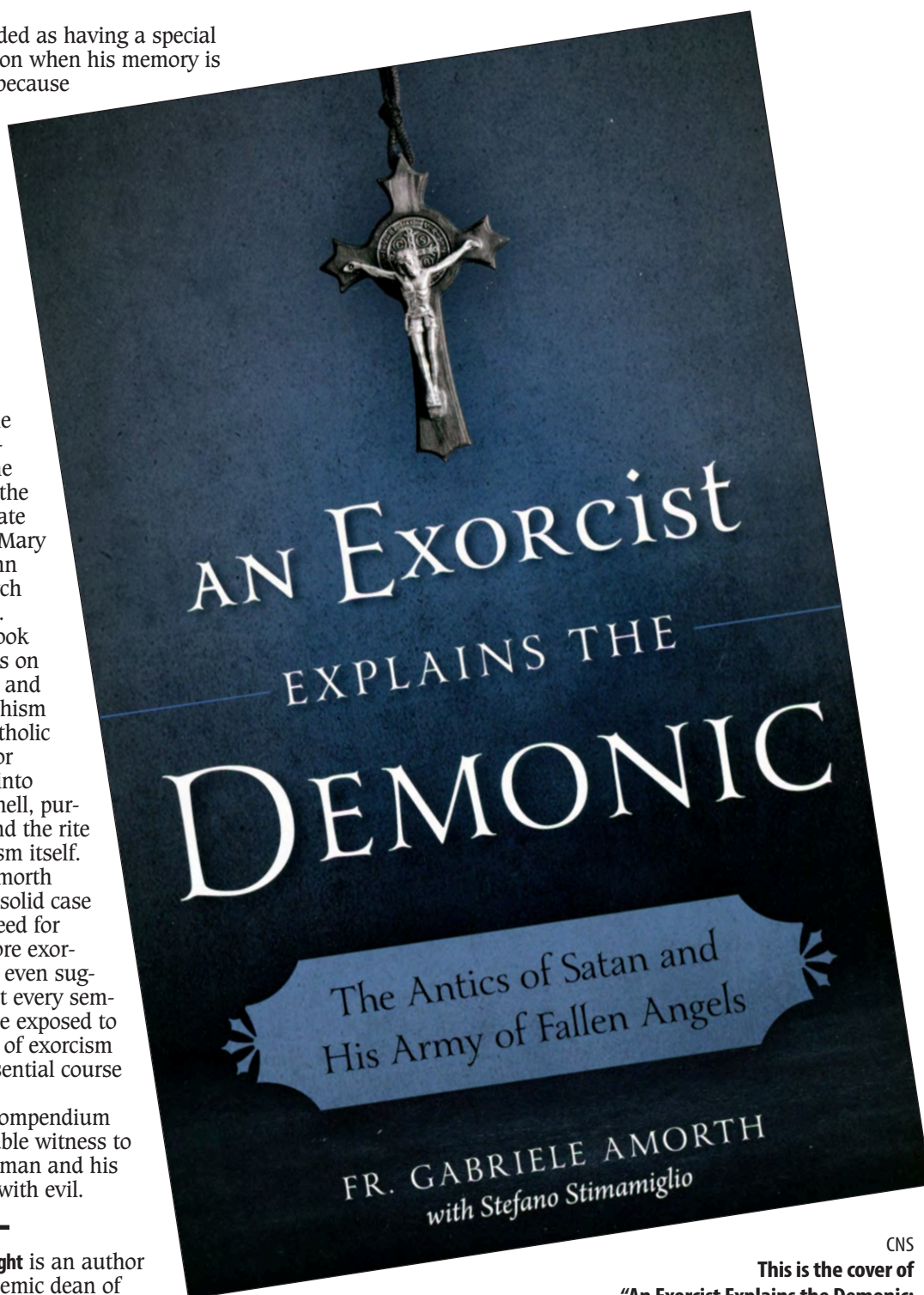
are recorded as having a special indignation when his memory is invoked because

St. John Paul "ruined their plans." Father Amorth believes the reason for this is linked to Fatima and to the consecration of the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by St. John Paul March 25, 1984.

The book also relies on Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church for insights into heaven, hell, purgatory and the rite of exorcism itself. Father Amorth makes a solid case for the need for many more exorcists and even suggests that every seminarian be exposed to the work of exorcism as an essential course of study.

This compendium is a suitable witness to both the man and his struggle with evil.

Allan F. Wright is an author and academic dean of evangelization for the Diocese of Paterson and resides in New Jersey.



CNS  
This is the cover of  
"An Exorcist Explains the Demonic:  
The Antics of Satan and His Army of Fallen Angels"  
by Father Gabriele Amorth with Stefano Stimamiglio.



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<p><b>Shrine of Christ's Passion Odyssey</b></p> <p>Registration Closes: March 10</p>	<p><b>Israel: The Holy Land Odyssey</b></p> <p>Early Booking Ends: March 13</p>	<p><b>EWTN, Shrine &amp; Grotto Odyssey</b></p> <p>Registration Closes: March 15</p>
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**WHAT'S HAPPENING** carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send announcements at least two weeks prior to the event. View more Catholic events and submit new ones at [www.diocesefwsb.org/bulletin](http://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 the Today's Catholic advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

## FISH FRIES

### St. Patrick plans fish fry

**ARCOLA** — St. Patrick Church, 12305 Arcola Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, March 10, from 4-7 p.m. in the parish hall. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches available for kids. Adults \$10, seniors 60 plus \$9, children 5-10 \$5, children 4 and under free. Drive-through and carryouts available.

### Fish fry

**FORT WAYNE** — St. Therese Parish will have a fish fry on Friday, March 3, from 4:30-7 p.m. at the parish hall, 2304 Lwr Huntington Rd. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 and children under 4 are free. Carryout available.

### Boy Scouts fish fry

**FORT WAYNE** — A fish fry sponsored by the St. Vincent Boy Scouts will be March 3, 17 and 31, from 5-8 p.m. at the St. Vincent School, door No. 9, corner of Wallen and Auburn Rd. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-11. Carryout available.

### Fish fry

**WALKERTON** — St. Patrick Parish, 811 Tyler St., will have a fish fry Friday, March 3, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$4 for children 6-10 and children under 6 free. Drive-through carryout available at \$9. Fish prepared by Tyner IOOF Lodge.

### Fish fry planned

**FORT WAYNE** — The Arts and Enrichment Committee of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 10, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Pursley Activity Center, 4500 Fairfield Ave. Tickets are \$10 for adults and carry-out, \$5 for children 6-12 and \$2 for children 1-5. Beer and pop available for purchase. Dine in, carryout, or drive-through via the cul-de-sac behind the school.

### Fish fry hosted by Knights

**DECATUR** — Msgr. J.J. Seimetz Knights of Columbus Council 864 are hosting a Lenten Fish Fry at their pavilion at 1703 High St., on Friday, March 3, from 5-7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for ages 10 and up, \$6 for ages 5-9, and children 4 and under are free. Profits benefit St. Joseph School. For more information visit <http://stmarysdecatour.org>.

### Fish fry

**YODER** — St. Aloysius will be having a fish fry Friday, March 17, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium, 14607 Bluffton Rd. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-11 and children 5 and under free. Fish will be provided by Dan's Fish Fry. Dine-in and carryout available.

### Fish fry planned

**ROANOKE** — St. Joseph Parish will have a fish fry at the American Legion, 1122 N. Main St., on March 17, from 5-7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$4 for children 5-12 years of age and children 4 and under are free. Dine in or carryout. Contact Val at 260-672-2838 for information.

## MISC. HAPPENINGS

### Trivia night on agenda

**FORT WAYNE** — St. Joseph Hessen Cassel School, 11521 US 27 South, will have a trivia night Saturday, March 11, at 6 p.m. Pre-sale cost is \$100 per table. Maximum team size is 10 people per table. Snacks available, beverages available for purchase. Must be 21 to attend. For information visit [www.stjoehc.org](http://www.stjoehc.org).

### Frasati young adults to gather

**FORT WAYNE** — The Frassati Young Adults will meet Saturday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Good Hope gym for volleyball and cornhole. Young adults ages 18-39 welcome.

BYOB and a snack to share. Babysitting available for \$15 per family. Sign up on Facebook at Fort Wayne Frassati Young Adults.

### Card party and euchre tournament

**YODER** — St. Aloysius Knights of Columbus will have a card party and euchre tournament Saturday, March 4, in the school basement. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., \$5 tournament fee. Food and beverages available for a free will offering. Contact Dave Meyer at 260-638-4882 for information.

### Spaghetti dinner planned

**SOUTH BEND** — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, March 9, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$2.50 for children 5-12.

### Book of Revelation topic of series

**COLUMBIA CITY** — Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick will be giving a talk on the Book of Revelation at St. Catherine Parish, 9989 S State Road 9, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday

## REST IN PEACE

### Decatur

Ruth L. Ross, 95, St. Mary of the Assumption

Norma J. Stimpson, 80, St. Mary of the Assumption

### Fort Wayne

P. Douglas Hamm, 65, St. Vincent de Paul

A. David Klein, 90, St. Charles Borromeo

Irene A. Ferrier, 85, St. Jude

David E. Martin, Sr., 73, St. Vincent de Paul

### Huntington

Victoria A. Christman, 87, SS. Peter and Paul

### Mishawaka

Matthew Bauters, 63, St. Bavo

Darlene K. Lindsey, 67, St. Bavo

### New Carlisle

Louise E. Szcypiorski, 88, St. Stanislaus Kostka

### New Haven

Joyce D. Richey, 74, St. Louis Besancon

Lawrence H. Ehinger, 94, St. John the Baptist

### Notre Dame

Sister M. Margaret Andre, CSC, 82, Church of Loretto

Timothy Stephen Fuerst, 54, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Rev. James E. Kelly, CSC, 85, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Bazil J. O'Hagan, 88, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

### South Bend

David Alan Sizemore, 65, St. Adalbert

Norman L. Horvath, 76, St. Therese, Little Flower

Joseph T. Cecil, 93, Holy Family

### Walkerton

Dolores Doyle, 90, St. Patrick

Submit obituaries to [mweber@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:mweber@diocesefwsb.org)

nights, March 8, 15, 29 and April 5. Bring a Bible. There will be no charge. For more information contact Val at 260-672-2838.

### Bishop Luers hosts Show Choir Invitational

**FORT WAYNE** — The Bishop Luers 43rd annual Show Choir Invitational will be March 10 and March 11, in the gymnasium. The middle school competition is Friday, March 10, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5. The high school competition is Saturday, March 11, beginning at 7:45 a.m. and running through 7 p.m. The evening competition begins at 8 p.m. Tickets, sold at the door, are \$15 for all day, \$10 for students.

## The CrossWord

March 5 and 12, 2017

C	O	O	S	L	O	T	H	E	L	K
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E	L	M	S	E	W	E	D	E	N	D

# little flower holy hour

March 7  
7:00 p.m.

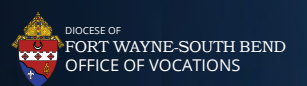
St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel

with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Please, come and pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.



[discernpriesthood.com](http://discernpriesthood.com)



**Arcola Fish Fry**

**ALL YOU CAN EAT**  
Fish Fry at  
St. Patricks Church  
March 10, 2017  
4:00 - 7:00 pm  
fish, potato salad, cole  
slaw, baked beans,  
applesauce & dessert.  
Peanut butter & Jelly sandwiches available for the kids.



**Adults: \$10.00**  
**Seniors (60 plus) \$9**  
**Child (5-10) \$5**  
**Children 4 and under: FREE**  
**DRIVE THRU and CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE!**

**Saint Patrick Catholic Church, 12305 Arcola Road, 46818**

# Notre Dame choirs elevate cathedral Mass

Worshippers at the 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, Feb. 25 were treated to angelic notes from the choir loft prior to and during the celebration, courtesy of the Notre Dame Handbell Choir and the Notre Dame Celebration Choir from the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presided at the Mass and welcomed the two groups that filled the cathedral with their refined, musical contribution to the liturgy. Rather than a performance, the choirs' participated in the planned musical selections, accompanying the Mass from start to finish.

The Mass included a homily delivered by Bishop Rhoades, emphasizing the need to trust in God at all times. He reminded those present that the evening's Gospel, Matthew 6:24-34, included six references by Jesus to the Disciples, exhorting them to not worry. Rather than stressing over money and material things, the Bishop reminded the faithful to "trust in God our Father, even in the smallest of things." Jesus instructs us to seek first the kingdom of God, he added. "God is our rock and our refuge. He is truly our loving and merciful Father."

The choir performed during the Responsorial Psalm, and as the Eucharist was distributed the Handbell Choir rang out the hymn "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart." This was followed with the Celebration Choir and congregation joining together in the hymn "Eat this Bread."

The celebration concluded with the song, "Praise the Lord! You Heavens Adore Him."

The presence of the choirs, who had been invited to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception by the bishop seemed to create a very precious, meaningful and memorable worship experience for those present.



Members of the Notre Dame Celebration Choir perform music for prayer and reflection prior to Mass on Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

Photos by John Martin



A young worshipper greets Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades following the Mass.



Bishop Rhoades thanks a member of the choir for providing uplifting musical accompaniment.



The sound of the Notre Dame Handbell Choir rings out.

## Help stop war in Ukraine, aid children in need, says church leader

ROME (CNS) — The head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church called on the international community to "stop the aggressor" in Ukraine's "forgotten conflict" and help the 1 million children in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. "I am appealing to the international community to

defend Ukrainian children, victims of war, keeping in mind that in our country we are experiencing a humanitarian emergency in Europe that has not been experienced since the Second World War," said Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kiev-Halych, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Despite efforts the past three years, a "stable cease-fire" has never been achieved, "therefore, we ask international organizations to continue diplomatic approaches to stop the aggressor and end the war so that true peace can be reached," he said in a written statement received by

Catholic News Service Feb. 22. The archbishop made the appeal after UNICEF released report Feb. 17 saying that 1 million children in Ukraine were in urgent need of humanitarian aid — nearly double the number of kids in need the same time last year. The increased numbers were

due to the ongoing fighting and deteriorating economic situation of families, loss of housing and reduced access to health care and education, the report said. One in five schools in eastern Ukraine have been damaged or destroyed.