

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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50¢

TODAYSCATHOLICNEWS.org

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ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD Two begin lives of joyful service



Joe Romie

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, flanked by newly ordained priests Father Dennis Di Benedetto, left, and Father Eric Burgener stand with more than 50 diocesan and visiting priests, deacons and seminarian altar servers on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, after Mass.

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

The jubilant strains of the majestic pipe organ rang through the vast edifice of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne Saturday, June 3, a day in which the cathedral was overflowing with family, friends, the faithful and well-wishers of Deacon Eric Burgener and Deacon Dennis Di Benedetto on the day of their ordination to the holy priesthood.

Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus in full regalia lined the center aisle as Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, the two candidates and the nearly 50 diocesan and visiting priests, vested in gold and white, processed to the altar to begin the ordination Mass. Bishop Rhoades greeted the assembly warmly, and thanked all for their attendance on such a joyful occasion.

Beginning the Rite of Ordination, a deacon called the

two candidates forward before Father Andrew Budzinski, vocations director for the diocese, affirmed their readiness for ordination. After the Election of the Candidates, Bishop Rhoades spoke directly to them and said that he would ask six questions before their ordination, in the part of the rite called the Promise of the Elect.

He told those in attendance: "I will ask them about their intention and their resolve to undertake the office of the priesthood. I will ask them about their resolve to preach the word of God wisely, to celebrate the liturgy reverently, to be men of prayer, to consecrate themselves to God for the salvation of his people and to be respectful and obedient to me and my successors. These are all important questions that express what the church expects and requires of her priests.

"But there is another question that is even more important, because it gets to the heart of

all the questions and expresses the motivation of these men who today give their lives to God and his church," he added. "It is the question Jesus posed three times to Simon Peter in the Gospel today: 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' Only after Peter professed his love for Jesus did our lord entrust him with the

Couldn't attend?

Watch the livestream of the ordination Mass at www.diocesefwsb.org

mission to feed and tend his sheep. Each time that Eric and Dennis respond, 'I do' to the six questions in the Promise of the Elect, they are also saying 'I do,' like St. Peter, to Jesus' question to them: 'Eric, son of Curtis and Arlene, do you love me?' and 'Dennis, son of Michael and Nancy, do you love me?' Only after this response of faith will they be ordained, because it is only in the love of Christ and his body, the church, that the priest-

hood makes sense. It's what the priesthood is all about.

Bishop Rhoades continued: "Christ the priest and Good Shepherd consecrates Eric and Dennis as priests and shepherds to feed and tend his sheep. They will do so when they nourish God's people with his word, when they preach the Gospel and teach the Catholic faith. They will do so when they celebrate the mystery of the Lord's death and resurrection in the holy Eucharist. They will feed God's people with the bread of life, Jesus' body and blood. They will tend the lost sheep when they forgive sins in the name of Christ the priest in the sacrament of penance. They will tend the infirm sheep when they comfort and anoint the sick with holy oil. They will tend the sheep when they offer praise and thanks to God throughout the hours of the day in the Divine Office, praying for the people of God."

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Pentecost is celebration of unity in diversity, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Holy Spirit continues to give Christians different gifts and to call them to share those gifts with each other in a community marked by forgiveness and “unity in diversity,” Pope Francis said on Pentecost.

“In a way both creative and unexpected,” the pope said, the Holy Spirit “generates diversity, for in every age he causes new and varied charisms to blossom. Then he brings about unity: he joins together, gathers and restores harmony.”

With tens of thousands of Catholic charismatics from around the world and with dozens of Pentecostal and evangelical leaders present, Pope Francis celebrated Pentecost Mass June 4 in St. Peter's Square and concluded a five-day celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Catholic charismatic renewal.

In his homily at the Mass, the pope said Christians can block the unity in diversity desired by the Holy Spirit by focusing on their differences rather than on what they share.

“This happens when we want to separate, when we take sides and form parties, when we adopt rigid and airtight positions, when we become locked into our own ideas and ways of doing things, perhaps even thinking that we are better than others,” he said.

“When this happens,” the pope said, “we choose the part over the whole, belonging to this or that group before belonging to the church” and taking pride in being “Christians of the ‘right’ or the ‘left’ before being on the side of Jesus.”

The other temptation, he said, is to seek unity without tolerating diversity. “Here, unity becomes uniformity, where everyone has to do everything together and in the same way, always thinking alike.”

When the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples at Pentecost, he said, the first gift the Spirit brought was forgiveness for their sins and the grace to forgive others.

“Here we see the beginning of the church, the glue that holds us together, the cement that binds the bricks of the house: forgiveness,” he said.

Forgiveness “preserves unity despite everything, prevents collapse and consolidates and strengthens,” he said. “Forgiveness sets our hearts free and enables us to start afresh.”

Pope Francis began his Pentecost celebrations at an ecumenical vigil June 3 with some 50,000 Catholic charismatics and Pentecostals from more than 125 countries gathered for praise and worship at the site of the ancient Roman Circus Maximus.

Although less exuberantly, the pope, too, sang with his hands cupped open or with his hands raised. He stood between Michelle Moran, president of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, and Patti Mansfield, who was present when the Catholic charismatic renewal was born. In February 1967 Mansfield was one of the Duquesne University students, who experienced an outpouring of the Holy Spirit during a retreat.

The charismatic renewal is “a current of grace,” Pope Francis told the crowd at the Circus Maximus. “It is a work that was born — Catholic? No. It was born ecumenical,” with similar results in many denominations and with Pentecostals providing support and education to new Catholic charismatics.



CNS/Paul Haring

Pope Francis and Patti Gallagher Mansfield, a participant in the 1967 Pittsburgh retreat that marked the beginning of the charismatic renewal, pray during a Pentecost vigil marking the 50th anniversary of the Catholic charismatic renewal at the Circus Maximus in Rome June 3.

“It was born ecumenical because it is the Holy Spirit who creates unity,” the pope said. The Holy Spirit drew Catholics and Pentecostals together to profess that Jesus is Lord and “to proclaim together the Father's love for all his children.”

In ancient Rome, Pope Francis said, Christians were martyred in the Circus Maximus “for the entertainment of those watching.” He urged the crowd to remember how many Christians are being killed for their faith today and to recognize that their murderers are not asking them their denomination, just whether or not they are Christian.

If those who want to kill Christians believe they are one, he said, it is urgent that Christians be “united by the work of the Holy Spirit in prayer and in action on behalf of those who are weaker.”

“Walk together. Work together. Love each other,” Pope Francis told them.

Being baptized in the Spirit and knowing how to praise God, he said, “are not enough” if Christians don't also help those in need.

An Italian Pentecostal pastor, Giovanni Traettino, a friend of Pope Francis' since they met at an ecumenical charismatic gathering in Buenos Aires in 2006, told the crowd that as Christians grow in their love for God, they should simultaneously grow in love for one another.

“The movement of the Holy Spirit, also known as the Pentecostal movement, has in its DNA — its life in the Holy Spirit — the vocation to build Christian unity,” he said.

Pentecostals and Catholic charismatics have not always gotten along, Traettino said. But “the election of Pope Francis clearly opened a new season, especially in relations with us.”

Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher of the papal household, offered a reflection also focusing on the ecumenical vocation of the charismatic renewal.

How many of the divisions among Christians “have been due to the desire to make a name for ourselves or for our own church more than for God,” he asked. “A renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit will not be possible without a collective movement of repentance on the part of all Christians.”

Tens of thousands of people gathered for

hours of song and prayer before the pope arrived. As Rome's summer sun beat down on the pilgrims, Elaine Pollard and Sandra Mobley from Holy Cross parish in Brooklyn, N.Y., found space in the shade under one of the few trees on the edge of the crowd. They had traveled to Rome with group of 88 people.

Both women are lifelong Catholics who discovered the charismatic renewal in 1989. Pollard said she has stayed with it “because my whole life changed. The first night I went I wasn't impressed.” That was a Saturday and when she went to work on Monday, “I started to hum one of the songs and my heart just broke open, like living water” flowing forth. “It changed my whole life.”

As she spoke to Catholic News Service, the choir on stage started singing, “10,000 Reasons,” a song of praise. Pollard started to cry.

“We were singing this song when my husband died” 15 months ago, she said. He was in the hospital, dying, and her adopted daughter started singing it. Other relatives, who couldn't be there in person, were connected by Skype and they were singing it, too, as he passed away.

It is still difficult, she said, but “he wanted me to come and be here.”

Kaye and George Balsam and Terry Mroz from St. Gabriel the Archangel parish in McKinney, Texas, were at the Circus Maximus as part of a 130-person pilgrimage that visited the Holy Land before arriving in Rome for the Pentecost celebrations.

The trip was George's first with charismatics and he was enthused. “This is what we need to reinvent the church,” he said. Getting people excited about the faith is what is needed if “we want the church to get straightened out and stop losing people,” he said.

Mroz said, “We receive baptism as babies and then we're confirmed,” but so many people experience the sacraments only as “ritual” and are unaware of the power the sacraments hold. The charismatic renewal “reawakens those gifts you received at baptism and confirmation. Until you get the Holy Spirit, you don't get this reawakening. That's what it is — a reawakening of the gifts given you before.”

Contributing to this story was Carol Glatz.

Trump's decision to abandon Paris climate pact called 'deeply troubling'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Donald Trump's June 1 decision "not to honor the U.S. commitment" to the Paris climate agreement "is deeply troubling," said the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace. "The Scriptures affirm the value of caring for creation and caring for each other in solidarity. The Paris agreement is an international accord that promotes these values," Bishop Oscar Cantu of Las Cruces, N.M., said in a statement released shortly after the president made his announcement in the White House Rose Garden.

"President Trump's decision will harm the people of the United States and the world, especially the poorest, most vulnerable communities," the bishop said after Trump announced the U.S. will withdraw immediately from the Paris accord.

"The impacts of climate change are already being experienced in sea level rise, glacial melts, intensified storms, and more frequent droughts," Bishop Cantu said. "I can only hope that the president will propose concrete ways to address global climate change and promote environmental stewardship."

Trump said the climate accord "is less about the climate and more about other countries obtaining a financial advantage over the United States."

He said he wants to create a "level playing field" and establish the "highest standard of living, highest standard of environmental protection." The United States now joins Syria and Nicaragua in not being part of the accord.

Bishop Cantu said that although the Paris agreement is

not the only possible mechanism for addressing global carbon mitigation, the lack of a current viable alternative is a serious concern.

He said the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Pope Francis "and the entire Catholic Church have consistently upheld the Paris agreement as an important international mechanism to promote environmental stewardship and encourage climate change mitigation."

Before Trump made his announcement, Bishop Cantu issued a statement saying the United States had an obligation to protect "our people and our planet" and "mitigate the worst impacts of climate change." He urged Trump to honor the accord.

The USCCB released the earlier statement along with copies of letters sent weeks earlier to Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster. The letters were signed by Bishop Cantu; Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Fla., chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; and Sean L. Callahan, president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development agency.

"We write about our shared obligation to care for the environment. The Judeo-Christian tradition has always understood 'the environment' to be a gift from God," said the letters urging the Trump administration officials in their respective capacities to reaffirm the U.S. commitment to the Paris accord.

"Pope Francis called on the

world's leaders to come together to protect the gift of our common home. ... We have one common home, and we must protect it," they said.

In both statements Bishop Cantu noted that the U.S. bishops have for years "voiced support for prudent action and dialogue on climate change," as far back as their 2001 statement on global climate change and again in 2015 in a letter to Congress. They have, he said, "reiterated their support on several occasions."

"Pope Francis and the Holy See have also consistently voiced support for the Paris agreement," Bishop Cantu said. In his earlier June 1 statement, Bishop Cantu said the pope's 2015 encyclical "Laudato Si: on Care for Our Common Home" was timed "to urge the nations of the world to work together in Paris for an agreement that protects our people and our planet."

The Paris accord has been ratified by 134 of the 197 countries that approved it in December 2015 under the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. President Barack Obama ratified on its own, bypassing the U.S. Senate. The agreement went into force in October after enough countries ratified it.

A day before Trump announced the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. from the climate accord, Cardinal Peter Turkson, prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Integral Development of People, told reporters in Washington that "the decision to possibly pull out for us is something we hoped would not have happened."

"Certain issues should be taken out of the political discussion and not be politicized. ...



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, June 11: 11:30 a.m. — Confirmation Mass for Adults, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Monday, June 12: 10 a.m. — Meeting of the Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
Tuesday, June 13: 1 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Catholic Relief Services, Indianapolis
Wednesday, June 14-16: Meeting of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Indianapolis
Friday, June 16: 11 a.m. — Invocation at 125th Anniversary Event of Michael Kinder & Sons, Indiana Michigan Power Center Plaza, Fort Wayne
Saturday, June 17: 4:30 p.m. — Confirmation Mass for Adults, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend



Priest assignments

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following assignments of priests, effective June 13, 2017:

Reverend Eric Burgener to Parochial Vicar, St. Pius X Parish, Granger.

Reverend Dennis Di Benedetto to Parochial Vicar, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne

The truth is, climate is a global public good and not limited to any country, not limited to any nation," the cardinal said.

"The Vatican would always respect the decision of a sovereign state," added Cardinal Turkson, who was in Washington for a conference at Georgetown University. "We will continue to still talk about climate change and all of that, and hope that some change can occur midstream."

Also commenting ahead of Trump's decision was Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, who said if the president decided to withdraw the United States, "it will be a disaster for everyone."

The bishop and the academies are at the forefront of promoting scientific studies on climate change and implementation of the recommendations in Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si" on care for the environment. The pope gave Trump a copy of the document when they met May 24 at the Vatican.

In an interview June 1 with the Italian newspaper La Repubblica, Bishop Sanchez said he did not think Trump and Pope Francis discussed climate change in any depth when they met, however climate change was a significant part of the discussions the president and top staff members had with Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state.

"In that sense, if he really does what the leaks suggest, for us it will be a huge slap in the face," the bishop said.

Obama deserves some of the blame, the bishop said, because "he took decisions on climate only through presidential orders, leaving open the possibility that

his successor would change everything. That's the problem. Today, in just one day, Trump could change all the cards on the table to the disadvantage of many and to the advantage of the oil lobby."

Tillerson participated in Trump's meeting with Cardinal Parolin and told reporters that while climate change did not come up in Trump's meeting with the pope, they had "a good exchange on the climate change issue" with the cardinal.

"The cardinal was expressing their view that they think it's an important issue," Tillerson said shortly after the meeting. "I think they were encouraging continued participation in the Paris accord. But we had a good exchange on the difficulty of balancing addressing climate change, responses to climate change, and ensuring that you still have a thriving economy and you can still offer people jobs so they can feed their families and have a prosperous economy."

Asked how Trump responded to Cardinal Parolin's encouragement to stick with the Paris climate agreement, Tillerson said: "The president indicated we're still thinking about that, that he hasn't made a final decision. He, I think, told both Cardinal Parolin and also told Prime Minister (Paolo) Gentiloni that this is something that he would be taking up for a decision when we return from this trip. It's an opportunity to hear from people. We're developing our own recommendation on that. So it'll be something that will probably be decided after we get home."

Dennis Sadowski in Washington and Cindy Wooden in Rome contributed to this story.



CNS photo/Dan Anderson, EPA

Floodwater is seen in Hammond, La., March 11. Bishop Oscar Cantu of Las Cruces, N.M., chairman of the U.S. bishops' international justice and peace committee, said in a June 1 statement President Donald Trump must honor the nation's commitment to the Paris agreement to protect the planet.

From altar boy to bishop-designate: Father William Wack

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

At a May 29 press conference in Pensacola, Fla., where he is the bishop-designate, the first question Father William Wack, CSC, fielded was, "Will you be the first bishop from South Bend?"

Although other members of the Congregation of Holy Cross are bishops, this son of Christ the King Parish probably holds the distinction of being the first who grew up in South Bend. As Bishop-designate Wack put it, "This is an honor for all of us: my parish, my diocese, my order, Notre Dame, and my wonderful family. They all had a role in making me who I am."

He ventured a guess that he's the first bishop to have ever graduated from LaSalle High School, although three other Holy Cross priests also claim that alma mater.

The single word friends and

family members use to describe the priest is "joyful." Again and again Bishop-designate Wack exclaims, "I love being a priest!" In fact, when the papal nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, called with the news would change his life, the bishop-designate said he made sure he wouldn't have to give up his priestly ministry. He observed that in appointing bishops, Pope Francis isn't looking for experienced administrators, but rather men who love being pastors, men with direct experience serving the poor.

Bishop-designate Wack is the ninth of 10 children: two daughters followed by eight sons. Their mother, Alice, always told them that mothers of priests go straight to heaven.

After Jim and Alice built a house near Christ the King, all the boys served at the altar and helped out at the rectory, answering the phone and even doing secretarial work. Oldest



Congregation of Holy Cross

Pope Francis has named Holy Cross priest Father William A. Wack, pastor of St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin, Texas, to be the bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Fla. He succeeds Bishop Gregory L. Parkes, who was named last November to head the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

son Jim did consider the priesthood during high school, but Alice had to wait until "Billy" before she got her first priest in the family. "Then (son) Neil was a bonus," said Jim Sr.

Jim Sr. had been active in his parish in Noblesville for 30 years, teaching confirmation classes and leading youth Bible studies. Another of the couple's sons, Kevin, spent time in seminary before earning a law degree and is now a hospital ethicist in Atlanta. Youngest daughter Emily Vizard just graduated from Holy Cross College; son Michael and his family are active at Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw.

One of Bishop-designate Wack's sisters, Mary Gurr, remembered how both he and Father Neil liked to serve morning Mass at Christ the King when they were young. When they went to bed, they often left a note on the table asking whether they could go to the early Mass, leaving "yes" and "no" boxes for their parents to check. On the weekends their Dad served right along with them.

When William was in high school and Neil in grade school, they biked over to Moreau Seminary to chat with the vocations director. He mostly talked with William, who wound up entering Old College as a college freshman; but at the end of the interview, Father Andre turned to Neil and asked, "What about you?" He replied: "No way, that's not going to happen." He went to Purdue University and worked as a computer consultant for four years before entering the seminary, later stating that a big factor in changing his mind was the joyful witness of then-Father William, who was an associate pastor in Colorado Springs. "He listened to me and gave me space," said Father Neil. "I kept waiting for his joy at being a priest to diminish, but it never passed, despite all his responsibilities. He's a huge reason why I entered the Congregation of Holy Cross. It's neat to be brother priests and religious, as well as blood brothers."

James Sr., a family doctor, and Alice, a nurse who worked in his office after the children were older, made sure the whole family prayed the rosary after dinner every night, along with any neighborhood children who came in when they called "Rosary!" Each child led half a decade, "so they had to pay attention," said Alice. Mary said seeing her father come in from work, wash his hands and pull his rosary out of his pocket taught her that real men can be very religious.

"We were raised in the most incredible family," she said. "Besides the gift of life, our parents gave us the gift of Catholicism. I absolutely love our faith. We all wore miraculous medals: Our mother joked that the bottom of the lake was covered with the ones we kept losing.

"When I see my brothers

concelebrating Mass," she continued, "an indescribable joy fills my heart, knowing what they're holding in their hands. They take their vows seriously, but their joy attracts young people, who learn that you don't have to be old and stodgy to be a priest. Chastity isn't something they've chosen because they don't want to get married; it's a sacrifice they make daily for God.

"Bill also says he finds the vow of poverty very freeing. He has very few possessions, but you have to be careful not to admire something on his wall; he'll take it down and hand it to you."

Ordained in 1994, Bishop-designate William visited Father Stan Rdzok, CSC, former pastor at Christ the King, shortly afterward for permission to adopt his priestly motto. Father Rdzok replied, "Gladly," so he chose a motto that perfectly combines his serious and light-hearted side: "Working to Beat Hell."

The new priest served in Colorado Springs, for some of those years as associate director of vocations — a post Father Neil now holds. For six years he directed Andre House in Phoenix, Ariz., a center for the homeless. Since 2008 he has been pastor of St. Ignatius Martyr Church in Austin, Texas, founded as a Holy Cross parish because of its proximity to St. Edward's University. Although he had never been to Texas before that assignment, Bishop-designate Wack became an "orange" Texas fan and developed a taste for barbecue and for wearing cowboy boots. He expects to adapt just as well to northwest Florida.

Bishop-designate Wack has worked closely with Austin Bishop Joe Vasquez as dean and member of the diocesan advisory school board and presbyteral council. "Father Wack is an exemplary priest who is well-respected by his brother priests and loved by those he serves," said Bishop Vasquez. "As the people of Pensacola-Tallahassee come to know him, they will see his love for the church and his desire to serve his flock with warmth and compassion."

Bishop-designate Wack knows the bishop must be a leader, not just a companion; someone who can set a vision and work through any difficulties that arise. Although his new diocese has only 67,000 Catholics, he hopes to foster pride that will help make it the best diocese in Florida.

Bishop-designate Wack's consecration and installation as the bishop of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee has been set for Aug. 22. One of his great-nieces will be only four weeks old then, but the entire family plans to be on hand. Before that time, he is looking forward to a canonical five-day retreat, as well as a June retreat that will enable him to connect with his brother Holy Cross priests.

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U.S. Catholics join pope in praying for victims of London attacks

WASHINGTON (CNS) — U.S. Catholics joined Pope Francis and the rest of the world in expressing sorrow for those killed and severely injured in the latest terrorist attacks in London the night of June 3.

"The vigil of Pentecost had barely begun when the world was burdened yet again, this time by the sinister attacks on innocent men and women in the heart of London," Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said in an early June 4 statement.

"In such tragic hours, we implore the Holy Spirit to pour out his gift of comfort on those who grieve the loss of loved ones and on the dozens who were so tragically injured in this horrible attack," he said. "At the same time, we see in the courage of the first responders the true and courageous spirit of our brothers and sisters, the people of Great Britain."

After celebrating Mass on Pentecost, June 4, with an estimated 60,000 people in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis offered public prayers for the victims of the attacks in London that left seven people dead and 48 others injured.

"May the Holy Spirit grant peace to the whole world," he said. "May He heal the wounds of war and of terrorism, which even last night in London struck innocent civilians. Let us pray for the victims and their families."

In his statement, Cardinal DiNardo said U.S. Catholics



CNS photo/Neil Hall, Reuters

After a terrorist attack near the London Bridge June 3, people leave the area with their hands up. Seven people were killed and dozens injured when three terrorists in a van mowed down pedestrians on the bridge before stabbing a police officer and revelers around Borough Market.

joined in the pope's prayers for the victims and survivors, and he added: "May God grant strength, wisdom and protection to the men and women who safeguard our families and may he convert the hearts of all who follow the path of evil extremism. Our solidarity in Christian hope and commitment to peace is a bond that cannot be broken."

In New York, WABC-TV's "Eyewitness News" reported that a college student from Brooklyn who attends Jesuit-run Boston College was at a pub with some of his classmates in London's Borough Market when terrorists came in with long knives and started attacking people.

The attackers first mowed people down on the London Bridge in a white van, then left the van to go on a killing spree in Borough Market, according to news reports.

As others fled the pub scene or huddled in fear, Mark

Kindschuh, 19, of Bay Ridge, stayed to help a man he saw fighting for his life, the TV station reported.

"All I could see was one man at the front on the ground with a pool of blood forming," Kindschuh told WABC-TV. "You couldn't really see it, because there was so much blood around his head, but I searched around with my hands, and it was on the back of his head."

Kindschuh said he took his belt and wrapped it around the victim's head to slow the bleeding, then shouted to the crowd asking if anyone was a doctor. He stayed with the victim and a short while later police entered the bar.

His father, Dr. Mark Kindschuh, who is director of Coney Island Hospital's Emergency Department, told WABC he was proud that his son stayed with the injured man and showed such selflessness amid the panic.



Saturday, June 17 at 10:00 AM



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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In preparation for the External Solemnity of Corpus Christi, Fr. Mark Wojdelski, Pastor of Sacred Heart, will offer a special conference. Some very simple, practical advice that all Catholics can take to increase their devotion to our Eucharistic Lord will be presented.

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Church leaders welcome leaked HHS draft lifting contraceptive mandate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A leaked draft rule from the Department of Health and Human Services exempting religious groups from the contraceptive mandate of the Affordable Care Act was welcomed by church officials and attorneys representing the Little Sisters of the Poor, one of the groups that challenged the mandate at the U.S. Supreme Court. Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, said in a June 1 statement that the leaked draft has "yet to be formally issued and will require close study upon publication," but it provides encouraging news. "Relief like this is years overdue and would be most welcomed," he said. The archbishop noted that if the ruling is issued it would "lift the government-imposed burden on our ministries to violate their own teachings within their very own institutions." He also said the draft of the HHS regulations reflects common sense and a long-held practice of the federal government to provide strong conscience protection in the area of health care. "Better late than never," said Mark Rienzi, senior counsel with Becket, the law firm representing the Little Sisters of the Poor. "At long last the United States government acknowledges that people can get contraceptives without forcing nuns to provide them."

Ukrainian cardinal known for simplicity, holiness dies at 84

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Ukrainian Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, known for his "velvety baritone" when

Mass celebrated at site of arson attack



CNS photo/Rolox Dela Pena, EPA

A priest celebrates Mass June 2 at the entrance of the Resorts World Manila in the Philippines. A gunman stormed the casino at the luxury resort June 1 and torched gambling tables in the crowded space, creating a choking level of smoke that killed at least 36 people, authorities said. The gunman stuffed a backpack with casino chips before he fled but was found dead in an adjacent hotel of an apparent suicide, bringing the total death toll to 37.

chanting the Divine Liturgy or making one of his regular appearances on television or radio programs, died May 31 near Kiev at the age of 84. Like many Ukrainian Catholics around the world, he knew what it meant to

be a refugee, to spend time in a displaced persons' camp, to immigrate and to start all over again. But the experience also helped him become fluent in five languages, "and he could joke in all of them," said Ukrainian Bishop

Borys Gudziak of Paris. And in a post-Soviet Ukraine, where leadership often meant "a compulsive passion" for money and power, "he lived in exemplary simplicity," Bishop Gudziak told Catholic News Service June 1. "In Ukrainian

folklore, a blind elder is considered a sage," the bishop said. "He was the wise man of the country, a real father whose embrace, word, warm smile and sense of humor — often self-deprecating — gave people a sense of joy and peace." Cardinal Husar's death leaves the College of Cardinals with 221 members, although Pope Francis is scheduled to create five new cardinals in late June.

Pope tells students: Don't fear goodbyes, unknown

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Life is a long series of hellos and good-byes, so don't be afraid to let go of the past; remember old friends, but keep moving and be open to the new, Pope Francis told students as the school year was coming to an end. "We have to learn to see life by seeing the horizons," not the walls that can make people afraid because they don't know what is on the other side, he told thousands of adolescents during a 45-minute encounter at the Vatican June 2. The middle-schoolers were part of Communion and Liberation's "The Knights of the Grail" educational initiative. In the informal Q-and-A, a teen named Marta told the pope how scared she was to be leaving middle school and most of her best friends as they head on to high school next year. "Why do I have to change everything? Why does growing up make me so afraid?" she asked him. "Life is a constant 'Good morning' and 'Farewell,'" he said, with the goodbyes sometimes being for forever. "You grow by encountering and by taking your leave," he said. "If you don't learn to say goodbye well, you will never learn how to encounter new people."

Bishops: Senate health care bill must respect life, be 'truly affordable'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Members of the U.S. Senate "have a grave obligation" to make sure their health care reform bill respects life, provides access to adequate health care "for all" and is "truly affordable," the chairmen of four U.S. bishops' committees said in a letter to senators released June 2.

As the Senate takes up health care reform, it "must act decisively to remove the harmful proposals from the House bill that will affect low-income people — including immigrants — as well as add vital conscience protections, or begin reform efforts anew," the chairmen said, reiterating key moral principles they urged be in the U.S. House bill to replace the Affordable Care Act.

By a four-vote margin May 4, the House passed the American Health Care Act to replace the Obama administration's health care law.

Senate Republicans have been urged to pass health care legislation before the congressional

recess at the end of July.

After House passage of its measure, the U.S. bishops "noted the positive aspects" of the bill, including "critical life protections" for the unborn, the letter said, but the measure "contains many serious flaws" the Senate must act to change, it added.

The letter, dated June 1, was signed by New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities; Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty; Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Fla., chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice Chairman and Human Development; and Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the Committee on Migration.

"Most troubling are unacceptable changes to Medicaid that reports indicate will leave millions of additional people uninsured in the years ahead," the letter said.

"The Catholic Church remains committed to ensuring the fundamental right to medical care, a right which is in keeping with the God-given dignity of every person, and the corresponding obligation as a country to provide for this right," it continued. "Health care debates must not be reduced to only those elements which appear most politically expedient; those without a strong voice in the process must not bear the brunt of attempts to cut costs."

The letter said the U.S. bishops "stand ready to work with Congress" to address problems with the current health care law "in ways that protect the most vulnerable among us."

It also stressed that health care is "much more than mere insurance" and should provide incentives for preventative care, early intervention and even encourage people to enter medical professions which foster relationships between doctors and patients.

The bishops' letter to the Senate reiterated many of the points raised in a March 8 letter to House members that said any repeal of the previous health care legislation shouldn't move forward without a replacement plan. They also urged that such a plan should show respect for life, offer access for all, be truly affordable and offer comprehensive and high quality coverage.

"No health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion," the bishops wrote, adding that long-standing Hyde Amendment protections must be included in any health care plan and that federal resources should not be used to "assist consumers in the purchase of health care plans that cover abortion."

The bishops said that if the Senate uses the American Health Care Act as its starting point, they should "retain the positive

elements of the bill and remedy its grave deficiencies." The bishops suggested the new plan keep protections for the unborn; ensure affordable and adequate coverage for all stages of life; and increase the level of tax assistance, especially for low-income and older people, in the measure's tax credit proposal.

They also said a new plan should oppose significant penalties, which the poor cannot afford, for gaps in coverage and add conscience protections.

The letter urged senators to recognize their "grave obligation" to come up with a fair health care plan. It included a quote from Pope Francis about health care saying: "When a sick person is not placed at the center and considered in their dignity, attitudes arise which can even lead to profiteering on other people's misfortunes. The growing health poverty among the poorest segments of the population is due precisely to the difficulty of access to care."

Christ Child Society celebrates 70 years

SOUTH BEND — In commemoration of its 70th year of clothing under-resourced children, the Christ Child Society will host Let Love Shine, a reception and silent auction at The History Museum in South Bend on Thursday, June 15, from 6-8:30 p.m. Included in the festivities is the ribbon cutting of an exhibit chronicling the origin, growth and community service of the organization.

According to event chairperson Mary Barrett, "Not only will guests be the first to see the exhibit, they will have the opportunity to support our service to local children during a fun evening including hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, a silent auction, wine pull and balloon pop featuring balloons filled with gift cards."

The exhibit features photographs dating back to the earliest years of the organization, many set in local sites familiar to longtime South Bend residents. Also on view is National Christ Child Society founder Mary Virginia Merrick's Laetare Medal, awarded to her in 1915 by the University of Notre Dame for her dedica-

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Commencement exercises



Provided by Pontifical College Josephinum

The Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, held the celebration of its 118th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 13. Seminarian graduates from the diocese are, from left: Keeton Lockwood, Bachelor of Arts in philosophy, cum laude; Jonathan Evangelista, Bachelor of Arts in humanities; Benjamin Landrigan, Bachelor of Arts in philosophy, summa cum laude; and John Hang Piang, Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

tion to Catholic social service. The exhibit will be on display through the summer.

Tickets to the reception are \$70. For more information contact Megan at info@christchild.org.

Cartwright to retire from USF

FORT WAYNE — Rick Cartwright, founding dean of the University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts, has announced his retirement, effective the end of this academic year.

Cartwright has been dean of the School of Creative Arts since 2004, and a member of the school's faculty since 1975. He was integral in the vision for and development of USF Downtown, which opened in August. He also oversaw the 2010 restoration of the Bass Mansion (now Brookside) and the rehabilitation of the Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center.

"Everyone at the University of Saint Francis is extremely grateful for the many accomplishments and contributions Rick has made throughout his time here," said USF President Sister M. Elise Kriss. "We will all truly miss his creativity and vision."

Victory Noll Sisters celebrate jubilees

HUNTINGTON — Seven members of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters are celebrating Jubilees in 2017. Six were honored with a special Mass May 24 at Archbishop Noll Memorial Chapel at Victory Noll.

80-year jubilee

Sister John Francis Radler, a native of Milwaukee, Wis., will celebrate 80 years as a Victory Noll Sister. Her ministry work has taken her to California; Indiana; Washington, D.C; Arizona; Wisconsin; and Ohio.



SISTER JOHN FRANCIS RADLER

Sister John Francis entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters on March 12, 1938, and made first vows on August 5, 1940.

75-year jubilee

Sister Martha Molohon is celebrating 75 years with OLVM, having entered the community on Oct. 27, 1942. Originally from Curdsville, Ky., Sister Martha has served



SISTER MARTHA MOLOHON

in Texas, Indiana, California, Missouri, Kentucky, Michigan and New Mexico.

"I feel at peace and am grateful for the life God has given me as an unlikely servant," said Sister Martha.

70-year jubilees

Sister Alma Bill joined OLVM on Oct. 30, 1947. From Arcadia, Wis., Sister Alma's ministry work took her to California, Indiana, Florida, Missouri and Arizona. She authored two textbooks and teachers' guides and also wrote "The Story of Victory Noll II," the second edition of the OLVM history.



SISTER ALMA BILL

"I was enlivened by the beauty of God's presence among His people, and their meaningful and prayerful response to that presence," said Sister Alma.

Sister Marilyn Schatz, a native of Ellicott City, Md., entered OLVM on Oct. 30, 1947. She has been missioned in New Jersey, Indiana, Alabama, Michigan, Texas, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland and New Mexico.



SISTER MARILYN SCHATZ

"I enjoyed being in Texas. I was in Mathis for 10 years, and the people were so wonderful. They had simplicity and sincerity," says Sister Marilyn.

60-year jubilees

Originally from Warren, Pa., Sister Rita Musante entered OLVM on Sept. 5, 1957, and has worked in mission centers

in California, Indiana, Utah, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New Jersey.

"Helping people become aware of how much God loves each of us with all our mistakes and sins, achievements and dreams, is such a joy," said Sister Rita.



SISTER RITA MUSANTE

Sister Rose Zita Rosonke, a native of Mt. Carmel, Iowa, entered OLVM on Sept. 5, 1957 and has been missioned in Indiana, Michigan, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico and Arizona. Her current ministry is with Victory Noll Center in Huntington.



SISTER ROSE ZITA ROSONKE

"I continue to grow in understanding that life is not so much about what I accomplish but more about what God's great love accomplishes in and through and among others," said Sister Rose Zita.

50-year jubilee

Sister Francisca Olvera will celebrate her 50th jubilee later, on Aug. 5, with a special Mass at Archbishop Noll Memorial Chapel.

Bishop Luers student meets Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos



Provided by Jenny Andorfer

Bishop Luers High School senior Reyna Rodriguez, right, was the special guest of U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, left, at the American Federation for Children's National Policy Summit in Indianapolis on May 22. DeVos used Reyna's educational journey as an example of the success of Indiana's Choice Scholarship, which allowed Reyna to attend Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

ORDINATION

Continued from Page 1

He then spoke directly to the two deacons.

"In all these priestly activities, Eric and Dennis, may you keep before your eyes the example of the high priest who came not to be served but to serve, the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for his sheep. ... And he gives you the grace in the sacrament of holy orders to be faithful to this mission. By cooperating with this grace, you will be building up God's house, Christ's body, the church, and in so doing, you yourselves will become holy.

"Eric and Dennis, I encourage you to make your spiritual life, your prayer, your highest priority as priests. It's really a pastoral priority. By entering more deeply into communion with the Lord and by letting yourselves be possessed by God's love every day, you are better able to witness to that love to your people. In your prayer, your love for Jesus is nourished and grows and you receive the energy needed to serve your people well. Put simply, you must be friends of Jesus if you are going to be his priests, good priests. I encourage you to make time for prayer so that the love of Christ will always be the dominant force in your life. ... It's from this intense spiritual life that our ministry becomes fruitful.

"Finally, Eric and Dennis, you are being ordained here in Mary's church, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and during this centennial year of Our Lady of Fatima. I pray that Mary will guide you and watch over you in your priestly life and ministry. She is the mother of Jesus and of his priests. She will help you to be faithful images of her son, the Good Shepherd. May you always be close to her, experience her love for you, and learn from her to be open to the grace of her son that you receive today."

The candidates declared their intentions to assume the responsibility of the office of priesthood, pledging their obedience and respect to him and to his successors, then prostrating themselves on the floor of the cathedral as a sign of submission to the will of God while the Litany of the Saints was sung by the choir and congregation. The elect then knelt for the laying on of hands as the bishop, followed by the entire presbyterate, placed their hands on each man's head in accordance with apostolic tradition. Then Bishop Rhoades said the Prayer of Ordination over them, after which the two new priests were vested with the stole and chasuble, signs of the priestly office, by Msgr. Michael Heintz and Father Dan Scheidt. The anointing of hands of the new priests with holy chrism, handing over of the bread and wine to them and the fraternal kiss of peace bestowed by Bishop Rhoades and their fellow priests completed the Rite of Ordination, and Father Eric Burgener and Father Dennis Di Benedetto were warmly welcomed into the diocesan presbyterate.

"Being ordained a priest is the most tremendous thing that's happened to me since my baptism and first holy Communion. ... My prayer is that I will always be a good and holy priest because the people of God deserve that. I'm just so grateful to everyone here in the diocese who helped me get to this point in my life," said Father Di Benedetto said. Father Burgener reflected on his path to the priesthood when he recently told *Today's Catholic*, "We're all called to go up that mountain...the mountain top is heaven. The climb is worth the view when you reach the top of your mountain."



Joe Romie

The presence of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, who assembled during the processional and at the end of the ordination Mass, was a visual reminder of its momentous nature.



Joe Romie

Deacons Dennis Di Benedetto, center, and Eric Burgener, right, ascend the front steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at the start of their Mass of Ordination to the priesthood.



John Martin

Deacons Dennis Di Benedetto and Eric Burgener stand during the Liturgy of the Word.



Deacons Dennis Di Benedetto and Eric Burgener kneel during the Litany of Supplication. The presbyterate stands.



This posture by the deacons, before the altar, is a sign of submission to the community, as they lay down their lives in imitation of Christ.

DEACONHOOD — JUNE 3, 2017



John Martin
Candidates lie prostrate before the altar during the ordination Mass in the background.



John Martin
Fathers Dennis Di Benedetto and Eric Burgener receive congratulatory applause at the conclusion of their ordination Mass.



John Martin
Concelebrating priests lay their hands upon the candidates.



Joe Romie
Bishop Kevin Rhoades silently lays his hands on the head of Deacon Dennis Di Benedetto, following apostolic tradition.



Joe Romie
Candidates lie prostrate as a symbol of their unworthiness and their dependence upon God and the prayers of the Christian community.

Joe Romie
Bishop Rhoades lays hands on the head of Deacon Eric Burgener.



Couldn't attend?

Watch the livestream of the ordination Mass at www.diocesefwsb.org

Joe Romie

Baccalaureate Masses celebrated



Photos by Jennifer Miller

Diego Delgado of Queen of Peace Parish is a graduating senior from the Marian High School Class of 2017. The Marian Scholar, who graduated with GPA of over 4.0, is pictured with Bishop Kevin Rhoades and his parents, Diego and Theresa Delgado of Mishawaka, following the school's June 1 baccalaureate Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral.



The Saint Joseph High School, South Bend, graduating class of 2017 processed in together for their baccalaureate Mass. The Mass was held in the new church of St. Pius X Parish in Granger.



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100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATIMA APPARITIONS

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal. The Blessed Mother appeared once each month to the children from May 13 until Oct. 13, 1917.

June 13, 1917

Our Lady establishes devotion to her immaculate heart

About 50 people turned up at the Cova da Iria in Fatima on June 13, as the three children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, assembled near the Holm oak tree where Mary had appeared on May 13. The children saw a flash of light, followed immediately by the apparition of Mary as she spoke to Lucia. She again asked them to pray the rosary every day, and she asked Lucia to learn to read and write. She then revealed some of the Lord's plans for the three children.

"I will take Jacinta and Francisco shortly, but you will stay here for some time to come," she said to Lucia. "Jesus wants to use you to make me known and loved. He wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart throughout the world. I promise salvation to whoever embraces it. These souls will be dear to God, like flowers put by me to adorn his throne." This last sentence is found in a letter written in 1927 by Sister Lucia to her confessor.

Lucia was sad at the first part of this reply, and asked: "Am I to stay here alone?" Mary replied: "No, my daughter. Are you suffering a great deal? Don't lose heart. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."

One of the witnesses to this apparition, Maria Carreira, described how Lucia then cried out and pointed as Mary departed. She herself heard a noise like "a rocket a long way off," and looked to see a small cloud a few inches over the tree rise and move slowly towards the east until it disappeared. The crowd of pilgrims then returned to Fatima, where they reported the amazing things they had seen; thus ensuring that there were between 2,000 and 3,000 people present for the July apparition.

*The story of Fatima has been provided by
the World Apostolate of Fatima, U.S.A.,
Our Lady's Blue Army.*



The World Apostolate of Fatima Fort Wayne-South Bend will celebrate a 13th-day parish pilgrimage Tuesday, June 13, at St. Anthony of Padua, Angola. Events will begin at 6 p.m. and include a Mass, exposition, rosary, Benediction and Marian procession. Celebrant: Father Robert Showers Speaker: Father Glenn Kohrman All are welcome.

*Look for Today's Catholic coverage of the message of Fatima and local and international anniversary celebrations now through October.
www.diocesefwsb.org/fatima*



When the heart beats too fast

Some time ago, I was trying to convince one of my patients to exercise. His response makes me smile every time I think about it. “Doc, I am a firm believer that God only gives you so many heartbeats on this earth, and when you use them up, you die. So, I don’t want to use them up by exercising.”

I’m confident there is no scientific basis for this, but did you know that is not good for your heart to beat too fast for extended periods of time?

I recently cared for a young man in his 40s who presented with atrial fibrillation and a very rapid heart rate. He had no idea his heart was out of rhythm. We believed his heart was going very fast for weeks. It was only after he went into congestive heart failure with symptoms of severe shortness of breath that he realized something was wrong and he sought medical attention. In the emergency room his heart rate was running between 160 and 180 beats per minute.

Many people that go into atrial fibrillation (A-fib) are immediately aware of their fast and irregular heart rhythm, but there are a significant percentage of people who initially have no symptoms.

Our evaluation included an echocardiogram that documented severe deterioration of his heart function. His EF (ejection fraction) was only 15 percent, which is barely good enough to sustain life. The normal EF is usually in the 55-70 percent range. We hypothesized that he had a tachycardia- (fast heart rate) induced cardiomyopathy (weak heart muscle). Truthfully, I was hopeful that was the case

because this type of cardiomyopathy can be completely reversed by slowing the heart down to normal again. (Other types of cardiomyopathy are less likely to recover.)

We performed an electrical cardioversion, shocking him back into normal sinus rhythm so his heart would beat synchronously again at normal rates. We put him on medicine to maintain a normal rhythm, and the best combination of medicine to enhance recovery of his weakened left ventricle. When he went home we had him wear a LifeVest, since he was at risk for sudden potentially fatal arrhythmias. (If you have not heard of the LifeVest, you missed my article two months ago.) After two months he was feeling better, and his EF climbed up to 30 percent. Two more months later, his EF had recovered to 55 percent, his LifeVest was discontinued and he returned to work. His heart had made a great comeback!

A-fib is the most likely cause of a tachycardia-induced cardiomyopathy, but we also see occasional people whose heart rate just goes too fast in normal rhythm for unknown reasons. We call this inappropriate sinus tachycardia. The heart rate is inappropriately going too fast. Most of these people are actually quite young. If the resting heart rate is over 120 for extended periods of time, then we become concerned about the possibility of a cardiomyopathy developing with time. The treatment to slow down a heart rate is usually a beta blocker, titrated to a dose needed to adequately control the heart rate.

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

Most people can learn to take their pulse, but if you can’t master doing that there are multiple other options. One of the options is to download one of the heart rate-acquiring apps on your smartphone. These include “Instant Heart Rate,” “Runtastic Heart Rate Pro” or “Cardio.” They use technology called photoplethysmography (say that three times fast!). These apps explain how to use them better than I can, but basically you put your finger over the smartphone’s camera and flash: It can actually see color changes from the arterial pulsations through the skin and give you an accurate heart rate. Technology at its best! Anybody that has had their heart function deteriorate because of prolonged, sustained, elevated heart rates is strongly urged to check their pulse frequently.

Allow me to also end with Scripture, specifically Psalm 73:26: “Though my flesh and my heart waste away, God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever.”

Dr. David Kaminkas is a board certified cardiologist and member of The Dr. Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana, www.fortwaynecma.com.

Attending Mass led to my conversion

Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman once wrote that “to be deep in history is to cease to be Protestant.” Cardinal Newman, a notable convert to the faith, was commenting on the essential role the Catholic Church has played throughout civilization — and his belief that in order to take history seriously, one has to wrestle with the truth claims of the church.

As a former Protestant, much of Cardinal Newman’s sentiments ring true to my experience. In some respects, it was my introduction to the Fathers of the Church that first steered me in the direction of Catholicism. But almost a decade later, I can also attest to the fact that the seeds of conversion require more than a mere history lesson.

In the spring semester of my sophomore year of college, I found myself studying abroad in Paris. Frustrated by the divisions within Protestantism and exploring the history and tradition of the Catholic faith, I decided to spend my Sundays in Paris bouncing to different Catholic parishes.

It was a convenient way to feed my love of art and architecture — but it also served as an unexpected introduction to another kind of beauty — the liturgy.

Attending my first Mass at the age of 19 was a peculiar experience. The bells and smells were all new to me, as were the collective prayers. But most striking were two other facets of the Mass: the centrality of the sacraments and the reverence in which the Mass was celebrated.



CHRISTOPHER WHITE

IN LIGHT OF FAITH

In Protestant churches, the peak of the service is the homily (or the sermon as most Protestants refer to it). And let’s be clear: Good preaching matters when it comes to spiritual nourishment. But as I soon discovered, the pinnacle of the Mass is the consecration and reception of holy Communion.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, the Eucharist allows us to “unite ourselves with the heavenly liturgy and anticipate eternal life, when God will be all in all.” The discovery of ordinary things becoming extraordinary things forever shifted the way I thought about what it meant to attend a church.

And then there was the beauty of the reverence of the Mass. The rituals and rhythms of the liturgy served as a guide to enter into deeper communion with God. Outside, the streets were noisy and my life unfocused. Inside, the liturgy channeled my focus on higher things.

It’s for that reason the preparatory document for the 2018 Synod of Bishops on “Young

IN LIGHT, page 13

The Trinity calls us to see that love is of God



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Feast of the Holy Trinity John 3:16-18

This weekend the church celebrates the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity. “The Trinity” is the scholarly, theological term to describe the most intimate detail of the reality of God.

In the first reading, from the Book of Exodus, the church begins its lesson for us today by reminding us about God, and about ourselves as God’s creatures.

For Jews, the Exodus, or flight from slavery in Egypt, was the most defining moment in their long history as a people. After wandering across the forbidding

Sinai Peninsula, they not only survived but found a land of prosperity, peace and security. It was a difficult trip, to say the least. Without God’s mercy, the Hebrews would not have completed this journey. He guided them because he loved them.

The first reading reports another important aspect of life on this trip. Communication existed between God and the people — but through Moses. Divine love continues, allowing us to communicate with God. God reaches out to us. God listens to us.

For the second reading the church presents Paul’s Second Epistle to the Corinthians.

The Christians of Corinth quarreled and plotted among themselves. They sinned. Considering their surroundings, it is not difficult to realize why they so often were wayward. Corinth was known throughout the Mediterranean world of the first century A.D. as a virtual cesspool of vice and licentiousness, brimming with greed and selfishness.

The apostle urged the Christian Corinthians to rely on Jesus and the strength given through and in Jesus, of the Holy Spirit.

Finally, the church presents, from St. John’s Gospel, the story of the Lord’s instructing Nicodemus, an important figure in Jewish life in Jerusalem.

Jesus explains that the messiah’s words are not just the opinions of a mere mortal. The Messiah is from God. The Son is one with the Father. Therefore, to hear the Son is to hear the Father.

Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Father sent the son into the world of space and time, to be with humanity and to redeem humanity. Eternal life awaits the faithful. God is merciful and forgiving. God loves humankind. Despite all their sins, and weaknesses, God loves humans and wills that they live forever.

Jesus is the perfect intermediary between God and humanity. One of us in the Incarnation, Jesus came as the very personification of God’s love.

Reflection

Catholics believe in what the phrase “Holy Trinity” defines, but it does not evoke a sense of what so powerfully it expresses. It hardly is only an academic, scholarly phrase. It reveals God.

First, the term tells us of God’s immense love for us. The Holy Trinity, while not unreasonable in the philosophical sense, never would have known by mere humans as the result of their deduction alone. It had to be revealed. The Lord revealed the Trinity to us, so that we might understand in human terms the most intimate aspect of the life of the divinity.

Secondly, so much of Catholic teaching rests on the belief that God has created every human, and all humans, in the divine image and likeness. This is more than the matter of nice words. We indeed are in God’s image and likeness.

As such, we are out of kilter if we fail to love God. We are not in accord with our nature, our ultimate spiritual DNA, if we set

ourselves apart from the human community and certainly if we do not love others.

All three readings for this feast bear in common the message that God loves us. Long ago, the great theologians saw love as the essence of divine life. It is the kernel of the life of the Trinity. This feast calls us to see that love is of God.

READINGS

Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 2 Cor 13:11-13 Jn 3:16-18

Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-7 Ps 34:2-9 Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22 Ps 119:129-133, 135 Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11 Ps 99:5-9 Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Cor 3:13—4:1, 3-6 Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-14 Mt 5:20-26

Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15 Ps 116:10-11, 15-18 Mt 5:27-32

Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21 Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Mt 5:33-37

Religious freedom 2.0: An executive order short on orders

On May 4, President Donald Trump issued an executive order on religious freedom that was soon criticized from different directions.

The order expresses an intent “to vigorously enforce federal law’s robust protections for religious freedoms” but leaves the details to various federal agencies.

Some groups say the order allows discrimination against gay and transgender people. They had attacked a leaked draft of the order released by the liberal magazine *The Nation* weeks ago. That draft specifically told federal agencies to respect people with traditional religious views on unborn human life, sex and marriage. Critics said this threatened an unconstitutional establishment of religion, favoring some religious views over others.

The final order says nothing about these issues, speaking of religious freedom generally. Yet the American Civil Liberties Union stands ready to sue. Apparently, such groups will only accept an order that protects everyone except those with traditional views on sex and life. But wouldn’t such an order also be an establishment of religion?

Some religious freedom advocates, by contrast, are disappointed that the order itself does not rescind the Obama administration’s effort to force the Little Sisters of the Poor and other religious groups to help provide coverage for drugs and devices that violate their faith. The final order says only that the federal agencies that had mandated such coverage “shall consider issuing amended regulations” to

protect such “conscience-based objections.”

However, it may not be a bad idea to leave the details of new conscience protections to experts who can make sure the rights of the full range of religious groups are addressed.

Finally, the Associated Press says the order’s policy on political activity by churches has garnered “both enthusiasm and dread” from religious leaders. Generally, evangelical pastors rejoiced that they could now support or oppose candidates, while liberal or “mainline” Protestant leaders believed such political involvement is a terrible idea for churches.

What AP and these preachers assumed was that (to quote *Mother Jones* magazine) the order “makes good Trump’s campaign promise to his religious base to ‘get rid of and totally destroy’ the Johnson amendment.” That assumption is false.

The Johnson amendment is a provision of the tax code that forbids nonprofit groups seeking a 501(c)(3) tax exemption to “participate in, or intervene in ... any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.”

The Trump order instructs the Treasury Department not to take adverse action against individuals or religious organizations that speak on “moral or political issues” from a religious perspective, “where speech of similar character has, consistent with law, not ordinarily been treated as participation or intervention in a political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) a candi-



A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

RICHARD DOERFLINGER

date for public office.” It does not rescind the Johnson amendment — that would require an act of Congress. It forbids misusing that amendment to suppress speech about issues by believers while allowing it for others.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops does not endorse or oppose candidates. But some have claimed the church should lose its tax-exempt status, citing the bishops’ “faithful citizenship” documents and other statements explaining moral issues Catholic voters should consider. Beginning in 1980, such a claim by the group Abortion Rights Mobilization tied up the bishops in court for a decade.

This order tells the IRS to go after what the Johnson amendment forbids, instead of infringing on churches’ legitimate freedoms. And that is worthwhile.

The executive order does not do what some hoped and others feared, but it does some good. It should be welcomed as a good start, but more is needed.

Richard Doerflinger worked for 36 years in the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He writes from Washington state.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for June 11, 2017

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9; John 3:16-18

Following is a word search based on the First Reading and the Gospel reading for Most Holy Trinity Sunday, Cycle A. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

EXODUS	EARLY	MORNING
MOUNT	SINAI	TABLETS
CLOUD	GRACIOUS	TO ANGER
MOSES	BOWED	FAVOR
STIFF-NECKED	PEOPLE	PARDON
ONLY SON	BELIEVES	ETERNAL
CONDEMN	SAVED	SON OF GOD

GOD S NAME

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

Continued from Page 12

people, faith and vocational discernment” reminds us that “in an increasingly noisy society that offers a plethora of stimuli, one fundamental objective in the pastoral care of young people is to provide the young with opportunities to enjoy the value of silence and contemplation and to receive formation in understanding one’s experiences and to listen to one’s conscience.”

After that semester in Paris, it would be another three years before I finally entered in full communion with the church. The history books and theology, they all mattered and were certainly formative in my experience. But I’ll always remain most grateful for the discovery of the beauty of the Mass, where in the company of saints and sinners alike, I could focus on what mattered most.

Christopher White is director of Catholic Voices USA.

Living a Braveheart life

In one sense, Randall Wallace knows what it means to live a Braveheart life. He was, after all, nominated for an Academy Award over 20 years ago as the screenwriter of “Braveheart,” which told the story of William Wallace’s (Mel Gibson) battle and eventual martyrdom for the cause of Scotland’s freedom. The movie’s lessons left Wallace asking several questions: What does it mean to live a Braveheart life? Can anyone do it, even those who aren’t on a literal battlefield? Can joy be found through faithful suffering?

The answer he found to all his questions was, “Yes.” And he didn’t have to look far for examples. Specifically, Wallace saw his father exemplify the five pillars of a Braveheart life: 1) Have a father and be a father, even if you don’t have a biological child, 2) Develop a warrior spirit, 3) Have a teacher and be a teacher, 4) Find a holy man, a priest or sage to offer spiritual guidance, 5) Find your outlaw spirit.

During a “Christopher Closeup” interview about his memoir, “Living the Braveheart Life,” Wallace explained, “(My father’s) father died before he was born, of typhoid fever. So my father grew up without a direct biological father to teach him what it was like to be a father, and yet he became the greatest of fathers to me. He knew how important a father was because he didn’t have one directly in his life.” Wallace also noted that his father became a broken man when he lost his job at age 38: “His wounds ... prodded him, shaped him, and taught him how to be a greater warrior. He was also a sacred figure in my life. My father showed me what prayer really meant and what love really meant.”

To this day, Wallace’s faith remains a cornerstone of his life, grounded in the fact that “God manifested himself in the person of Jesus Christ. I don’t know what God is or looks like without Jesus.” He has also come

to respect the different roads that people take to grow closer to Jesus: “I grew up Baptist, and Baptists are totally evangelical. We almost never had a religious gathering in which there was not some effort to have conversion. I also want to say that there are times when I go to church with Catholic friends and I love the sacredness of the Mass. I love the sanctity that we experience there and the understanding that everyone comes to God.”

Two of Wallace’s college professors, Hilda and Mikhail Pavlov, taught him other important lessons, about joy being a choice, along with an “outcome of faithful suffering.” The Pavlovs survived the siege of Leningrad during World War II and experienced other periods of unimaginable hardship, so Wallace was surprised they lived with such vibrance.

One day, he asked Hilda if she had been able to take anything with her when she left Russia. She paused and said, “Three



LIGHT ONE CANDLE

TONI ROSSI, THE CHRISTOPHERS

times in my life, I have been somewhere where someone ran into the room where I was sitting and said, ‘If you don’t get up and run that way right now, you’ll die.’ I could take nothing with me. Three times in my life. I have no regrets.”

Wallace said, “It caused me to think about what we consider the necessary stuff in our lives — I need this or that to be happy. But she had gone through the crucible of knowing that those things were unnecessary, that what made a life was love.”

St. Vincent de Paul Society luminary passes away

BY BARB SIEMINSKI

If she had just lived another 12 days, Cheryl Mowan would have celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with her husband, Mike. Instead, Mowan entered the Lord's presence Saturday, May 27, after a long struggle with breast and bone cancer.

The daughter of the late Maurice and Arlene (Richards) Cooper, the Fort Wayne resident worked at St. Therese Church as a secretary, bookkeeper and pastoral minister of services. A graduate of Central Catholic High School and St. Francis College (now USF), she was member of St. Therese, the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Third Order Franciscans. She served on the church building committee, including as president.

Mowan won several prestigious awards for her volunteerism and ministry.

Surviving family members include her husband; daughter Anne (David) Bauer; son Mark (Carrie) Mowan; grandchildren Alec, Evan, Colin and Isabelle Bauer, and Eleanor and Martin



Barb Sieminski

Cheryl Mowan, longtime volunteer and parishioner at St. Therese Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, enjoys a moment outside the parish food pantry before serving clients in October of 2016.

Mowan; and brother Jon (Elaine) Cooper. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Maury Cooper. A Mass of Christian Burial took place June 2 at St. Therese, on Lower Huntington Road in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Catholic Cemetery.

Friends who knew and loved Mowan can still hear her happy laugh. They see her in silent prayer and recall her words of compassion to those in need.

Mowan always kept the poor foremost in her heart. Her friends continue to celebrate her life of giving to others and the difference she made in many people's lives.

"I've known Cheryl for more than 30 years, and she had one of the biggest hearts of anyone I've ever known," said Theresa Driscoll. "So often, she was rushed to get her work done at St. Therese because she was always interrupted by people needing her help, and they always came first. She really taught me that ministry, as a Christian, means listening to and serving the person right in front of you, no matter what else you might have planned for your day."

Parishioner Terri Dossen concurred. "I remember being so inspired by the love Cheryl and Mike had for each other and how they opened their home for marriage classes for Jeff and me. I will never forget their love and kindness."

Ginny Fenstermaker, who worked with Mowan for more than 10 years in the St. Therese RCIA program, said: "I first met Cheryl in 1975 when we joined St. Therese parish as newlyweds. She helped start a food bank at St. T and an underwear ministry for the local jail population. In RCIA she made those on the outside feel welcome and normal — whether divorcees, people with addictions or mental illness and those with other issues."

Vince and Marty LaBarbera, close friends of the Mowans' for more than 40 years, served together on committees at the parish and at Bishop Luers High School.

"She had a knack for making others feel needed and appreciated," Vince said. "Cheryl had a real affinity for being able to give from her heart. Her vibrant personality will be missing, but the Cheryl we knew and love deeply

will always be a part of us."

Several programs were instituted under Mowan's volunteer leadership of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, said volunteer Donna Brooke — including an annual fundraising event that supports conferences. She also developed a marketing directory position so the organization could have grants written to help the store and district. "She greatly assisted me in my St. Vincent de Paul presidency, with her business acumen and gentle guidance, before becoming the Fort Wayne District Council president herself for six years," said Brooke. "She was a dear woman who had the biggest heart and served with joy; she will truly be missed."

Jim Bugert, a classmate of both the Mowans' at Central Catholic High School, summed up Cheryl's essence. "I never heard Cheryl say anything gossipy about anyone, which must be a difficult thing to do as I know no one else with that attribute. "I only know Cheryl loved Jesus, because she acted just like him."

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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. 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.

Holy Name Society announces raffle
SOUTH BEND — The St. Hedwig Holy Name Society will have a raffle on Sunday, Aug. 20, for two Notre Dame football season tickets. Tickets are available for a donation of \$1 each or seven for \$5 or 15 for \$10. Send SASE to 1104 N. Elliot St., South Bend, IN 46628 or call Norb Gapczynski for information at 574-233-9008.

Interpreter to be at Mass
FORT WAYNE — An interpreter for the deaf and hard-of-hearing will be present for the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 11, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, 1122 S. Clinton St. An interpreter from DeafLink, a service of The League for the Blind and Disabled Inc., will sign in American Sign Language every second Sunday of the month. Contact Cecilia Aguilar-Tussey at 260-399-1447 or caguilar-tussey@diocesefwsb.org.

Building Inclusive Parishes
FORT WAYNE — Building Inclusive Parishes will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 20, from 7-8:30 p.m. at

the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel, 1122 S. Clinton St. The group strives to make parish communities welcoming and accessible to all. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. The chapel is handicap accessible. To find out more about this ministry or how you can start one, contact Contact Cecilia Aguilar-Tussey at 260-399-1447 or caguilar-tussey@diocesefwsb.org, or visit www.buildinginclusiveparishes.com.

Audrey Assad in concert
SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph Parish will host Audrey Assad in concert on Wednesday, June 21, at 7 p.m. in the church. An American singer-songwriter and contemporary Christian music artist, her debut album, "The House You're Building," earned top Christian music accolades in 2010. Assad's 2016 album, "Inheritance," is a collection of hymns and original songs that draw from her Catholic faith. The concert is being promoted in collaboration with ND Vision and Redeemer Radio. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased online at www.stjoeparish.com.

Camp openings announced
SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph High School has openings for sports, technology, and art camps. Visit www.saintjoehigh.com/camps to see a complete listing of camps, cost and an online registration link.

Bus trip to Cubs/Reds game announced
FORT WAYNE — The St. Therese Knights of Columbus Council No. 9460 is sponsoring a bus trip to Cincinnati on Saturday, July 1 for a 4:10 game between the the Chicago Cubs and the Cincinnati Reds. The \$75 cost includes game ticket and travel via Excursion Trailways coach bus. Contact Jim Conroy at 260-638-4189 or jconroykofc@yahoo.com for further information.

Healing Masses dates set
HUNTINGTON — A Mass for the Sick, in the name of venerable Father Solanus Casey, who prayed at at the St. Felix Friary, 1280 Mitzfield St., will be celebrated at St. Felix at 1 p.m. June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21 and Nov. 18. All are invited to attend. This Mass is handicap accessible.

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 Mary Ellen Wisniewski, 99, St. John Bosco

Glenn E. Pettit, 82, Our Lady of Good Hope
 Michael R. Landstoffer, 57, St. Jude

South Bend
 Rosemary Echard, 92, Holy Cross

Decatur
 Steven L. Braun, 62, St. Mary of the Assumption

Huntington
 Ruth Emery, 86, Sts. Peter and Paul

Lucy Ann Wargo, OSF, 70, Holy Cross

Cynthia S. Loshe, 66, St. Mary of the Assumption

Notre Dame
 Rev. James T. Banas, CSC, 87, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Matthew Todd Wujcik, 38, St. Matthew Cathedral

Fort Wayne
 Cheryl L. Mowan, 71, St. Therese

Sister Alice Lamping, CSC, 90, Our Lady of Lorreto

Lucille Grueger-Hoffner, 86, St. Hedwig

James E. Art, 72, St. Henry

Gary T. Peterson, 59, St. Therese, Little Flower

Florita B. Fonacier, 84, St. Anthony de Padua

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Butler family generations formed by service to Catholic Cemetery

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

People who come to the diocesan Catholic cemetery in Fort Wayne are often filled with a sense of peace, tranquility and the hope of eternal life. For Steve Butler, these sentiments will be forever united with memories of dedication, generosity and gratitude, as he recalls the numerous ways his family has been blessed through their care for the deceased.

Multiple generations of Butlers have contributed to the maintenance and preservation of Catholic Cemetery. Steve's grandfather, Thomas, served as superintendent from 1893-1933, while his father, James Sr., assisted in various capacities and eventually undertook the primary leadership role from 1953-65.

With great admiration, Steve recounted the steadfast commitment his relatives displayed to caring for those entrusted to their service. "When my grandfather was in charge, there were occasions of significant financial difficulty in the diocese. Yet, out of care and concern for his workers, at times he paid their wages out of his own pocket."

This example of generosity passed on to the next generation, Steve remarked: "Likewise, throughout my father's time at the cemetery, he worked 18 hours a day, seven days a week, doing everything from bookkeeping and grave digging to overseeing operations and maintenance. He always wanted to ensure that his workers were compensated

fairly and received regular raises, before looking to meet his own needs."

Appreciation for the cemetery also influenced the careers of other family members. James Sr.'s brother, William, served as a dedicated assistant for 50 years, while his son, James Jr., functioned as a dutiful historian, taking efforts to ensure that its legacy and beauty were honorably preserved. "Times were not always easy for my dad and my brother, but caring for the cemetery and everything in it was a ministry that meant more to them than words can ever describe," Steve shared.

It was for this reason that at his father's passing Steve chose to have a special plaque made commemorating James Sr.'s life and legacy, as attested to by his personal friend, then-Father Joseph Crowley (later Bishop Crowley), whose words of praise were also published in *Our Sunday Visitor*. Years later, in the midst of a conversation with Bishop John D'Arcy, Steve was overjoyed to hear that the plaque would be a welcomed addition to Cathedral Museum as the first item in the collection honoring a lay member of the diocese.

The influence of James Sr.'s passion for ministry also touched the life of his daughter in a profoundly transformative way. Witnessing her father's service and loving care for both the living and deceased contributed to her desire to pursue a vocation to the religious life, which came to fulfillment as she entered the Sisters of Providence. Steve



Provided by Steve Butler

Donna Butler of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods stands alongside her brother, Steve Butler, in front of the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Memorial Chapel at Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne, where their family home once stood. The cemetery grounds and features played a formative role in the lives of the entire Butler family.

shared that this brought great delight to the family, especially to their father. "Even though she was his only daughter and he missed her terribly, he was so proud of what she did."

Years later, to the joyful amazement of the family, upon the grounds where they had lived, the new St. Mother Theodore Guerin Memorial was constructed. This signified a lasting connection for Sister Donna, who had first felt the call to serve the Lord in Mother Guerin's example on that sacred site. Reflecting upon her experiences, she crafted a short poem to capture how God made

himself present in her early life: "In the shadow of death, a cemetery was the place I called home. In that dwelling place of saints gone before us, solitude and silence tasted like a banquet."

Encountering God at the cemetery continued to be a reality for Steve, even after his family's tenure there ended. Over 40 years ago, he and his former wife suffered the pain of losing a daughter at birth. On the occasion of a recent walk and conversation with a friend, he was encouraged to consider relocating her body to be with the other members of the family, as she had been originally

been buried separately. Although it seemed improbable that her casket would be intact and free from decay after so many years, current Catholic Cemetery Superintendent Tom Alter agreed to proceed with the exhumation.

In what could be described almost as miraculous, Steve recounted that they "uncovered her casket and saw that it was in pristine condition and perfectly preserved. Her remains were surrounded by extensive tree roots, which had essentially guarded her for all those years. To remove her, the cemetery staff worked diligently with artistic skill, showing the utmost respect, with great carefulness and compassion. They allowed me to hold my daughter again as if it were yesterday. It was a moment I will never forget." In gratitude, he presented the staff with a reflection plaque written from the perspective of his daughter, to remind them how impactful their efforts are, even in the moments when they might appear to go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Such actions have reminded the Butler family of the truth of divine providence at work in everyday life. "In so many ways we have seen things come full circle and been blessed by God in abundance," Steve concluded. "Seeing our family's efforts recognized, and to receive such love and support from the church, has been genuinely humbling and provided us with a sense of both belonging and purpose. For this, we are truly grateful."

Knights host annual Lourdes Ball to support pilgrimages

BY WILLIAM SCHMITT

A theologian's commentary on Our Lady of Lourdes, and participants' donations of about \$1,500 for a pilgrimage to the site of her apparition, spread inspiration at a Knights of Columbus Lourdes Ball on May 20.

Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Council 553 in South Bend hosted the event for the 52nd year. Members and families came from various area parishes, helping to raise funds for travel to Lourdes, France — support traditionally offered to a selected individual who seeks healing in the place where the Blessed Mother appeared in 1858. The annual ball once again combined dinner and dancing with a silent auction and a guest speaker focused on Mary and the graces attributed to her intercession.

This year's speaker, Father Edward O'Connor, CSC, emeritus professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, retold details from the life of Bernadette Soubirous, to whom Mary appeared in Lourdes. He noted that Mary identified herself



William Schmitt

Father Edward O'Connor, CSC, speaks during the 52nd annual Lourdes Ball in South Bend May 20. Father Edward Krause, CSC, is seated in the foreground at the dais. The event, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Council 553, raised money to send a pilgrim to Lourdes, France.

as the Immaculate Conception, and the teenager relayed this information to the local bishop.

"Today, about 2 million pilgrims come to Lourdes every year," said Father O'Connor, who is due to celebrate his 70th

anniversary of ordination in the Congregation of Holy Cross next year. A book he edited, "The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception: History and Significance," was first published in 1958 but has been reissued

this year by the University of Notre Dame Press.

The ball's silent auction drew substantial bidding on such items as Notre Dame memorabilia, premium group packages offered by local golf courses and a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes provided by Divine Mercy Gifts Catholic bookstore.

Estimated receipts from the successful bidders totaled more than \$1,500. Net receipts from ticket sales added to the ball's total contribution. The Knights council said the funds will be provided for a Lourdes pilgrim yet to be chosen, continuing a tradition grounded in Lourdes' history of miraculous healings of various sorts. One local couple attending the ball rose to give a testimony about how a family member whose pilgrimage was previously funded had experienced a healing in her relationship with the Lord.

Father Edward Krause, CSC, a theologian and Notre Dame graduate like Father O'Connor, led the gathering in prayer and made remarks highlighting his brother priest's extensive resume.

Father Krause, ordained in 1967, has taught ethics and held leadership roles in a variety of Catholic organizations. He has served on the board of South Bend's Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Life, Marriage and the Family. He is a son of legendary Notre Dame Athletic Director Edward "Moose" Krause.

Father O'Connor is known for his love of Mary, the Holy Spirit and needy people throughout the area. For decades, he led the rosary recitation nearly every night at Notre Dame's Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes — a devotion frequently joined by Knights of Columbus.

K.C. Pocius, a longtime member of Council 553, and his wife, Toni, co-chaired the Lourdes Ball. Fourth Degree Knights from regional Assembly 242 began the ball with a ceremonial color guard, and attendees joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Separately, the Knights of Columbus organization nationwide co-sponsors a program that recently sent a group of military veterans as "American Warrior Pilgrims" to Lourdes.