

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Education for Ministry graduates 24

BY DENISE FEDOROW



Joe Raymond

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades greets a graduate of the Spanish-language Education for Ministry program at the beginning of a Mass to celebrate the participants' graduation Friday, June 23, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen.

Two dozen members of St. John the Evangelist Church's Hispanic community graduated from the Education in Ministry program recently, and a Mass was celebrated June 23 with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades that included awarding the graduates their certificates.

Three other members of the parish went through the program a second time as continuing education.

At the beginning of the Mass, Bishop Rhoades welcomed everyone and said, "Brothers and sisters this is a very special day — we celebrate the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and we celebrate your graduation." He thanked the graduates for their hard work and studies, and their desire to serve the church.

Education for Ministry is a two-year program. Enid Roman de Jesus, director of the Office of Hispanic Ministry, and program director Lourdes Silva coordinated

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of Fatima

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of hell to the children

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Religious freedom supporters applaud decision siding with Lutheran school

BY JOSEPHINE VON DOHLEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Religious liberty won June 26 when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states cannot discriminate against religious institutions in the distribution of state funds for nonreligious activities.

The high court, in a 7-2 ruling in *Trinity Lutheran Church v. Comer*, sided with the school. Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg dissented.

Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty, said the decision was a "landmark victory for religious freedom."

"The Supreme Court rightly recognized that people of faith should not be discriminated against when it comes to government programs that should be made available to all," Archbishop Lori said in a statement.

The Supreme Court reversed



CNS photo/Jim Lo Scalzo, EPA

People gather outside the U.S. Supreme Court June 26 in Washington. The high court was issuing its last decisions in its current term, which ends June 30. Two of the most-awaited decisions involved the Trump administration's travel ban and the suit by a Missouri Lutheran preschool denied a state grant for creating a safer playground.

what the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided back in 2015, when it sided with the state of Missouri.

The case involves Trinity Lutheran Church's preschool, which, after applying for a Missouri state grant that provided schools with reimbursements for resurfacing playgrounds with recycled tire pieces, was denied the grant solely on the grounds that the property was owned by a church.

"The court held that Missouri's exclusion of Trinity Lutheran from the grant making process at stake here violated the Free Exercise Clause," said Hillary Byrnes, an assistant general counsel at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"So what the court's decision does is start to chip away at some of the Blaine amendments that are on the books now in almost

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Not just another 'trade meeting,' convocation seeks to unify U.S. church

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

WASHINGTON (CNS) — This summer's Convocation of Catholic Leaders comes at a time when the U.S. Catholic Church is seeking how best to respond to a changing social landscape while bringing Pope Francis' vision for a church that offers mercy and joy to the world.

Called by the bishops, the historic convocation will find more than 3,000 Catholic leaders — bishops, clergy, religious and lay-people — meeting July 1-4 in Orlando, Fla., to focus on how the pope's 2013 apostolic exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium" ("The Joy of the Gospel"), applies in the United States.

The pope's document lays out a vision of the church dedicated to evangelization — missionary discipleship — in a positive way, with a focus on society's poorest and most vulnerable, including the aged and unborn.

Jonathan Reyes, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development and a convocation planner, sees the gathering as a way for Catholics across the diverse spectrum of the church to unify in Christ.

"The beauty of it for us as Catholics is it's not just another trade meeting," Reyes told Catholic News Service. "This is centered, as Pope Francis said again and again, in the encounter with Jesus Christ. That's what holds us together. Even Catholics need a moment of unity these days. Not just our country, but we as Catholics need a moment of unity around Christ."

The idea of missionary discipleship expressed by the pope has taken root in the work of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. It's the pre-eminent theme in the 2017-20 strategic plan the bishops adopted during their annual fall general assembly in November.

Planning for the gathering, titled "Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America," has been underway for a few years. It is being called to examine today's concerns, challenges and opportunities for action in light of the church's evangelization mission, Reyes explained.

"So we're going to encounter Christ together, converse together, pray together, encounter one another and talk very practically about what are the challenges, what's it mean to be missionary disciples at this moment and how do we go out and do it," Reyes said.

Planners want people to mix and mingle and learn from each other during the invitation-only event.

"This group of people would never be in the same strategic conversations together if it weren't for the bishops calling them together. They are in all kinds of ministries throughout the church. They are professionals in all the different fields, education, business, teachers. We have people from all socioeconomic groups," Reyes said.

"So we're going to have a conversation that could only be had by the bishops. That's needed in this moment. I think everybody agrees we need this conversation. It's not about the things that divide us. And the beauty is we have this document from Pope Francis, 'Evangelii Gaudium.' There was unity around that document when it came out, a document that opens with 'I invited all of you to a personal encounter with Christ,' which is right where we want to start," he said.

Such a gathering of bishops and key



CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec

Volunteers serve guests lunch in the main dining hall of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 2016 in Phoenix. Leaders from dioceses and various Catholic organizations will gather July 1-4 in Orlando, Fla., for the "Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America" sponsored by the U.S. bishops.

church leaders has occurred just once before within the U.S. church.

In 1917, in response to the country's entry into World War I, the bishops met with a select group of leaders to determine how to respond to social needs emerging from the war. That meeting at The Catholic University of America in Washington led to the formation of the National Catholic War Council "to study, coordinate, unify and put in operation all Catholic activities incidental to the war." After the war, the bishops met to make the council permanent and established the National Catholic Welfare Council, the forerunner to today's USCCB.

"They were responding to a very different crisis, World War I. But there was a sense of the importance of the moment that the church of the United States had to come together under the bishops to find a way of going forward, a vision of hope for the country and to serve," Reyes said.

Today, like the wider society, the U.S. church is grappling with how best to respond to rapid sociological changes: demographics including a rising Latino population and people leaving organized religion, an economy that has led to a smaller middle class, a broadening of the legal definition of marriage, polarization along ideological lines and technological advances that have changed how people relate with each other.

How to respond under the guidance of Pope Francis will begin to be discussed during the convocation. Each day has its own theme for participants to consider in light of changing church and social structures:

- July 1: National Unity
- July 2: Landscape and Renewal
- July 3: Work and Witness
- July 4: A Spirit of Mission

On days 2 and 3, plenary sessions will feature panel discussions pertaining to an aspect of the respective themes with nearly two dozen breakout sessions afterward exploring wide-ranging topics influencing the church's work.

Mass will be part of each day as well. The July 3 Mass will incorporate religious liberty as part of the bishops' annual Fortnight for Freedom observance.

Reyes and planners, including the bishops envision the convocation as a starting point with Pope Francis providing the inspiration

through his call to bring the Gospel to others.

"The Gospel is a pretty good thing to rally around," Reyes told CNS. "You can build a lot of unity out of it."

Convocation of Catholic leaders will be historic event

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — During their spring meeting in Indianapolis, U.S. bishops were reminded that the upcoming Convocation of Catholic Leaders — a gathering they began talking about years ago — is right around the corner.

It will be a historic event, Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, N.Y., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, told the bishops June 15 about the July 1-4 "Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America" in Orlando, Fla.

He also noted that it will be the largest gathering sponsored by U.S. bishops and will be a time to show the unity of the church.

The convocation, an invitation-only event, is meant to give the 3,000 participants expected to attend a better understanding of what it means to be missionary disciples in today's world through workshop presentations, keynote addresses and prayer.

The plan, from the outset, was to bring Catholic leaders from across the country to closely examine and figure out how to best live out Pope Francis' call for all Catholics to be missionary disciples in today's world as expressed in his 2013 apostolic exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium" ("The Joy of the Gospel").

Dioceses are sending delegations chosen by their bishops, and other attendees will be key leaders of Catholic organizations, apostolates, missions, congregations, institutions and agencies identified by the USCCB.

Bishop Malone thanked the bishops for supporting the convocation dedicated to forming missionary disciples who can then go out and form others, following the call of Pope Francis.

He urged the bishops to make use of their time in conversations with diocesan delegates during the convocation to walk and pray with them. On a practical note, he also suggested that they wear comfortable shoes.

Bishops urge renewed dedication to efforts to protect religious liberty

BY JOSEPHINE VON DOHLEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In launching this year's Fortnight for Freedom, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops called for renewed dedication to protecting religious freedom.

"Freedom for Mission" is the theme of the 2017 Fortnight for Freedom, taking place June 21 to July 4. The 14-day observance of action, education and prayer focused on religious freedom began in 2012, stemming from a 12-page statement released that June by the bishops' Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty titled "Our First, Most Cherished Liberty."

The U.S. bishops recently voted to make the ad hoc committee permanent. It has been chaired since its creation by Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori.

The archbishop opened the fortnight by celebrating an evening Mass June 21 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore. He will celebrate a special Fortnight Mass July 3 in Orlando, Fla., during the U.S. bishops' Convocation of Catholic Leaders.

Hillary Byrnes, assistant general counsel for the USCCB, works with the bishops on protecting religious liberties from government infringement, which is the focus of the fortnight.

Byrnes said the media tends to hide the fact that religious freedom is an actual issue, leaving people reluctant to talk about threats to that freedom.

"We have been dealing with religious freedom issues for a really long time in our country," Byrnes told Catholic News Service in an interview June 20. "And especially for Catholics, dating back to the 19th-century Blaine amendments, up to the present day, there have been threats from the federal government as well as state and local governments that really restrict our freedom to be able to serve people in our charitable ministries, as well as people trying to live out their Catholic faith or whatever faith they have. Religious freedom isn't just for us as Christians, but it's for everyone."

Blaine amendments are in the constitutions of 37 states. Named for Rep. James Blaine of Maine, the amendments bar public money from going to churches. Blaine tried unsuccessfully in 1875 to have the U.S. Constitution prohibit the use of public funds for "sectarian" schools.

This amendment to the Missouri Constitution figures into a case currently before the U.S. Supreme Court, *Trinity Lutheran Church v. Comer*. The



People display signs showing their support for religious freedom during a 2012 rally in downtown Minneapolis. It has been 20 years since the International Religious Freedom Act was passed by Congress and became law.

case involves a Missouri state grant that gives schools and nonprofits recycled tire pieces to use as a safer playground surface. Although Trinity Lutheran received a high score on its application for the grant, the school was denied because of its affiliation with a church. The court's ruling is expected during the Fortnight for Freedom.

"They were denied solely because they were a church, so it's a pretty clear-cut case of discrimination based on religious status," Byrnes told CNS. "We are hoping that the court will rectify that situation and say that there is an equal playing ground that includes people of faith."

Byrnes pointed to other issues threatening religious freedom, including the Health and Human Services contraceptive mandate of 2011 requiring most religious employers to cover contraceptives for employees even if they are morally opposed to such coverage. The Little Sisters of the Poor and many other Catholic entities have fought the mandate in court for several years, but now under the Trump administration, an HHS rule has been proposed to exempt religious employers from the requirement.

She also noted a transgender mandate that took effect Jan. 1 that redefines "sex" for anti-discrimination purposes to include sexual orientation and gender identity. It requires hospitals and physicians — including Catholic ones — to "provide the hormonal treatments and even

the surgeries even if it's contrary to their professional judgment" to patients who want to become a different sex.

The two weeks that make up the Fortnight for Freedom coincide with observances on the liturgical calendar that recall the examples of saints who fought religious persecution and the first martyrs of the Church of Rome.

It opens on the vigil of the feast of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, who were martyred for their faith. Both men were associates of Henry VIII, who ordered their execution. June 24 is the feast day of St. John the Baptist, who was beheaded at the request of Herod's stepdaughter. June 29 is the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, honoring their martyrdom.

In addition to the Fortnight for Freedom observance, the USCCB has a reflection series, "Pray-Reflect-Act," providing daily meditations throughout the fortnight for specific intentions for which the church can unite in prayer. In addition, the USCCB also issued a document on "How to Speak About Religious Freedom." Both can be found on the USCCB website at <http://bit.ly/1nhSDSV>.

"It's something that we need to keep in our minds and really pray about, because prayer is really the most powerful thing that we have to try to solve these issues," Byrnes said. "We can educate ourselves, but really prayer is the most important."



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Saturday, July 1-4: Meeting of Convocation of Catholic Leaders, Orlando, Florida
Saturday, July 8: 5 p.m. — Mass, St. Mary of the Lake, Culver

Oratory worshippers bid a fond farewell to Father Gall

BY MARILYN KARPINSKI

In a small, white, clapboard church, nestled in the north-east region of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, people gathered last weekend to bid farewell to Father Jacob Gall, fondly known as Father Jake to the congregation.

Like many parishes throughout the nation, declining attendance and a lack of priests left St. Mary of the Angels Oratory at Big Long Lake without a pastor in the early 2000s. In 2006, Bishop D'Arcy officially designated St. Mary of the Angels an oratory (house of prayer) rather than a parish, and appointed Father Dave Carkenord of St. Michael the Archangel in nearby Waterloo as the administrator. Assistance was sought from retired priests in the area to help continue weekend services. In 2010, Father Jacob Gall, a retired priest who celebrated his 90th birthday June 21, answered the call and has been making the 102-mile round trip journey from his home in Elkhart to St. Mary of the Angels ever since.

Offering service in difficult situations is not new to Father Gall. He served in the Navy during World War II as well as the Korean War, and speaks glowingly of his recent experience as an Honor Flight honoree, revisiting war sights with fellow veterans. Those years hold special significance for Father Gall, for it was while he was stationed in Japan during the war that he converted to Catholicism.

He claims that the atmosphere among his shipmates often left him feeling like he was "serving the devil." To counteract this feeling, he and a small group of corpsman formed a Bible study group. As he studied, he came upon a book called "Faith of Our Fathers," which led him to seek out a chaplain for further guidance on the Catholic faith. In April of 1952, he was baptized by the Bishop of Japan.

After returning to the states, he dated a nurse whose brother was a priest. Father recalls mentioning to her he was thinking of



Marilyn Karpinski

Father Jacob Gall celebrates Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Oratory on June 25. The Sunday was the last on which the retired priest made the drive from Elkhart to offer the sacrifice with those visiting and living at Big Long Lake.

looking into the priesthood, and that was the last he saw of her. He says she must have known she was no competition for the Lord.

Located in lake country, attendance at the oratory rises on summer weekends as visitors to the lake join the year-round worshippers. On the particular Sunday of Father Gall's last Mass, an overflow crowd was in attendance.

In contrast, fall finds the oratory sparsely populated, a fact that did not dampen Father Gall's determination. "If only one person shows up, it is worth the 102-mile drive," he is rumored to have said. When asked about treacherous driving in the winter months, he said it was nothing compared to his years in the Navy, patrolling the Bering Sea.

Members of the congregation eagerly shared how Father Gall has touched their hearts. Jim Miller remarked on his dry humor, while Jim Harper, a long-time friend, said, "He's a talker." Miller explained that when Father Gall is with someone, he is never rushed; he would spend

New priests, many paths to answering call to serve God's people

BY JOSEPHINE VON DOHLEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — After almost 12 years as an Episcopal priest, Deacon Jonathan Erdman entered into full communion with the Catholic Church, along with his family, in 2016. A year later, he is becoming a Catholic priest.

He will be ordained a priest of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter June 29.

This spring, 590 men entered the priesthood in dioceses throughout the United States, according to a report released by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington. The report is based on an annual study that the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate conducted for the USCCB.

Leading to his joining the Catholic Church, Deacon Erdman felt something in the background repeatedly calling him to the church, but he said he continually found new ways to distract himself.

"I think often when one hears God calling, a response can be thinking of an excuse," Deacon Erdman said in a phone interview with Catholic News Service June 14. "Moses said he didn't have the ability to speak, Jeremiah claimed he was too young, and even Peter asked Jesus to depart because he felt unworthy. I distracted myself with my work in ministry. I told myself that I was needed where I was." He recalls teaching a yearly presentation on "What Is the Episcopal Church?" at St. Meinrad Archabbey and Seminary in Indiana. "One of my

students joked that it seemed I wanted to be a bit more Catholic with each passing year," Deacon Erdman said.

Events such as the election of Pope Francis allowed Deacon Erdman to see the unity of the Catholic Church through devotion and prayer, gradually leading him to the doors of the Catholic faith.

The first time Deacon Erdman attended Mass while beginning the discernment process, it happened to be on the feast of the Chair of St. Peter, the namesake feast of the ordinariate of which he will soon become a part.

Based in Houston, the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter is similar to a diocese, but national in scope. It was established in 2012 by the Vatican to facilitate and shepherd communities of former Anglicans wishing to join the Catholic faith while retaining elements of their Anglican heritage and traditions.

"I'm very grateful to Anglicanism for teaching me what to long for, for teaching me to long for Scripture, to long for the sacraments, to long for a faith rooted in tradition and reason, to long for Incarnated faith, and to long for true unity," Deacon Erdman told CNS. "I believe these desires pointed me in the direction that God has called me to go. I found these desires satisfied in the Catholic faith."

After his priestly ordination, he will serve the Community of Our Lady and St. John in Louisville, Ky.

Six months after Father Andrew Dawson entered the

Catholic Church at Easter 2006, people began to ask him if he had thought about joining the priesthood.

According to the USCCB report on the ordinand class of 2017, 87 percent of men were encouraged by an average of four people to enter the priesthood.

"I remember very vividly sitting up in bed one night, bolt upright, thinking to myself, 'All these people have said these things and not one time have I ever said no,'" Father Dawson said. "All I've done is make a joke of it, and just dismiss it. I realized that the reason that I hadn't been able to say no to anyone is because I was asking myself the same question."

The priesthood eventually became all that Father Dawson would think of in his free time.

Before entering the seminary, Father Dawson worked as an associate director at a Catholic youth camp, Sancta Maria, in Gaylord, Mich. His experience working at the camp drastically influenced his faith life, as the camp began his intellectual conversion to the Catholic Church.

It was in the chapel at Sancta Maria that he truly came to experience the reality of the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. "I didn't know what was happening, but I knew that what I

was looking at was not what I had believed it to be previously," Father Dawson said. "I needed to go and investigate that... it was so powerful to me."

"I've really been in awe, now that I'm able to celebrate Mass every day."

FATHER STEVEN OEJTEN

Father Andrew said he relates to St. Peter because of how St. Peter is both bold and terrified, both understands and doesn't understand, how St. Peter puts all his weaknesses out there and still

the Lord uses him in a powerful way because of his openness.

Being in the Archdiocese of Detroit also has brought Father Dawson close to the late Capuchin Father Solanus Casey, who will be beatified in Detroit in 2017. Father Dawson wore a relic of Father Casey during his ordination and will serve at St. Fabian Parish in Farmington Hills, Mich.

Father Steven Oetjen's parents, along with those of 80 percent of the new ordinands, were both Catholic.

They raised Father Oetjen and his siblings in the church, sending them to Catholic schools and Mass every Sunday. But it wasn't until Father Oetjen went off to study engineering at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh that he began to feel the call to the priesthood.

"Basically, I found myself thrown into this really competitive environment, a very demanding environment. With all the work of engineering it was very busy, very hard to find time for prayer," Father Oetjen said. "It was also the first time that I was on my own without

my family and I knew that I needed to really start to make the faith my own and if I wanted to take the faith seriously, my parents weren't going to be there anymore to make me."

Desiring to make his faith his own, Father Oetjen became involved actively with the Newman Center at Carnegie Mellon and he saw in his friends a joy in living a life of virtue that he, too, wanted for himself. It was in the chapel at the Newman Center that he encountered the Blessed Sacrament.

"I found that there in the chapel with the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar in the monstrance, it was the perfect place for me to go every day to encounter our Lord Jesus Christ and to just spend time with him in silence and to pray to him, telling him about all my struggles and challenges, asking him for grace," Father Oetjen said. "That helped me immensely."

This devotion to the Blessed Sacrament eventually revealed a little tug on his heart that Father Oetjen felt and discovered to be God calling him to the priesthood.

Like 43 percent of those ordained this year, Father Oetjen finished his undergraduate degree before entering the seminary.

"I've really been in awe, now that I'm able to celebrate Mass every day," Father Oetjen said. "I'm looking forward to every day for the rest of my life, God willing, to being able to celebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass, to preach and teach God's people to help them receive the sacraments as fruitfully as they can so that all the grace that God wants to give them can flourish in their lives."

Father Oetjen was ordained June 10 in the Diocese of Arlington, and he will serve at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church, Va.

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GALL

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great lengths of time in conversation, "especially if the event is a dinner and you are serving meatloaf."

Joe Fenker, who has been an altar server for over 75 years and serves every weekend Mass at St. Mary's, spoke of Father Gall's oratory skills and how his homilies were always spontaneous, Gospel-centered and from the heart. Barbara and Leroy Carcione described him as a pastoral priest, praying for and visiting those in need, even those from his previous parish in Kendallville.

Those participating in Father Gall's last Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Oratory were visibly moved by this man of the cloth, the traveling priest, who has given so much of himself to his country and to God. But this

is not the end of his journey: Father Gall assured everyone that while this was his last Mass at St. Mary of the Angels Oratory, it will not be his last Mass. His plans are to continue to serve in parishes nearer to his home.

He added that being a priest is "one of the greatest joys, for where else can you turn 90 and still have a job?" In his homily, he stated, "serving the Lord is a gift above all we can think or imagine," not just for priests, but for all of us.

St. Mary of the Angels will recruit additional priests to cover the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses for the remainder of the summer, after which time only one weekend Mass will be offered. That Mass will begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday, with Father Carkenord as the celebrant.

Charting change: Vatican statistics track church health indicators

BY CINDY WOODEN

The health of the Catholic Church can be measured in many ways, and the Vatican has a special office just for that purpose.

The Central Statistics Office, which operates under the Vatican Secretariat of State, conducts a variety of studies for the Roman Curia throughout the year. But one of the office's biggest projects is compiling the annual 500-page Statistical Yearbook of the Church.

Of course, the yearbook tracks the Catholic population, both by a head count of the baptized in each country and as a percentage of the world's population. The latest report, based on numbers gathered Dec. 31, 2015, tallied 1.28 billion Catholics, which is about 17.7 percent of the global population.

Ten years earlier, according to the statistics office, the Catholic community numbered just over 1.1 billion, which was 17.3 percent of the population at that time.

Worldwide Catholics operate close to 118,000 hospitals, clinics, homes for the aged, orphanages, counseling centers and rehabilitation facilities. Ten years ago, the number of such facilities was less than 115,000.

When the Statistical Yearbook of the Church is released each year, one of the first figures many people look at is what the book defines as the "workforce for the church's apostolate."

For the year ending Dec. 31, 2015, that included: 5,304 bishops; 281,514 diocesan priests; 134,142 religious order priests; 45,255 permanent deacons; 54,229 religious brothers; 670,330 religious sisters; 351,797 lay missionaries; and more than 3.1 million catechists.

But the yearbook looks even deeper, for example, by giving an indication of the "pastoral workload" of priests, both in relation to the number of baptized Catholics as well as to the general population.

Catholics in Tajikistan can expect personalized pastoral care. With 38 Catholics for every priest, the country has the best Catholics-to-priest ratio in the world. Of course, there are only four priests in the country and fewer than 200 Catholics. Catholics on the nine-island nation of Tuvalu in the South Pacific do nicely with a ratio of 120 Catholics for every priest.

On the other end of the scale are Qatar and Saudi Arabia, which have tens of thousands of Catholic foreign workers from countries like India and the Philippines and restrictions on

the ministry of clergy. According to the Vatican, the ratio of Catholics-to-priest is 52,000-to-1 in Qatar and a staggering 125,000-to-1 in Saudi Arabia.

The worldwide average is 3,091 Catholics for every priest. The situation in North America is better than average. In Canada, there are 2,242 Catholics for every priest, and in the United States, the ratio is 1,808 Catholics for each priest.

But both Canada and the United States also made the list of more than two dozen nations where the number of priests who died in 2015 was greater than the number of new priests ordained. Most of the other countries on the list are in Western Europe.

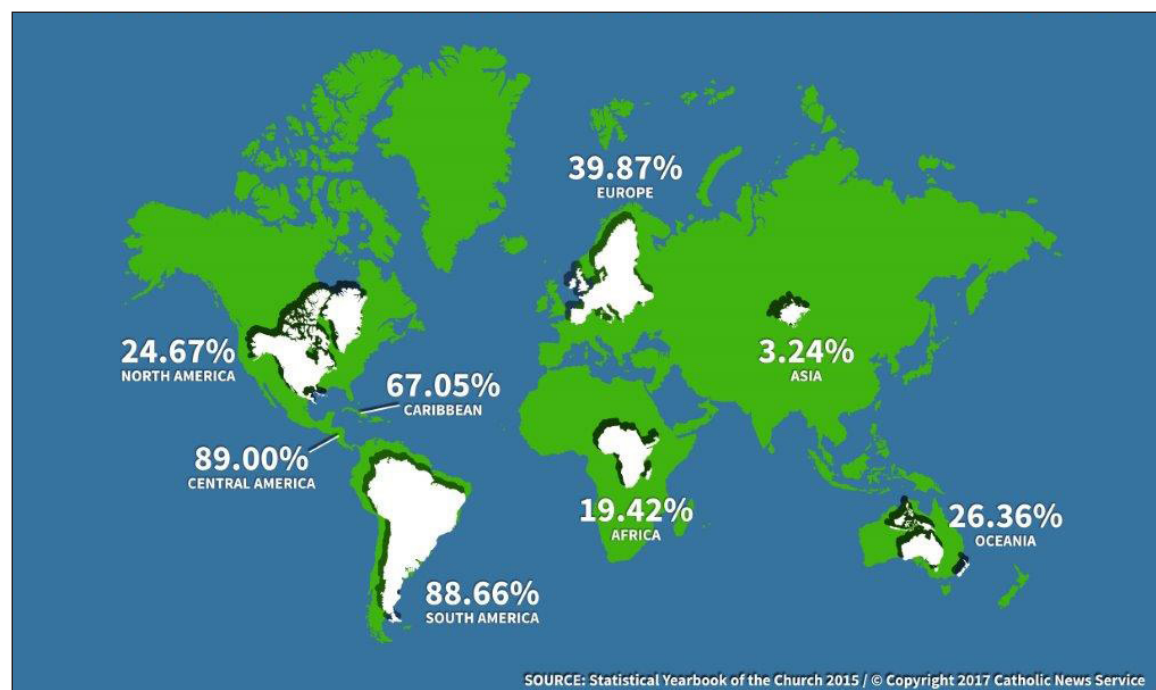
For the Vatican, one of the most important statistics is the number of baptisms performed each year and, specifically, what percentage of those involve new Catholics who are over the age of 7, the traditional "age of reason."

In 2015, the yearbook reported, there were a total of more than 15.7 million baptisms, and just over 17 percent of them involved persons over the age of 7. The percentage of baptisms involving older children and adults was highest in Africa (32.6 percent), followed by the Caribbean (23.3 percent) and Southeast Asia (17 percent).

Further analyzing the figures on the baptism of infants and small children, the statistics office looked at the number of those baptisms for every 1,000 Catholics. For the past five years, it said, "there has been a general downward trend," which closely follows the declining birthrates in many nations.

The ratio declined over the

Catholics as percentage of population



CNS graphic/Robert Duncan

Catholics around the world number 1.28 billion people, which is about 17.7 percent of the global population. The Vatican's Central Statistics Office compiles the figures each year and includes them in the 500-page Statistical Yearbook of the Church. The yearbook also breaks those figures down by continent and region.

five-year period in every region of the world. For example, in Africa in 2005, there were 13.2 baptisms for every 1,000 Catholics; in 2015, the figure was 12.3.

The ratio of Catholic marriages for every 1,000 Catholics present also declined over the five-year period.

Some other figures from the Statistical Yearbook:

– Around the world, 481 parishes are "entrusted to women religious." Both North America and Europe have 104 such parishes, while 126 parishes in South America are run by sisters.

– The two countries with the highest percentage of Catholics in the general population are: Andorra, where 99.7 percent of the population is Catholic, and Equatorial

Guinea, which reported 97.2 percent of its population is Catholic. Vatican City State is not included in the survey.

– Of the 5,304 bishops in the world at the end of 2015, 886 (16.7 percent) of them were residing or ministering in a country other than the country of

their birth. In 1995, there were 4,319 bishops and 15.8 percent of them were residing outside their homelands. Bishops ministering abroad include the international corps of archbishops serving as Vatican ambassadors around the world and those working at the Vatican.

Parishioner, St. Aloysius




Sam Haiflich

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In lieu of visit, pope makes major donation to South Sudan charities

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — With a trip to South Sudan postponed indefinitely, Pope Francis is sending close to a half-million dollars to help two church-run hospitals, a teacher training center and farming projects for families as a way to show the people there his solidarity and support. Because a planned trip with Anglican Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury couldn't happen this year as hoped, Pope Francis "wants to make tangible the presence and closeness of the church with the suffering people through this initiative 'The Pope for South Sudan,'" Cardinal Peter Turkson told reporters at a Vatican news conference June 21. "He fervently hopes to be able to go there as soon as possible on an official visit to the nation; the church does not shut hope out of such an afflicted area," said the cardinal, who is prefect of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. An official visit was meant to draw the world's attention to a silent tragedy, give voice to those suffering, and encourage conflicting parties to make renewed and greater efforts in finding a peaceful solution to the conflict, the cardinal said. Already in March, Pope Francis had expressed doubts about the possibility of making the trip, saying in an interview with Germany's *Die Zeit* newspaper, that visiting South Sudan would be "important," but that "I don't believe that it is possible." The pope approved the project funding in April, a month before the Vatican announced the trip's delay.

Trailer released for Father Rother documentary

OKLAHOMA CITY (CNS) — The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City has released a three-minute trailer to a forthcoming documentary on Father Stanley Rother, a U.S. priest who worked in Guatemala for 14 years until he was murdered there in 1981 and who will be beatified in September. The documentary is titled "The Shepherd Cannot Run: Father Rother's Story," and according to the archdiocese, it will be shown immediately prior to his beatification Mass Sept. 23 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. Celebrating the Mass will be Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes and Pope Francis' personal representative. The pope recognized Father Rother's martyrdom last December, making him the first martyr born in the United States. The trailer is in English and Spanish and can be viewed at <http://stanleyrother.org/documentary>. It was shown to the U.S. bishops during their spring assembly in Indianapolis June 14-15.

NEWS BRIEFS

Indonesia Eid al-Fitr



CNS photo/Hotli Simanjntak, EPA

Indonesian Muslims are seen during Eid al-Fitr prayers to celebrate the end of Ramadan June 25 at Baiturrahman Grand Mosque in Banda Aceh. Indonesian Catholics have made a greater than usual effort to help Muslims celebrate Eid al-Fitr this year amid heightened religious tensions gripping the country.

USCCB officials urge Homeland Security to defer deportation of Chaldeans

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the chairmen of the bishops' migration and international policy committees urged Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly to defer deportation of Chaldean Christians and others arrested June 11. They made the comments in a letter to Kelly in response to the apprehension of Iraqis in the Detroit area and near Nashville, Tenn., by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. More than 100 were arrested, including Chaldean Christians and Shiite Muslims. There were placed in federal custody in Youngstown, Ohio, and faced deportation June 21. "Returning religious minorities to Iraq at this time, without specific plans for protection, does not appear consistent with our concerns about genocide and persecution of Christians in Iraq," the bishops wrote. "We strongly encourage you to exercise the

discretion available to you under law," they continued, "to defer the deportation of persons to Iraq, particularly Christians and Chaldean Catholics, who pose no threat to U.S. public safety, until such time as the situation in Iraq stabilizes and its government proves willing and capable of protecting the rights of religious minorities."

Vatican calls on China to let bishop exercise his ministry

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican expressed "grave concern" over the situation of a bishop in mainland China who has been in government custody for almost 10 months and moved repeatedly in an apparent attempt to prevent him from assuming leadership of his diocese. Bishop Peter Shao Zhumin had been coadjutor bishop of Wenzhou and should have taken over leadership of the diocese in September when his predecessor died. Instead, officials took him to northern China "on a trip. The Holy See is following with grave concern the personal situation

of Bishop Peter Shao Zhumin of Wenzhou, forcibly removed from his episcopal see some time ago," said Greg Burke, director of the Vatican press office, in a statement June 26. "The diocesan Catholic community and his relatives have no news or reasons for his removal, nor do they know where he is being held," Burke said. The treatment of Bishop Zhumin "and other similar episodes," Burke said, do not foster the kind of understanding that the Vatican wants to reach with the Chinese government.

Resilience helps Gazans cope with daily hardships

JERUSALEM (CNS) — Gazans demonstrate an "inspiring" resilience and resourcefulness and more importantly, a sense of hope, despite the daily hardships they face, said the regional director for Palestine and Israel of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. The hardships are many, ranging from a lack of dependable electrical service to a shortage of potable water at times. Through it all, people per-

sist, going about their lives as best as they can, CNEWA's Sami El-Yousef told Catholic News Service. "It shows you how you can live on so little and still continue to have a ray of hope that life will get better. It is inspiring," said El-Yousef, who was in Gaza at the end of May. "They laugh at the situation they are in and find little achievements which give them satisfaction." Electrical service is sporadic because of political maneuvering over tax payments among the Hamas Palestinian faction that has ruled Gaza since 2007, the Western-recognized Fatah Palestinian leadership in the West Bank, and the Israeli government. Gaza residents receive just more than three hours of electricity a day, down from the already low eight hours of service they had been receiving before the energy crisis began two months ago.

Pope pays tribute to Italian priests who served marginalized

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis paid homage to two Italian priests who were known for persevering in their priestly ministry despite facing opposition, even from within the church. Visiting the towns of Bozzolo and Barbiana in northern Italy June 20, the pope prayed before the tombs of Fathers Primo Mazzolari and Lorenzo Milani, who dedicated their ministry to the poor and the oppressed.

Born in Cremona, Italy, Father Mazzolari was known for his steadfast opposition to Italy's Fascist regime despite attempts against his life. Although his calls for increased participation of the laity, church reform and outreach to the marginalized were all themes that were at the forefront of the Second Vatican Council three years after his 1959 death, he was prohibited by the church from speaking publicly or publishing his writings. He would later gain recognition for his faithfulness to the church and was asked to preach in Milan by Cardinal Giovanni Battista Montini, the future Blessed Pope Paul VI. He died in 1959. Pope Francis encouraged priests to follow Father Mazzolari's example of "listening to the world, to those who live and work in it, to take on every question about meaning and hope without fear of crossing the desert and dark places."

The pope then visited the town of Barbiana, near Florence, to pray before the tomb of Father Lorenzo Milani, whose establishment of schools for all children, regardless of their religion, was initially criticized within the church. Pope Francis said he wished to pay tribute to the memory "of a priest who gave witness to how, in the gift of self to Christ, one can meet brothers and sisters in their needs and serve them." His "radical" dedication to education, he added, was "the concrete way in which he carried out his mission."

Poor Handmaids welcome new member

DONALDSON

— Wherever one finds Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ sisters, Associate Community and Fiat Spiritus Community members, they will find women and men of faith and commitment, willing to listen to the voice of God.

Joining this group is a new associate with long ties to the Poor Handmaids.

After many months of initial formation, Verna Ingrassia made her first commitment as an associate with the Spiritual Family of Catherine Kasper. The ceremony was held in the Visitation Chapel at the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Motherhouse in Donaldson on May 15. Ingrassia joined nearly 140 other Christian faithful women and men from five different dioceses across the Midwest who are associates within this spiritual family.

Ingrassia is a former Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ member and has carried the charism throughout her ministries for many years. She lives in Connecticut, but following her commitment ceremony, stated she felt like her spirit was "coming home." Charism is a gift of the spirit never confined by distance.

The Spiritual Family of Catherine Kasper is comprised of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sisters, the Associate Community and members of the Fiat Spiritus Community.

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, the Associate Community and Fiat Spiritus Community members join in praying for the



**VERNA
INGRASSIA**

AROUND THE DIOCESE

St. Anthony of Padua hosts June Fatima pilgrimage



Bob List

Father Robert Showers, OFM Conv., and Father Glenn Kohrman kneel during a Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Angola, in honor of Mary's apparitions at Fatima, Portugal in 1917. The Mass was followed by exposition, a discussion, the praying of the rosary and other prayers and consecration to her Immaculate Heart. The next Mass scheduled during this monthly 100th-year anniversary pilgrimage will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 13, at St. Mary Church, Huntington.

needs of the congregation, the church and the world. Associates are committed to listening attentively to the Holy Spirit, to praying and sharing their faith with others and to acting courageously and joyfully in helping to meet

the needs of the times. Each associate lives in different circumstances and contributes in varying ways, depending upon their personal commitments.

For more information visit poorhandmaids.org/associates.

Friar re-elected to Capuchin council

MILWAUKEE — Huntington native and Capuchin friar Jerome Johnson has been re-elected to

the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph's provincial council. Also elected were provincial minister Father Michael Sullivan, provincial vicar Father Steven Kropp and councilors Father David Preuss and Father Daniel Fox.

Brother Johnson, the son of Mariella and the late Raymond Sullivan of Huntington, has served as the Capuchin Soup Kitchen executive director since January. He also served on the Capuchin novitiate staff (2011-16), co-vocation director (2008-11) and St. Lawrence Seminary High School faculty member (2003-08).

"To serve on the Provincial Council is to support the life and ministry of the Capuchin Friars in our Midwest region," Brother Johnson explained. "The goal of the friars is not to 'out-holy' people, but to love people and to work for healing in our world."

Friars attended the four-day chapter, held every three years, to elect the Provincial Council, their governing body, and to discuss theological and social justice issues.

The Capuchins are an international community of friars modeling themselves after St. Francis of Assisi. The brothers of the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph, headquartered in Detroit, serve in a variety of ministries including social service, schools, chaplaincy, retreat houses and parishes in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Montana, Arizona, Nicaragua and Panama. Established at Mount Calvary, Wis., in 1857, there are currently 169 members in the St. Joseph province.



**BROTHER
JEROME
JOHNSON**

Sisters of the Holy Cross celebrate jubilees

Fourteen Sisters of the Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilee years of consecrated life on July 16, in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto, Notre Dame. Five sisters are celebrating 75 years since their initial profession, two are marking 50 years and seven are celebrating 25 years — a collective 650 years of vowed life in the congregation. Five jubilarians have served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Sister Rita McQueeney, CSC, celebrates 75 years of consecrated life. Sister Rita shared her gifts as an educator for 34 years, serving in Ohio; Virginia; California; Maryland; and Washington, D.C., and at Saint Mary's Campus School in Notre Dame. Sister Rita also held various roles in health



**SISTER RITA
MCQUEENEY**

care, working as a hospital chaplain, receptionist and patient advocate for Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md., where she served for 20 years. Her main ministry today is to pray for the church and the world.

Sister M. Lorraine (Black), CSC, a 75-year jubilarian, served for 40 years in the field of elementary education, sharing her gifts as a teacher, principal and office manager. She served as principal at St. Vincent de Paul School and St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School in Elkhart, and at Christ the King School, St. Joseph School and Holy Cross School in South Bend. She later worked as an accountant and administrative assistant for the Congregation at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame. Currently,



**SISTER M.
LORRAINE
BLACK**

her ministry is to pray for the church and the world.

Sister M. Geralda (Lamping), CSC, is a 75-year jubilarian who ministered in elementary education for nearly 40 years, working for 10 years with children with special needs. She held teaching positions in Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana, including St. Vincent de Paul School and St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart, and St. Joseph School and St. Patrick School in South Bend. She currently serves in the ministry of prayer.

Sister Dorothy Ann Reppen, CSC, celebrates 75 years of consecrated life. She served in education for 35 years, sharing her gifts as a teacher at St. Joseph School and Christ the King School in South



**SISTER M.
GERALDA
LAMPING**

Bend and as a teacher and principal at St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart. She later worked for 15 years at Renew, Inc., a South Bend organization that helps low-income families attain housing. She continued in business management roles at Mary's Solitude, a retreat center in Notre Dame, and in positions with the Congregation at Saint Mary's. Her main ministry today is to pray for the church and the world.

Sister Mary Ann Pajakowski, CSC, a 50-year jubilarian, shared her gifts as a teacher, serving



**SISTER
DOROTHY ANN
REPPEN**



**SISTER
MARY ANN
PAJAKOWSKI**

22 years in secondary education. She taught at Saint Mary's Academy and Saint Joseph High School, both in South Bend. She later moved into the field of social work, providing care and services at La Casa de Amistad in South Bend. Sister Mary Ann currently serves as education director for Holy Cross Ministries Inc., in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sister M. Marcelle (Frizzie), CSC, who serves in the ministry of prayer at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, celebrates 75 years of consecrated life. **Sister Elsbeth Mulvaney, CSC,** has been professed 50 years and currently serves in Boise, Idaho. Twenty-five year jubilarians who are in ministry in other countries include **Holy Cross Sisters Shopna Cecilia Gomes, Semita Nokrek, Susuma Costa and Salome Nanwar,** who are in ministry in Bangladesh; **Sisters Elizabeth Tusiime and Stella Maris Kunihira** in Uganda; and **Sister Parboti Gomes** in India.

Youth rooted in service at Catholic Heart work camp

BY DENISE FEDOROW

The youth participating in this year's Catholic Heart work camp in the Mishawaka area were not deterred by the heat and humidity as they lived out their Christian faith in service.

Catholic Heart work camps, which are mission trips around the country for young adults, started in 1993 in Orlando, Fla., with 100 participants. They have grown to over 14,000 participants each year, according to the program's website.

This year more than 280 participants from six states came to the Mishawaka camp, which performed services at sites all over St. Joseph and Elkhart counties. They came from Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, and were joined by youth from St. John the Evangelist in Goshen to serve eight different service organizations in the area.

Kathy Turco of St. John the Evangelist said there has been a local Catholic Heart camp since 1994, and she's been manager since 1998. As camp manager she takes care of the local arrangements with schools for housing the students, and contacts organizations to set up the work.

Recipients of the campers' service work included Real Services of Elkhart and St. Joseph counties, Center for the Homeless in South Bend, Northern Indiana Food Bank, YWCA Women's Shelter in South Bend and Elkhart, Faith Mission of Elkhart, Church Community Services, Habitat of Elkhart County and the Boys and Girls Club locations in Goshen and Middlebury. Turco said the volunteers are split up into groups of six kids and one adult.

Four groups of teens worked at Faith Mission. One group, led by adult volunteer Ann Kunst, stained steps and decks and painted picnic tables of residents' apartments. Despite the 90-degree temperatures and 80 percent humidity, the teens were happy and smiling.

First time attendee Rafael Garcia-Rodriguez of Dayton, Ohio, said he was "here to serve the community and do what God asks." He said he was "hoping to make the world a better place, one step at a time."

Victoria Corado of Hershey, Pa., and Christine Wolf of Freedom, Wis., have both participated in prior years at camps in North Carolina, Massachusetts, Illinois and Montana. Christine said it does not matter to her where the camp is held; she likes meeting everyone, and her relationship with God has become better because of it. Victoria said she likes "doing what God called me to" and "how it feels helping



Denise Fedorow

A group of kids working on the Faith Mission of Elkhart's men's homeless shelter take a break under a shade tree. Clockwise from left are Matt Beck, Caryn Radcliffe, Lydia Gould, Zach Gazzio, Nicole Sletter, Carson Meyer and leader Laura Leonard.

others."

Chi Chi Chukwunia of Solon, Ohio, and Ryan Finger of Clinton Valley, Wis., were also first-timers, but Ryan's older brothers have come before and encouraged him to attend. When asked if it lived up to the hype, Ryan smiled and nodded.

Lydia Gould from Hershey, Pa., said it was her fourth time at the work camp, but her first in Indiana. She said she came with her youth group and liked the service opportunity. According to Gould, participating was "like a spiritual journey in some ways" and growing closer to God makes you want to give back. She said she tells first-timers at the beginning of the week that you think you want to go home and sleep in your bed instead of on a school floor, "but on the last day you don't want to leave."

Caryn Radcliffe of Twinsburg, Ohio, has also attended before and said that last year, her group worked at a person's home; she cooked for them and sent letters. Both girls said they keep in touch with some past teens and residents they have met at Catholic Heart work camp, through social media.

When asked if they felt Catholic Heart work camp was a form of evangelization, the teens said they did. The week of service and worship helps bring them closer to the Lord, they said, and the service they provide for others is a sign of Christ's love.

Laura Leonard said that not only does their service show an example of how to live as Catholic Christians, but it also shows a good example of teenagers.

"Look how great these teens are — they're Christian, Catholic, faithful teens giving up their summer for others. It's impressive," she said.

After the work day the teens

unwind, hang out and take lots of naps. In the evening they sing, dance and then transition to more serious matters, like faith sharing. On this retreat they had adoration on Tuesday night, reconciliation on Wednesday night, and residents came to thank the teens and say goodbye on Thursday.

"It means a whole lot that they give up their time and energy to help others out," Faith Mission receptionist Anthony Mast said. "We just appreciate them coming."

Mike Perez, resource and development director, said Catholic Heart work camp kids have been coming as long as he's been there, which is 13 years.

"We look forward to them coming every year. There are certain jobs we hold back for them to do, so the consistency of them coming every year has been a blessing," Perez said.

Faith Mission see a lot of volunteers, but the Catholic Heart work camp kids are different.

"The kids in the group are really good, focused and hard-working. Sometimes we have to slow them down," he said, laughing. "Everyone is really willing to do whatever we ask, which is nice."

He received feedback from Faith Mission that residents were "surprised that people their age were willing to give up their time in the summer to help them. It shows people do care about them and that's a big deal."

"It's been a very positive experience for us — a real blessing to have them," he said.

By all accounts, these teens are rooted in Christ's love and want to stay that way. First time attendee Nicole Sletter of Cincinnati said, "The work is hard, but it's fun when you have a group to do it with."

Jubilarians evoke the gifts of God's calling



Joe Raymond

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades poses with jubilarians of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Mishawaka, prior to a Mass celebrating the milestone anniversaries of their vows Saturday, June 24 at the convent.

BY WILLIAM SCHMITT

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass June 24 at which he honored six jubilarians of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, and reflected on a prophet with an extraordinary calling.

The Mass, which more than a dozen priests concelebrated, took place at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka on the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. Sisters, family members and friends filled the chapel as the bishop invoked jubilee blessings on the six, who marked 60, 50, 40 and 25 years of commitment to the religious order.

"As young women, our sister jubilarians became aware of their calling to the consecrated life," the bishop said in his homily. "Even now, so many years after their profession of vows, they continue to grow in their vocation, as they say yes every day to the Lord, to his plan in their lives and to his love."

John the Baptist, who "surpassed all the prophets" with his vocation "to prepare the way of the Lord," models for the sisters and everyone an acceptance of God's call, the bishop said. He also credited John the Baptist with a humility that pointed toward Jesus, a prayerful attentiveness to the word of God, and a bold fidelity to the Gospel path.

In the Rite of Jubilee, the bishop invoked "forgiveness of all sins and the remission of all faults" for the three Franciscans celebrating their 60th anniversaries — Sister Jane Marie Klein, Sister M. Theresa Ann Long and Sister M. James Agnes Maroney

— as well as Sister M. Madonna Rougeau on her golden jubilee, Sister M. Jennifer Henry on her 40th anniversary and Sister Marie Morgan on her silver jubilee.

All six sisters, holding lighted candles, renewed their vows, resolving "to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the spirit of St. Francis" in accord with the Rule of the Franciscan Third Order Regular.

The bishop highlighted the qualities of John the Baptist as God's joyful gifts, not only to the sisters, but also to the church through those living the consecrated life. "May our Blessed Mother, St. John the Baptist, St. Francis and Blessed Mother Maria Theresia intercede for our sister jubilarians," he said. "May they continue to grow in humility, prayer and fidelity."

The latter reference was to Mother Maria Theresia Bonzel, who founded the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Germany in 1863. Pope Francis approved her beatification in 2013. Blessed Maria Theresia's international order, whose key ministries include education and health care, serves the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend through its Immaculate Heart of Mary Province, housed in Mishawaka.

Mark Kirzeder, principal of Marian High School in Mishawaka, attended the Mass. He commented afterward about 25-year jubilarian Sister Marie Morgan, who he said had been a blessing to that school since her arrival in 2004; she now chairs its theology department. "She is an authentic and powerful witness of Jesus Christ as teacher and servant," Kirzeder said.

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.

July 13, 1917

Mary shows the children a vision of hell

On July 13 the three children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, assembled at the Cova and again saw the indescribably beautiful Lady over the Holm oak tree. Lucia asked what she wanted, and Mary replied: "I want you to come here on the 13th of next month and to continue to pray the rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war, because only she can help you."

Lucia then asked her who she was, and for a miracle so everyone would believe. "Continue to come here every month. In October, I will tell you who I am and what I want, and I will perform a miracle for all to see and believe."

Lucia made some requests for sick people, to which Mary replied that she would cure some but not others, and that all must say the rosary to obtain such graces. And she continued: "Sacrifice yourselves for sinners and say many times, especially when you make some sacrifice: O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

As she spoke these words, Mary opened her hands and rays of light from them seemed to penetrate the earth, revealing to the children a terrifying vision of hell full of demons and lost souls amid indescribable horrors. This vision of hell was the first part of the three-part secret of Fatima that was unknown until the writing of Sister Lucia's third memoir, dated Aug. 31, 1941. The children looked up to the sad face of the Blessed Virgin, who spoke to them kindly:

"You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace. The war is going to end; but if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the pontificate of Pius XI. When you see a night illumined by an unknown light, know that

this is the great sign given you by God that he is about to punish the world for its crimes, by means of war, famine, and persecutions of the church and of the Holy Father.

"To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, and the communion of reparation on the first Saturdays. If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world causing wars and persecutions of the church. The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world."

This concludes the second part of the secret. The third part was not made public until the year 2000, at the beatification ceremonies of Jacinta and Francisco Marto.

Mary specifically told Lucia not to tell anyone about the secret at this stage, apart from Francisco, before continuing: "When you pray the rosary, say after each mystery: O my Jesus! Forgive us, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need." After assuring Lucia that there was nothing more, Mary disappeared off into the distance.

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



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

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JULY 13, 2017

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In **MY** diocese

Christ the King, South Bend

St. Joseph County

'Making God known, loved and served'

BY JENNIFER MILLER

"Making God known, loved and served" is not only the mission statement of Christ the King Parish, South Bend, it is at the heart of this vibrant parish. From welcoming and evangelizing the South Bend community to nourishing and ministering to the souls of their own faithful parishioners, Christ the King shares the good news with genuine, authentic faith in Jesus Christ.



FATHER
STEPHEN
LACROIX, CSC

Located on the busy corner of S.R. 933 and Darden Road, often one's first view of Christ the King is of a marquee with rotating words of Scripture, parish news, liturgical events and the time. Even there, as a bright light full of hope and humble, helpful reflections, the sign serves as a witness to Christ's presence to drivers passing by.

The welcome that a visitor to daily Mass or the parish school receives is authentic and warm. Deanna Rodgers, parish secretary, keeps everything operating smoothly and with the friendliness of a family. Her welcome mirrors that of the pastor, Father Steve Lacroix, CSC, who shares God's love with everyone he encounters; and that of associate pastors Father Michael Belinsky, CSC, and Father Michael Palmer, CSC.

"Christ the King is a vibrant parish. We have a lot of families who have been in the parish for many generations. We also have a thriving school that keeps us



Jennifer Miller

The statue of Christ the King, reigning in glory, stands as a reminder to all who pass by Christ the King Parish on US-933, South Bend, who is head of heaven and earth.

young. It's a great cross-section of folks who offer an inspiring witness to the faith," Father Lacroix reflected.

Congregation of Holy Cross roots

The priests of the Congregation of Holy Cross have staffed Christ the King since its founding in

1933. Father Peter Miner, CSC, was the first pastor. Newly appointed Bishop-designate William Wack of Tallahassee, Fla., grew up in Christ the King parish, served as an altar boy and studied at Christ the King School. His brother, Father Neil Wack, CSC, is a former Christ the King pastor, and their parents and many of their siblings are active members of the parish.

Family roots run deep at Christ the King. Anne Walorski Morin had such positive, life-giving memories of the parish from her childhood that when she returned to South Bend, after serving and teaching in the ACE program in Tennessee, and marrying and moving to California, she and her husband, Eric, made being a Christ the King parishioner a priority. Their older children love the parish school and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program.

Intergenerational love of the parish is not uncommon. Corinne Gries and her family found that they "started attending Mass at Christ the

King because it was convenient. After a few short months, it was the older generation of parishioners who would recognize us at the grocery store or around town and stop to talk. Christ the King is a community that was welcoming. This drew us in. We are called to serve others, and I am inspired to follow in the footsteps of these parishioners in supporting the future of Christ the King."

This model of one community of faith, working together, sharing their unique gifts and talents for the good of the parish, can be observed in many ways. Megan Urbaniak, director of adult faith formation, runs the St. Gianna Moms Group, a place of spiritual and social refreshment. To support the group, other mothers, often whose children have grown or those who do not yet have children, volunteer to watch the St. Gianna Moms' children so they may gather, pray and be present to one another.

It can also be seen in the way the pastoral staff works together. Lay and religious, they are called a "pastoral team." When one department is hosting an event, the other directors and priests attend, support and enjoy the time together. From their harmonious, respectful and joy-filled interactions, the very life of the Trinity is modeled.

The larger parish community also models the mission state-

ment of self-giving and sacrificial love in their partnering with a sister parish, Corpus Christi, in Jalchatra, Bangladesh. Since 2009 they have worked to build a relationship with Corpus Christi by learning and supporting each other financially and spiritually.

There are 56 active areas of ministries at Christ the King. For every age group, from children to the elderly, there is a ministry available, reflecting the Catholic social teaching of human dignity and respect for all stages of life. From prayer ministries to music and parish life ministries, every parishioner can find a niche and an opportunity to serve. Continued collaboration between the ministries is also encouraged and supported.

The parish has special relationships with community partners. Abigail Ulrich, director of youth ministry, and the youth group are beginning a special week of summer service in the South Bend community by helping in Camp Millhouse, the Catholic Worker, Unity Gardens and other sites. Parishioners of all ages are indeed making God's love known in both word and deed.

Parish history

The example of one group serving another goes back to the

CHRIST, page 12

Welcoming Tina Leavell, RPh, PA-C

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574-272-3113
www.christthekingonline.org

Mass Times:
Sunday: 7, 8:45, 10:30 a.m.;
12:15 p.m.
Holy Day: 7, 8:30 a.m.; 7 p.m.
Weekday: M-Sat. 8 a.m.

Reconciliation:
Sat. 9-10 a.m. or by appointment.

In MY diocese

St. Joseph, South Bend

St. Joseph County

Vibrant South Bend parish continues Holy Cross tradition

BY ANDREW MENTOCK

Located in downtown South Bend, St. Joseph is widely considered the oldest Catholic worshipping community in the area.



FATHER KEVIN RUSSEAU, CSC

"We are a Holy Cross parish founded by Fr. Edward Sorin, CSC, in 1853," said Father Daniel Ponisciak, CSC, who is in his third year as parochial vicar at St. Joseph. "The Congregation of Holy Cross has proudly served this community for over 150 years."

"The many wonderful families that comprise our community of faith help to create a dynamic and welcoming church. In particular, our grade school, which is our largest ministry by far, continues on in the Holy Cross tradition of educating minds and hearts so that our children grow to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus."

Father Kevin Russeau, CSC, pastor of St. Joseph, has been with the parish since 2013. The parish also has an expansive team that helps it to provide for the members of its community and others. Members of this team includes Pat Stockrahm,

business manager; Sean Kennedy, director of communications and marketing; and Jessica Springer, the director of liturgy and music. Director of religious education is Peter Mueller, and the director of youth ministry is Katie Ball-Boruff. Lisa Slott is the Safe Environment coordinator and administrative assistant, and Julie Hallenius is the parish secretary.

Initially, the parish community worshipped at St. Alexis Chapel, which was a mission chapel founded by Father Sorin, who is also the founder of Notre Dame. Later, in 1853, both a school and church were erected at what is now the intersection of LaSalle and Hill streets. Eventually the parish would be named St. Joseph, now referred to as St. Joe by many in the community.

Over the years, several new churches were built as the St. Joseph community expanded or as former buildings were torn down due to fire or decay. This led to the current church structure, which was built in 1965 and today serves over 900 South Bend area families.

As St. Joseph Parish expanded, so did its school. Today, over 400 students attend the school, which includes a preschool and a grade school for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Leading St. Joseph Grade School is George Azar, who just completed his first year as principal. He took over after the school's long-time principal, Suzanne Wiwi, retired after 32 years. In 2011, while under her tenure, the school was named a National Blue Ribbon School, a nationwide award given to schools that exhibit academic excellence.

For as long as the grade school has existed, it wasn't until 2013 that it added a preschool. It started because of an initiative by St. Joseph's previous pastor, Father John DeRiso, CSC, who created a preschool planning committee in 2012. The preschool currently accepts children who are of the ages three and four. The director of the St. Joseph preschool is Melissa Cowden.

Thanks to St. Joseph Parish's excellent staff and large community, it is able to put on a number of events throughout the year, as well as feature several ministries. Members enjoy events like the annual parish picnic on Aug. 19 and the St. Nick 6, a 6K race on Dec. 2.

Popular parish ministries include a mom's ministry and Men's Adoration and Cigars. The St. Joseph Parish Ministry of Mothers (MOMs) aims to bring mothers together to get to know each other better, as well as to



St. Joseph

226 N. Hill St.
South Bend, IN 46617

574-234-3134
www.stjoeeparish.com

Mass Times:

Sunday: 8, 10 a.m.; 5 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.; 5 p.m.

Holy Day: 5 p.m. (Vigil);

7 a.m., 12:10, 7 p.m.

Weekday: 7 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Holy Hour: Saturday 8:30-9:30 a.m.

join in fellowship and discuss topics pertaining to family and spiritual life. Men's Adoration and Cigars brings men together on the last Thursday of the month to pray in adoration. After, they gather on the rectory porch for cigars with the pastor, Father Kevin Russeau.

St. Joseph Parish also puts

an emphasis on engaging young adults.

"We are continuing to develop our young adult ministry," said Father Ponisciak. "Currently, we are partnering with Christ the King Parish to create a ministry that helps our young adults to

ST.JOSEPH, page 12



Provided by St. Joseph Parish

With the opening of St. Joseph's new gymnasium this past year, it has been able to add a number of opportunities for its parishioners to participate in athletic competition.

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ST. JOSEPH

Continued from Page 11

encounter the living God in their lives and to grow in community with each other."

Recently, the parish also hosted a concert for Catholic

recording artist Audrey Assad, which took place on June 21.

With the opening of St. Joseph's new gymnasium this past year, the parish has been able to add a number of opportunities for its parishioners to participate in athletic competition.

"We have multiple opportunities for fellowship that focuses on athletic competition," said Father Ponisiak. "First of all we

have an Open Gym Basketball League, which continuously runs every Sunday night at 8 p.m. On Monday nights in the fall, we have a more competitive and official basketball league in which adults can sign up for particular teams. On Tuesday nights we have open gym volleyball. All of these events have fostered greater community among our parishioners, and we have a beautiful new gym to utilize."



Photos by Jennifer Miller

This crucifix that hangs behind the altar at Christ the King Church, South Bend.



This "little white church" was the original Christ the King Church, located on Dixie Highway. It was purchased with the help of the parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish, Notre Dame.

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CHRIST

Continued from Page 10

early years of Christ the King. As the population on the north side of South Bend began to grow, the Diocese of Fort Wayne recognized the need for a new parish. In 1927, Father Edward Finnegan, CSC, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Notre Dame, began raising the \$6,500 needed to purchase land. In 1933, Bishop John F. Noll authorized the parish with 150 charter families. The new Christ the King Parish was then entrusted to the Congregation of Holy Cross, with Father Peter Miner, CSC, appointed the first pastor.

The new church building was begun in 1934, with members helping. Many of the hired workers even volunteered to be paid every other day, to offset the cost of construction. Called "the little white church," the first Mass was celebrated in 1935.

Christ the King School was founded in 1955, after demand for Catholic education grew larger than a joint parish school at St. Mary's College could accommodate. Holy Cross sisters served with lay teachers in the first- through

eighth-grade building.

The parish also outgrew the original church building. The current building was dedicated in 1961 and was designed by Father Clement Funke, CSC. Alterations were made in the 1980s, when the high altar and side altars were removed; the marble from them was used to construct the current altar, ambo and tabernacle stand. In 1997 the sanctuary was renovated, and in 2011 stained glass windows of the life of Jesus and Mary were added.

Currently, Christ the King Parish serves over 1,400 registered families and more than 500 students at the Christ the King School.

"The vitality of the parish can be seen in its thriving religious education program, the diversity of parish ministries and the enthusiastic involvement of parishioners in all facets of parish life," said Father Lacroix. "We thank God for the many blessings that He has given to our parish community over the past 75 years and pray that we may remain faithful to our call to make God known, loved and served. "Looking into the future, we just want to keep growing and keep evangelizing. There is so much good happening here, but we can never rest on our laurels."

The spiritual dimension — living in the presence of a friend

One of my favorite aspects of seminary life is one that took me a long time to get used to: that I live in the same house as Jesus in the Eucharist. This is perhaps one of the easiest parts of seminary life to let become ordinary and to slip under the radar of active thought and appreciation. But the fact remains, while at the seminary I have the awesome privilege of living in the true presence of Jesus.

This reality had me thinking about what friendship with Christ really looks like. Generally, someone spends a lot of time in the presence of friends, and in seminary we spend (by choice, and by the fact of living there) a lot of time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. So often, friendship itself, let alone friendship with Christ, is not understood well. It seems to fall apart into either a mutual admiration society or an equal-exchange club.

Friendship with Christ is neither about an equal-exchange club, where I do some nice deeds for Jesus and he gets me into heaven (real friends aren't keeping score), nor is it a mutual admiration society, where we spend countless hours giving undeserved or useless praise to one another. Friendship with the person of Jesus is a call to a love that exchanges everything about oneself with the friend. Friends make sacrifices for each other and are willing to drop everything for one another. Nothing about us can be hidden from

good, long-time friends, and so it should be in our friendship with Christ.

Friends don't look at each other, they look at a common goal. C.S. Lewis once said of friendship, "Lovers are normally face to face, absorbed in each other; Friends, side by side, absorbed in some common interest." Part of our relationship with God should be spent looking face to face as lover and beloved, but we shouldn't neglect the aspect of our relationship that calls us to authentic friendship. The reality is that for most Catholics, spending copious amounts of time in front of the Blessed Sacrament is not possible, and even might betray their vocational duties to their family. Therefore, friendship is something that must be intentionally cultivated, because friendship requires the knowledge that Jesus is by your side, with you, in all things, even when you are not beholding his presence. This means that our friendship with Christ can be built when we simply recognize his presence in all moments of our day, and spend those moments in the knowledge that he is with us as we work, play, relax, etc. Invite him to come into your struggles, joys, hopes, fears, etc. A good friend doesn't really need anything from you, he just wants you.

In this friendship, this life lived with Christ, it is really easy to become caught up in our "status." This can become a huge impediment to progress in our friendship with Christ, and it is



THE STRANGE AND JOYFUL LIFE

MARK HELLINGER

a problem that I have noticed those discerning priesthood can be especially susceptible to. It can really put the brakes on journeying toward holiness. In seminary we sometimes term this the "super-discerner." Imagine a friend who, every time you spend time with them, is constantly asking or worrying about where your friendship stands. We have to make sure that our relationship with the person of Jesus Christ is lived, not constantly reflected upon. Don't get me wrong, we should take moments of prayer to reflect on where we are and how the Lord has been with us and moved us, but if that is the only thing we do when we pray, our friendship will not grow.

One of the most important aspects of this friendship to keep in mind is that a friendship must be lived in the present moment and in the first-person perspective. Often, we try to make excuses for our actions and others' by acting as though we are the omniscient third-person narrator of life. We have to remember that God is the omni-

HELLINGER, page 14

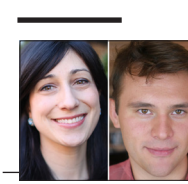
What would you share with Pope Francis?

Perhaps one of the most memorable scenes of last year's World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, was Pope Francis sharing a meal with a dozen young people. His guests peppered him with questions, both pastoral and personal, and the pope used the occasion to ask them questions too. Now, in preparation for the upcoming Synod of Bishops in October 2018, he's extending that conversation to youth from the entire world.

On June 14, the Vatican launched an anonymous online survey (bit.ly/2rZPSMZ) for young people between ages 16-29 to complete. The hope is to provide a platform for a range of voices to express their hopes, fears and challenges of living in light of faith. These responses will form the basis of the working document that will be used for the synod.

Some of our friends who have completed the survey have remarked that, despite some translation issues, they've been remarkably impressed at the range of questions and the concrete ways in which the church is seeking input. In fact, it's the first time the Vatican has allowed for direct public responses in preparation for a synod.

We see this as a welcome change — and an outgrowth of Pope Francis' challenge to create a culture of encounter. "Emails, text messages, social networks and chats can (also) be fully human forms of communication. It is not technology that deter-



IN LIGHT OF FAITH

ELISE ITALIANO AND CHRISTOPHER WHITE

mines whether or not communication is authentic but rather the human heart and our capacity to use wisely the means at our disposal," he wrote for the 50th World Communications Day.

The demographic at the heart of this synod has spent most if not all of their youth sharing what they think and feel online. It's a natural point of contact.

This type of digital outreach is also happening at home. The Archdiocese of Washington, for example, is swapping out its "Walk with Francis" evangelization campaign launched during the pope's 2015 visit to the United States with "Share with Francis," a digital campaign meant to re-engage its youth and young adults ahead of the synod. Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl issued a personal invitation — in both English and Spanish — to his young flock through video.

As important as digital media is in this venture, in-person communication is still essential for knowing the minds and hearts of the church's youth. Anyone

IN LIGHT, page 14

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 10:37-42

This weekend's first reading is from the first of two books in the Bible that bear a name suggesting that they are about the kings of Israel. Kings are mentioned, but from a very particular view. Kings were judged on how well they led the people to abide by the covenant, to love God and to obey God. Nothing else in life was as important.

The prophets were very important, as they taught the people to follow God. This reading is about Elisha, who visits

a household in which lives a wealthy woman. She receives him. She has no children, but the prophet assures her she will bear a child. It would be by divine power.

St. Paul encouraged and challenged the Christians of Rome. He reminded them that to live with Christ also meant dying with Christ, and then they would rise with Christ. Death is inevitable for all human beings, but it had an especially fearful context for Christians in Rome. Christianity was a crime. Death was the penalty, and unless the Christian was a citizen — as was Paul — and few were citizens, executions were agonizing, brutally so.

The Gospel reading from Matthew begins quite solemnly. Indeed, it can be puzzling. Jesus says that if anyone loves father or mother more than the Lord, they are not worthy to be a disciple. He says that the true disciple must also carry a cross.

Put these verses in the context in which they were written. Families were divided, maybe

often, when a member converted to Christianity. Anyone convicted of being a Christian literally had to carry her or his cross and be crucified as was Jesus.

When the first Christians heard these words, they knew very well that persons considered very dear, for self-survival, might desert them, and that crucifixion was the preferred way of getting rid of anyone who broke the law.

Paul's reassurance said that such terrible consequences were worth the price of being with the Lord forever. Indeed, he himself proved the point. He was martyred, but as a citizen, he was entitled to be executed without pain.

Reflection

A line in the musical "Oklahoma!" says, "everything's up-to-date in Kansas City!" Well, in the first decades of Christianity, everything was up-to-date in Rome, more than in any other place on earth. It was a glittering city, with every opportunity and comfort the

human heart could desire. In a word, it was impossible, however, to enjoy all the wonders and pleasures of Rome while being true to the Gospel.

As if this were not enough, professing Christianity was a capital crime. Roman justice operated on the hunch, as does American justice today, that the death penalty deterred others from committing similar crimes; namely becoming Christian and living the Christian life.

The example of countless martyrs proved the folly of this hunch. Still, the temptation to forsake the Lord was heightened by the aspect of dying for the crime of Christianity, and executions were horrifying in the Roman system. Crucifixion was not the only way "criminals" were killed in agony and horror.

As had the prophets of old, Paul insisted that living in obedience to God was the only thing that mattered, and its reward humbled all the glories and the pleasures of mere human existence, even if this existence occurred in Rome, the very

crown of human life at the time.

The readings call us to reality. Win the lottery. Receive \$300 million dollars. Will it subtract one week from an aging life? Will it erase the pain of grief? Will it give a sense of purpose to life? It will not.

Only the spiritual rewards endure. The world will pass away.

READINGS

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a Ps 89:2-3, 16-19 Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 Mt 10:37-42

Monday: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 117:1b-2 Jn 20:24-29

Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29 Ps 26:2-3, 9-12 Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a Ps 34:7-8, 10-13 Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19 Ps 115:1-6, 8-9 Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67 Ps 106:1-5 Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29 Ps 135:1b-6 Mt 9:14-17

Calling God 'Our Father'

Our last 11 grandchildren in a row have been girls, so I've gotten careful about asserting claims of male prerogative. But this Father's Day got me thinking about how we talk to God. Pope Francis recently reminded us, in one of his general audiences, that "when the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, he taught them to call God 'Our Father'."

And so, we do. We say the Our Father in our morning and evening prayers, in the Communion rite at Mass, six times in the rosary. But how do we square this with another truth we all acknowledge? We are made in God's image, not He in ours. God, the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "is neither man nor woman. God is pure spirit in which there is no place for the difference between the sexes."

Reconciling these two thoughts, Pope Francis says, is "the great religious revolution introduced by Christianity" — the idea that we could "dare to speak to the transcendent and all-holy God as children speak, with complete trust, to a loving father."

The pope is fond of invoking the parable of the prodigal son (he prefers to call it the parable of the merciful father) as a metaphor for the Christian life. The

father teaches his sons the way they should live. He gives them freedom to spend their inheritance as they choose. And he is always ready to forgive; he runs out to meet the repentant sinner while he is still a long way off.

This way of understanding "the fatherhood of God," Pope Francis says, is the source of Christian hope. Because God is like this, we dare to hope for eternal life.

These days, though, talking this way about God is unsettling to the progressive mind. At some parishes, we will say "for the praise and glory of God's name" rather than "for the praise and glory of His name" during the preparation of the gifts.

Duke Divinity School's course of studies offers guidelines for inclusive language that suggest using "God" and "Godself" "as substitutes for he/she and him-/herself." And if we want to talk about God's personal relationship with us, there are nongendered options like "God is parent to us all."

These revisions sound odd and clumsy (Godself? Really?). For me that's a sufficient reason for resisting them. But I also suspect that they are put forward for reasons very different from those the catechism has in mind when

not at present a part of their life. Schools or universities might be a place to start. It also might involve seeking out those who are not, for any number of reasons, frequenting Sunday Mass or scrolling through their phones. It could require visits to juvenile detention centers, homes for single mothers and, in some places, refugee camps.

This will require creativity — and some courage — from the clergy and those in ministry. But new ways of engagement and encounter are what this synod and this pope is all about.

Join the conversation. Email: inlightoffaith@catholicnews.com.

Elise Italiano is executive director of communications at The Catholic University of America, and co-writer and co-curator of the Catholic News Service column "In Light of Faith." **Christopher White** is director of Catholic Voices USA.



INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

JOHN GARVEY

it says that with God "there is no place for the difference between the sexes."

I think that the concern about using male pronouns and praying the Our Father is that it seems unfair to women, not that it's offensive to God. The business of praying has gotten tangled up with Title VII and Title IX and the Equal Pay Act, with the role of women in the workplace and with the assignment of domestic responsibilities for raising children.

These days the preference for inclusive language may also find support in the movement for freedom of choice about gender expression and identity. But that's also about us, not about Him.

It is a mistake to let sexual politics creep into our prayer life. Jesus told his disciples to call God, 'Our Father'. He had his reasons, and they are better than ours. That ought to be the first principle.

We need to embrace this way of talking to him, because it is the source of our hope as Christians. Like a father, God loves and teaches his children. He sets them free. And he stands at the door of our home, always ready to show mercy.

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

HELLINGER

Continued from Page 13

scient third-person, and we are the first-person character in our lives. That means, to really grow in friendship, we must live it and trust in the Lord. This frees us from worrying and anxiety so that we can live this awesome life with and for the Lord, especially with him as our closest friend. May God give us the wisdom and strength to invite him into our lives and cultivate a friendship that will challenge us to grow in holiness!

Mark Hellinger is currently discerning the priesthood at Simon Brute College seminary and Marian University in Indianapolis.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for July 2, 2017

Matthew 10:37-42

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: a lesson in discipleship. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

MATTHEW	LOVES	FATHER
MOTHER	MORE THAN ME	DAUGHTER
WORTHY	LIFE	LOSE IT
MY SAKE	RECEIVES	REWARD
RIGHTEOUS	WHOEVER	GIVES
LITTLE ONES	A CUP	COLD
WATER	DISCIPLE	I SAY TO YOU

REWARD

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

Continued from Page 13

engaged in youth ministry knows that the most important moments of conversion happen from one-on-one conversation and in the context of a relationship built on trust. That's why it's good to hear of dioceses complementing the digital outreach with listening sessions.

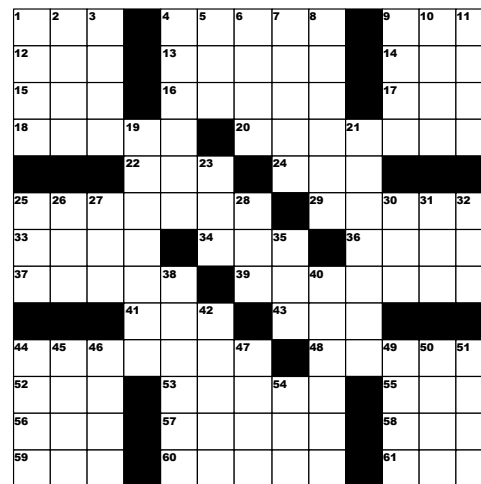
These initiatives are bound to produce helpful insights for the synod's guiding document. But the yield will be largely from young adults at least moderately engaged with their faith.

After all, apart from advertising, most of the calls for the listening sessions and the promptings on social media will land in front of people already in the pews or those whose digital platforms include diocesan or parish accounts in their news feeds. A challenge remains how to get answers from those who were baptized but for whom faith is

The Cross Word

July 2 and 9, 2017

- 57 Vial
- 58 Licensed practical nurse
- 59 Eastern Standard Time
- 60 Mall anchor
- 61 East southeast



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Readings: 2Kgs 4:8-11,14-16a; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt

ACROSS

- 1 Noah's boat
- 4 Moses' struck Red Sea
- 9 Doctoral degree
- 12 Luau dish
- 13 Chocolate tree
- 14 Promissory note
- 15 "Do not love ___ or daughter more than me"
- 16 Oil tanker
- 17 Cow's chow
- 18 Mystery writer award
- 20 "You do not know"
- 22 "From sea to ___"
- 24 Monastery brew
- 25 A ___ genius
- 29 Capital of Nigeria

DOWN

- 33 Cut off edge
- 34 Abraham sacrificed this instead
- 36 Referring to robots
- 37 Israelites lived in for 40 years
- 39 Goes over again
- 41 Peter's mother-in-law was
- 43 Nothing
- 44 Pride
- 48 Fastening
- 52 In debt
- 53 Heron
- 55 You will, according to flesh
- 56 Deoxyribonucleic acid
- 1 Area for altar
- 2 Crucifix
- 3 Jerusalem's leader
- 4 Hit the puck in
- 5 Of Thailand
- 6 Civil liberties group
- 7 Matador's passes at bull
- 8 "Once and ___" (2 wds)
- 9 Typesetting measure
- 10 "My ___ has not yet come"
- 11 Amateur cowboy
- 19 Not septic
- 21 Lethargically
- 23 Atmosphere
- 25 Clock time
- 26 "Our God is ___"
- 27 Least amount
- 28 Roman chariot, modern ___
- 30 Governor (abbr.)
- 31 Order of British Empire
- 32 Distress call
- 35 12 Apostles were
- 38 God never does
- 40 "One of these ___ ones"
- 42 Jesus' burden is
- 44 Secret language
- 45 A monk ___ nothing
- 46 Not on Lent Friday
- 47 Trinity
- 49 Not working
- 50 Cuts off "in the bud"
- 51 Heredity component
- 54 Van Gogh lost

Answer Key can be found on page 15

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.

Conference on nonviolence planned
HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center will host a two-day regional conference Friday, July 28 and Saturday, July 29 at Huntington Church of the Nazarene, 1555 Flaxmill Rd. The conference, called "Blessed are the Peacemakers," will examine Jesus' call for nonviolence and alternative methods of engagement. Special guests John Dear, Ken Butigan and Kit Evans-Ford from Pace e Bene will facilitate discussion and training. Attendees will spend both days in workshops and will have the

opportunity to explore the exhibit hall offerings from local vendors. For more information and online registration, visit www.conferenceonnonviolence.com.

Class reunion
FORT WAYNE — The Central Catholic High School class of '72 will have a reunion Saturday, Sept. 23, from 6 p.m. to midnight at Deer Park Irish Pub, 1530 Leesburg Rd. Live Music by Bobby Swag Band. Tickets are \$20 and include meal and drinks. Mass at 5 p.m. celebrated at the Cathedral of the

Immaculate Conception Chapel. Sunday brunch at 10 a.m. for \$10 at the door at the Venice, 2242 Goshen Rd. RSVP by Aug. 3 to Maryanne Horn at mhorn@seascsfw.org.

Pilgrimage announced
FORT WAYNE — A bus trip to Our Lady of Consolation will be Saturday, July 22. Cost of \$55 per person includes a donation to OLC Shrine, lunch at the shrine and transportation. There will be tours, Mass and a healing service. Call Jim or Mary Lou Sorg at 260-639-3453 for details.

REST IN PEACE

Arcola Dennis M. Trahin, 71, St. Patrick	Norma Jean Fincher, 90, St. Charles Borromeo	Notre Dame Brother John James Stout, CSC, 94, Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel
Churubusco Phyllis Lou Riecke, 91, St. John Bosco	JoAnn Marie Powers, 55, St. Jude	South Bend Theresa A Jozwiak, 96, Christ the King
Fort Wayne Joan D. Shoaff, 89, St. Vincent de Paul	Mishawaka Ruth J. Lambert, 93, St. Bavo	Dr. John B. Toepp, 86, St. Matthew Cathedral
Ronald V. Mausser, 69, St. Mary Mother of God	New Haven David Michael Speith, Sr. 72, St. John the Baptist	Yoder Thomas N. Douglas, 75, St. Aloysius
Margery W. Miller, 81, Most Precious Blood	Marcella T. Minick, 90, St. John the Baptist	Submit obituaries to mweber@diocesefwsb.org

St. Joseph plans class reunion
GARRETT — St. Joseph Grade School will have an alumni reunion Saturday, July 15, from 2:30-4 p.m. in Bennett Hall, formerly the church basement. Tickets are \$5, light refreshments will be served following 4:30 p.m. Mass.

Rummage sale planned
ANGOLA — St. Anthony of Padua's Altar and Rosary Society will have a rummage sale July 17-21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the parish hall, 700 W. Maumee St.

The CrossWord

July 2 and 9, 2017

A	R	K	S	T	A	F	F	P	H	D	
P	O	I	C	A	C	A	O	I	O	U	
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CATHOLIC NIGHT

2017 OUTING WITH THE FORT WAYNE TINCAPS

SATURDAY, JULY 22

GAME TIME: 7:05PM

vs. Kane County Cougars
(Arizona Diamondbacks)

DONATION

- \$1.00 from each ticket goes to Catholic Charities. Additional donations are welcome.

ON-FIELD GAMES & ACTIVITIES

- Fr. Tom Shoemaker, Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, throwing out a First Pitch!

POSTGAME FIREWORKS

- After the game, fans will enjoy a spectacular fireworks display which will be shot directly from the field!

RUN THE BASES

- All fans are invited to come on to the field after the game and run the bases just like their favorite TinCaps players!

Only ticket orders received prior to Friday, July 7th will receive the Catholic Night discount offer.

Mail order form to: Catholic Charities, PO Box 10630, Fort Wayne, IN 46853 or order by phone at (260) 422-5625, ask for Theresa or Vicki.



CATHOLIC NIGHT • TICKET ORDER FORM • SATURDAY, JULY 22

Church Name: _____					
Name: _____					
Address: _____					
City: _____	State: _____	ZIP: _____			
Phone: (____) _____	ext. _____				
Email: _____					
METHOD OF PAYMENT: <input type="checkbox"/> Check (Payable to CCFWSB)					
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover					
Card #: _____	Exp: ____/____				
3 Digit # on Back (For Security Reasons): _____					

TICKETS	#	PRICE	TOTAL
Catholic Night Tickets		\$8.00	
Shipping & Handling (if mailing tickets)	1	\$1.00	
Add. Donations (optional)			
TOTAL			

Please select how you would like to receive your tickets:
 Mail Will Call Window
 Pick Up at Parkview Field

Please return orders to:
 CCFWSB • P.O. Box 10630 • Fort Wayne, IN 46853

FORT WAYNE TINCAPS • CATHOLIC NIGHT • 1301 EWING STREET • FORT WAYNE, IN 46802
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St. Joseph - Fort Wayne Director of Faith Formation

Begins Immediately
 Proficient in English and Spanish languages
 For details, visit www.saintjosephfw.org.
 Resumes can be emailed to:
 Patty Sermersheim: psermersheim@saintjosephfw.org
 The deadline to apply is July 10, 2017



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TRINITY

Continued from Page 1

40 states," she told Catholic News Service in an interview.

"It doesn't completely eliminate them, but it says that states cannot interpret their amendments in such a way that they would be discriminating against a church-run institution or religious organization," added Byrnes, who is lead staff for the bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty.

The Blaine amendments to the Missouri Constitution and other state constitutions prohibit government aid to assist religiously affiliated educational institutions. Similar Blaine amendments exist in 37 other state's constitutions, after Rep. James Blaine of Maine's unsuccessful attempt for a similar amendment in the U.S. Constitution in 1875.

"The Missouri Constitution's Blaine amendment should act as a shield against the establishment of an official state religion," said Mike Hoey, executive director of the Missouri Catholic Conference, in a statement applauding the U.S. Supreme Court's decision.

The amendment "should not act as a bar to a religious organization receiving a nonsectarian grant, like the offered through the scrap tire program, that do nothing to establish a religion," he said.

According to Byrnes, the Trinity Lutheran case did not attack Blaine amendments directly.

"My hope is that we have a case that squares up that issue, looks at the history of the Blaine amendments and says that these provisions were passed with a really discriminatory intent, and so they shouldn't be relied on at all by states in a pluralistic society that we have nowadays," Byrnes said.

In the case, Trinity Lutheran found its school discriminated against because of its religious identity. The church filed on the grounds of it was a violation of the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech as well as a violation of the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause.

"This is an extremely important case just because of the way that the law has been going under the Free Exercise Clause and sometimes being subsumed by the Establishment Clause. ... They're certainly both there, but they're both there to protect religious freedom and not discriminate against religious freedom or discriminate against the people of faith or religious organizations," said David Cortman, vice president of U.S. litigation at

Alliance for Defending Freedom, in a news conference.

The Alliance for Defending Freedom is an advocacy group dedicated to fighting and winning cases for religious liberty, among many things. The organization argued on behalf of Trinity Lutheran in court.

"We didn't ask for special treatment, we asked for equal treatment for people of faith," said Michael Farris, who is the alliance's president, CEO and general counsel, in a statement. "And the court agreed that the government cannot discriminate against people of faith by treating them unequally."

Andrea Picciotti-Bayer, a legal adviser with the Catholic Association, said in a statement that such a blow against state Blaine amendments was long overdue.

"America's beacon of liberty shines brighter today and our communities will be stronger for it," Picciotti-Bayer said in a statement. "Like the Missouri law at issue in Trinity Lutheran, 36 other states have Blaine amendments that deny state funds to groups simply because their good work is done as part of their faith community."

"Americans of all creeds live our faith not just where we worship but by serving our neighbors at soup kitchens, rehab programs, crisis pregnancy centers and even — like the petitioners in Trinity Lutheran — preschools with outdoor playgrounds. Today's decision recognizes the important contributions made in America by faith-based groups."

U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Missouri, in a statement commended the court's decision, which he said "affirms that the government cannot categorically deny benefits to Trinity Lutheran, or any religious organization, simply because they are religious."

This victory allows for the doors to remain open between religious institutions and state governments, according to Byrnes.

"I think this is a really great victory for religious liberty," Byrnes told CNS. "If the court had gone another way, we could have seen lots of challenges to programs that we have, partnerships with, between Catholic institutions and state and local governments, even the federal government."

"We partner with the government in order to provide services to people that sometimes the government cannot do as well on its own, as faith based institutions can do," she said. "Thankfully, this decision went the right way and it accounts for that work to continue and not be threatened by further lawsuits that claim the government shouldn't be funding religious organizations."



Joe Raymond

Bishop Rhoades stands with Education for Ministry Spanish-language track graduates following a Mass to celebrate their graduation Friday, June 23, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen.

GRADUATE

Continued from Page 1

the studies. Silva said the goal was to ensure the graduates had "received solid formation with catechism" so they could instruct others. The program consisted of 18 classes; in this case, the students met once a month for a seven-hour day at St. John the Evangelist, Goshen.

Several Notre Dame professors, including Timothy Matovina, Craig Iffland and Esther Terry conducted the classes, as did several priests, including Father Bob Lengerich, Father Evaristo Olivera and Father John Herman. Diaconate candidates Giovanni Munoz, St. John the Evangelist, Marco Castillo, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Jose Ruvalcaba, St. Adalbert, taught two classes each, as did Fred and Lisa Everett, co-directors of the Office of Family Life.

Silva said an archbishop from Rome also came and taught a class, and the Franciscan Friars gave a full-day retreat as a closing to the program.

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

During the homily the bishop said: "Today is a great feast in which we celebrate the mystery of God's love. We can call this solemnity 'the feast of love' because we honor the heart that has loved so much, the heart of Jesus, the highest human expression of divine love."

He told them the Sacred Heart of Jesus is not an imaginary symbol, but a real one representing the source of salvation for all mankind. "From the heart of Jesus comes forgiveness and life for all men."

He referred to the first reading from the book of Deuteronomy, where Moses explained that the people of Israel were chosen. They were not chosen to be the most numerous, however, but rather to be the least numerous.

"In the Gospel of today Jesus also speaks of the little ones. And to be able to understand the love of God, this smallness

of heart is necessary," Bishop Rhoades said. "In this feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we acknowledge that in order to receive the love of God, we need to be humble, small, to make ourselves children. Only in that smallness, that lowering, can we receive God's love."

"We have to let the Lord take us by the hand. We have to open our hearts, as children and let the Lord love us."

Bishop Rhoades said that in their pride, many do not accept the love of God and don't feel they need his mercy — their hearts are closed.

"Today is a feast in which we show our gratitude, reverence and appreciation for the love of God revealed in the Sacred Heart of his Son. Today we contemplate the pierced heart of Jesus crucified. We hear his words, 'Bear with my yoke and learn from me that I am patient in heart and humble.'"

He told the graduates: "You who are prepared to serve in the ministry of the church, always remember that the church was born from the Sacred Heart of Jesus, from his pierced heart. The mission of the church is to proclaim the love of God revealed by his Son, our redeemer. This is a great mission."

The bishop said the world is full of systems that seek to build based on wealth, power, strength, science of pleasure but that is not the Christian system.

"Our mission, our job, is to proclaim love, salvation, redemption, eternal life. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is precisely the image that expresses our mission. It is the image of the infinite and merciful love that the Heavenly Father has poured into the world through his Son."

"The goal of all we do in the church must be to lead people to find this love. The love of the Heart of Christ can transform the human heart and bring true peace to the world," he said.

"As ministers of the church it is good to say this simple prayer, 'Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like yours'. Prayer is essential in our lives. Those who serve in the church especially have to recognize that we cannot serve well if we depend on ourselves. We need God, we need to find him, listen to him and talk

to him," Bishop said. "We must have the hearts of the little ones, the children, the poor in spirit. We find in the Lord, in his Sacred Heart, rest in the fatigues of our journey and in our work. The love of God strengthens us and inspires us to imitate His love in our service to others."

The bishop concluded by telling the graduates, "You have learned a lot in your classes, but the most important class, the most important education is the one we received in this school now — the school of the Eucharist. Our teacher is the Lord. We learn from his Sacred Heart humility, mercy and love. We receive his love in the great sacrament of his Body and Blood. Here we receive his grace that strengthens us in our mission and in our life as his disciple in a world that needs both his love and mercy."

At the end of Mass the bishop handed the certificates to the graduates and each took the opportunity to have a few words with the bishop and share an embrace.

Following the Mass, dozens of parishioners who had completed the 33 Days to Morning Glory Marian consecration retreat came forward to pray the consecration prayer with Bishop Rhoades. All knelt together before of a statue of Mary located in an alcove on the left side of the sanctuary, and prayed softly and reverently, as one. Silva said some had recently completed the retreat, while others were renewing their consecration.

Graduates of the St. John the Evangelist Education for Ministry Spanish-language program are: Claudia Altamirano, Arturo Benitez, Maria Benitez, Sandra Carrasco, Arturo Cervantes, Maria Cervantes, Marcela Gomez, Alma D. Gonzalez, Celina Gonzalez, Maria del C. Hernandez, Gilberto Locsa, Braulio Machado, Yolanda Machado, Rosa T. Munoz, Hilda Nunez, Lupe Ornelas-Pizana, Carlos Ortega, Esperanza Perez, Eloina Quiroz, Mirna Rodriguez, Juana Rosales-Marin, Jose Ruiz, Ana Salazar and Maribel Salgado.

The three women who participated in the program as a continuation of their previous Education for Ministry education are Ricarda Bizarro, Guillermina Ortega and Alejandra Serna.