

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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TODAYSCATHOLIC.org



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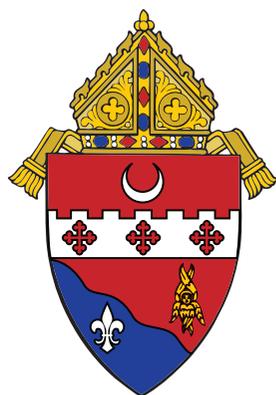
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Weekly Today's Catholic schedule resumes

Diocese publishes names of credibly accused priests and deacons



DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend published on Tuesday, Sept. 18, the names of the priests and deacons who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor.

During a news conference on Aug. 17, in which he made the announcement to release the names, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades stated the importance for victims to see the names of their abusers made public "for all to see. For everyone to know the pain caused by these priests." Bishop Rhoades added, "It is my hope that by releasing these names, the innocent victims of these horrific and heartbreaking crimes can finally begin the process of healing."

Bishop Rhoades reiterated the

diocese's commitment to protect children and young people, saying, "We must be vigilant in our efforts to protect our youth. With the Lord's guidance and love, we will do so."

The list of those credibly accused was developed with the assistance of the Diocesan Review Board, which was established to assist the bishop in complying with the requirements of The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and The Essential Norms. The Diocesan Review Board is comprised of mostly lay people, and its members assess all allegations of sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons presented in this diocese.

In the determination of credibility for the purpose of the list, Bishop Rhoades followed the recommendations of the Diocesan Review Board. Bishop Rhoades expressed gratitude for their expertise and counsel. A full list of Diocesan Review Board members and their biographies can be found on the diocesan website.

The list of the names of priests and deacons who have served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and have been credibly accused of at least one act of sexual abuse of a minor consists of: James Blume; Michael Buescher; Brian Carsten; William Ehrman; William Gieranowski; John Gillig; Gabriel Hernandez; Edward Krason; Paul LeBrun,

CSC; Thomas Lombardi; Robert Mahoney; Eldon Miller; Edward O. Paquette; Cornelius Ryan, CSC; James Seculoff; Richard Stieglitz; Richard Thompson; and James Trepanier, CSC.

For the purposes of this list, a "credible accusation" against a priest or deacon of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is an accusation that, after a thorough investigation and review of available information, appears more likely true than not in the judgment of the Diocesan Review Board, and is accepted as credible by the bishop.

If the accused is or was a member of a religious congrega-

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Sisters' presence in Huntington parish ends after 150 years

BY CINDY KLEPPER

For a century and a half, the School Sisters of Notre Dame have served SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington. On Sunday, Sept. 16, the parish celebrated that legacy with a Mass and a reception in the sisters' honor.

The sisters' presence in Huntington will come to an end in November with the retirements of Sister Miriam Therese Gill and Sister Loretta Bauer.

"Our physical presence here at SS. Peter and Paul may be ending soon," Sister Phyllis Marie Grzeczka told the parishioners who crowded into Father Rieder



Members of the School Sisters of Notre Dame were honored at a Mass on Sunday, Sept. 16, celebrating the religious order's 150 years of service to SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington. In the front row, from left are Sister Miriam Therese Gill, Sister Miriam Thomas Kessens, Sister Colleen Bauer and Sister Margaret Ann Murawski; and in the back row, Sister Loretta Bauer, associate Patricia Tocco, Sister Phyllis Marie Grzeczka and Sister Jan Gregorcich.

Cindy Klepper

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Bishop Rhoades exonerated of abuse allegation

FORT WAYNE — As a sobering wave of abuse allegations within the Roman Catholic Church in the U.S. continues to build, its full weight fell on the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend this month.

Recently, an allegation was filed in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, against Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades related to his time as Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The concern was reported to the Diocese of Harrisburg by the cousin of a young man who died in 1996. The concern claimed that the relationship between Bishop Rhoades and the young man seemed "odd." The Diocese of Harrisburg then reported it to the district attorney.

Numerous media outlets published and broadcast news of the allegation, which was obtained from an unknown source and against the wishes of Dauphin County District Attorney Francis Chardo.

The Office of the District Attorney of Dauphin County promptly, and thoroughly, investigated the allegation. On Thursday, Sept. 13, the results of the investigation were released.

Official statement of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend appreciates the swift and thorough investigation into the unsubstantiated allegation against Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. As anticipated, the investigation exonerated Bishop Rhoades. The district attorney found the allegation was without merit and stated, "After a full investigation, the Dauphin County District Attorney has determined that there is no basis to conclude that Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades ever engaged in a criminal or otherwise improper relationship." The relationship in question was "in the context of pastoral care and arose out of the recognized tradition of prison ministry."

While it's important that allegations be brought forward, it's equally important for due process to take place. The result of this investigation underscores the importance of allowing appropriate authorities to determine credibility of accusations before the reputation of any individual is impugned in the court of public opinion.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend stands firm in sympathy and support for all victims of child sexual abuse and encourages victims to report allegations. Bishop Rhoades expresses his gratitude for the support he has received from parishioners during the past week. He stated, "I have offered up the pain of this difficult time for the victim survivors of child sexual abuse."

The same media organizations that were quick to make public an unsubstantiated allegation against Bishop Rhoades, prior to its investigation by the Dauphin County District Attorney, have been asked to publicize in a similar manner his exoneration.

After a full and timely investigation, the



File photo

Dauphin County District Attorney determined that there was no basis to conclude that Bishop Rhoades ever engaged in a criminal or otherwise improper relationship with the teenager in question. A media release from the district attorney's office at the conclusion of the investigation notes that "the report by a member his [sic] family was made confidentially and without the expectation that it would be publicly aired. No witness has alleged observing any criminal or improper conduct by Bishop Rhoades with respect to (the young man referred to as) J.T. Bishop Rhoades and the family of J.T. fully cooper-

ated in the investigation."

"This has been a case of a public airing of mere speculation of impropriety with no foundation," a media release from the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office states. "In this case, the leaking of what turned out to be an unfounded report did unnecessary harm. This has done a disservice to actual victims of sexual abuse. It has also caused significant and unnecessary harm to Bishop Rhoades."

The Dauphin County District Attorney's Office now regards this case as closed.

Cathedral Museum moving to new location

FORT WAYNE — Cathedral Museum, the repository of Church artifacts owned by the Diocese of Fort Wayne — South Bend, has been granted permission by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to move from the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne to new location offering expanded exhibit space.

The former chancery of the diocese, located at 1102 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne, will be remodeled beginning this week to accommodate its new tenant. The build-

ing was most recently used as a residence for the Franciscan Brothers Minor; before that, it housed the offices of Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

In order to prepare for the move, the museum will close to the public on Friday, Sept. 21. Father Phillip Widmann, founder and director of the museum, said the anticipated reopening, in its new location, will take place early in the new year.

"We're very grateful to Bishop Rhoades

and the Diocese of Fort Wayne — South Bend for providing the Cathedral Museum with a new home," he said. "In our 38 years of existence, this beautiful and historic former chancery building puts us, for the first time, right in the center of the Fort Wayne tourist district. We look forward to continuing to serve the Catholic community by making the history of our faith come alive here in northern Indiana."

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tion, the credibility of an accusation was determined by the accused priest's religious congregation. The number of credible accusations received against each priest or deacon is noted. The ordination date for each priest and deacon named on the list is noted. Changes in the clerical status of each priest and deacon named, including dates of the changes, are noted. If the accused is deceased, his date of death is noted.

This list will be supplemented as appropriate based upon any future determinations of credible allegations.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend stands firm in its commitment to investigate any allegation of sexual abuse by a member of the clergy and to listen to and support anyone who has been abused. Please contact Mary Glowaski, victim's assistance coordinator, at mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org or 260-399-1458; or Father Mark Gurtner, JCL, vicar general, at 260-399-1422.

Detailed background of each credibly accused priest or deacon**James Blume**

Date of Ordination: June 14, 1980

Removed from Public Ministry: April 1989

Dismissed from Clerical State: June 23, 2007

Number of Credible Allegations: 5

Places Served:

July 7, 1980 – St. Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend, Indiana

July 7, 1982 – Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, Indiana

September 8, 1987 – St. Andrew/St. Hyacinth Parishes, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Current Status: Incarcerated

Michael Buescher

Date of Ordination: June 16, 1979

Removed from Parish Ministry: November 1989

Loss of Clerical State: May 14, 1991

Number of Credible Allegations: 6

Places Served:

July 9, 1979 – St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

August 1, 1983 – Part-time membership on the faculty of Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana; continuing at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 9, 1984 – Chaplain, Marian High School, Mishawaka, Indiana, with residency in the Marian High School rectory

August 8, 1985 – Culver Military Academy, coordinator of priests who offer Mass and provide spiritual guidance

December 20, 1985 – St. Francis Xavier Parish, Pierceton, Indiana

June 24, 1986 – St. Patrick Parish, Ligonier, Indiana; Blessed Sacrament Parish, Albion, Indiana

Brian Carsten

Date of Ordination: May 30, 1970

Terminated as Pastor and

Resigned as a Member of the

Roman Catholic Church: May 9, 1987

Dismissed from the Clerical State: June 23, 2007

Number of Credible Allegations: 1

Deceased: 3/27/2009

Places Served:

July 1, 1970 – St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, Indiana

July 2, 1973 – St. Henry Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 1, 1974 – St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 1, 1975 – Chaplain, Allen County Police, Fort Wayne, Indiana, with residence at St. Andrew Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 5, 1977 – St. Hyacinth Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 9, 1979 – St. Andrew Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana, while continuing

as pastor of St. Hyacinth Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

William Ehrman

Date of Ordination: June 10, 1922

Retired: July 1, 1970

Number of Credible Allegations: 8

Allegations received after the death of the priest.

Deceased: August 7, 1983

Places Served:

June 1922 – St. Patrick Parish, Kokomo, Indiana

January 1926 – St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Michigan City, Indiana; Chaplain at St. Anthony Hospital and Indiana State Prison

April 12, 1929 – Immaculate Conception Parish, Kendallville, Indiana; St. Patrick Mission Parish, Ligonier, Indiana

July 8, 1939 – St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, Indiana

September 1, 1964 – St. Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

William Gieranowski

Date of Ordination: June 11, 1949

Retired: July 1, 1981

Number of Credible Allegations: 3

Allegations received after the death of the priest.

Deceased: April 24, 2000

Places Served:

July 7, 1949 – St. Stanislaus Parish, East Chicago, Indiana

April 20, 1951 – St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend, Indiana

July 3, 1951 – St. Thomas More Parish, Munster, Indiana

May 20, 1955 – St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, Indiana

January 15, 1960 – St. Henry Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

June 15, 1960 – St. Jude Parish, South Bend, Indiana

September 1, 1964 – St. Hyacinth Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 1, 1970 – St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana

July 6, 1978 – St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle, Indiana

John Gillig

Date of Ordination: May 25, 1957

Retired: April 26, 1988

Suspended from all Public

Ministry: March 25, 2002

Dismissed from Clerical State:

February 8, 2008

Number of Credible Allegations: 9

Deceased: July 27, 2011

Places Served:

June 7, 1957 – Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend, Indiana

February 15, 1958 – St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana

June 15, 1962 – St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

August 30, 1963 – Teacher, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana

June 13, 1964 – Director of CYO and CYA, Fort Wayne Deanery

June 15, 1972 – Sacred Heart Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

April 18, 1974 – Chaplain, Allen County Jail, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 5, 1977 – St. Mary of the Assumption Parish – Decatur, Indiana

September 17, 1985 – Holy Family Parish, South Bend, Indiana

November 15, 1986 – St. Peter Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Gabriel Hernandez

Date of Diaconate Ordination:

April 27, 2008

Dismissed from Seminary: April 22, 2009

Dismissed from the Clerical State: February 25, 2010

Number of Credible Allegations: 1

Edward Krason

Date of Ordination: February 3, 1958

Resigned as Pastor: July 8, 1998

Ordered to Cease All Ministry: April 16, 1999

Retired: May 1, 1999

Removed Faculties to Perform Ministry and to Present Himself as a Priest: March 21, 2003

Ordered to a Life of Prayer and

Penance: November 8, 2005

Number of Credible Allegations: 2

Deceased: March 25, 2013

Places Served:

February 15, 1958 – St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

September 2, 1960 – Teacher, Central Catholic High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana

August 14, 1961 – SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Huntington, Indiana; director of guidance, Huntington Catholic High School, Huntington, Indiana

June 1, 1963 – Principal, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 9, 1979 – Continuing Education, University of Notre Dame

July 7, 1980 – Continuing Education of the clergy with residence at Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 11, 1983 – St. Joseph Parish, Garrett, Indiana

July 22, 1986 – St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana

August 1990 – St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen, Indiana

LIST, page 4**Report abuse**

It remains important for our Church to protect children and young persons from the evils of abuse. To abuse a child is a sin. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend remains committed to upholding and following its guidelines, policies and procedures that were implemented for the protection of children and young people. These can be reviewed on the diocese's website, www.diocesefwsb.org, under "Safe Environment."

If you have reason to believe that a child may be a victim of child abuse or neglect, Indiana law requires that you report this to civil authorities. If you or someone you know was abused as a child or young person by an adult, you are encouraged to notify appropriate civil authorities of that abuse. In addition, if the alleged abuser is or was a priest or deacon of the Catholic Church, you are encouraged to contact Mary Glowaski, victim assistance coordinator, at 260-399-1458; or mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org; or Msgr. Robert Schulte, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, at P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46801, 260-399-1419; or mraatz@fw.diocesefwsb.org. The diocese is committed to helping prevent the abuse or neglect of children and young people and to assist those who claim to have suffered harm as a result of such abuse.

Es importante para nuestra Iglesia proteger a los niños y jóvenes de los males del abuso. Abusar a un niño es pecado. La Diócesis de Fort Wayne-South Bend se compromete a mantener y seguir las reglas, pólizas y procedimientos que fueron implementados para la protección de niños/niñas y personas jóvenes. Estos pueden leerse en la página web de la diócesis, www.diocesefwsb.org, bajo la sección "Ambiente Seguro," o "Safe Environment."

Si usted tiene motivo de creer que un niño(a) es víctima de abuso o negligencia, la ley de Indiana requiere que usted reporte esto a las autoridades civiles. Si usted o alguien que usted conoce fue abusado, ya sea niño o persona joven, por un adulto, se le recomienda notificar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas de ese abuso. También, si el alegado abusador es o fue un sacerdote o diácono de la Iglesia Católica, le se le insta a comunicarse con Mary Glowaski, coordinadora de ayuda para víctimas, al 260-399-1458 o mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org; o con el Monseñor Robert Schulte, vicario general de la Diócesis de Fort Wayne-South Bend, al P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46801; 260-399-1419; o mraatz@fw.diocesefwsb.org. La diócesis se compromete a ayudar a prevenir el abuso o negligencia de niños y personas jóvenes y dar ayuda a quienes reclaman haber sufrido daño como el resultado de tal abuso.

Complimentary Catholic burial planned for cremated remains

FORT WAYNE — Divine Mercy Funeral Home and Catholic Cemetery announce plans to provide, free of charge, a committal service and a final resting place for cremated remains on Wednesday, Oct. 17.

In accordance with the Rite of Christian Burial, cremated remains are to be buried or placed in a marked mausoleum. Many times, families are unable to afford this cost, and therefore choose to keep the cremated remains of a loved one in their home.

"Anyone who presents us with the cremated remains of their Catholic loved one will be afforded the opportunity to place their cremated remains at rest in Catholic Cemetery," stated Casey Miller, executive director of Divine Mercy Funeral Home. "It is important to us because the committal service is a vital step in the grieving process and allowing future generations of the family to pay tribute, remember and pray for the deceased

relative or acquaintance."

The committal service will take place at Divine Mercy Funeral Home, 3500 Lake Ave., Fort Wayne, at 2 p.m., with Msgr. Robert Schulte presiding. Burial will take place immediately after the committal service.

Families that wish to participate in the committal service and interment of ashes should call the cemetery office at 260-426-2044 no later than Oct. 10 to schedule an appointment with a cemetery representative.

The leadership of Catholic Cemetery and Divine Mercy Funeral Home hope that this outreach will give comfort to those grieving for their loved ones, while also maintaining the dignity of each person. "It is a part of our mission to carry out the works of mercy in burying the dead and comfort, in Catholic tradition, those who have lost someone they love," stated Bob Jesch, Divine Mercy Funeral Home managing director.

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Paul LeBrun, CSC

Date of Ordination: April 9, 1983
Faculties for Ministry Removed from Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: April 2000
Dismissed from Clerical State: August 26, 2008
Number of Credible Allegations: 1 (from Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend)
Places Served: St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 Blessed Sacrament Parish, Tolleson, Arizona
 St. John Vianney Parish, Goodyear, Arizona
Current Status: Incarcerated

Thomas Lombardi

Date of Ordination: May 31, 1975
Removed from Public Ministry During Investigation of Allegation: December 2, 2011
Removed from Public Ministry: August 9, 2015
Number of Credible Allegations: 1
Deceased: December 28, 2017
Places Served: July 1, 1975 - St. Mary Parish, Huntington, Indiana
 September 1, 1977 - Faculty, Huntington Catholic High School, Huntington, Indiana; residency at St. Mary Parish, Huntington, Indiana, available for weekend duties.
 September 12, 1977 - Chaplain, Huntington Catholic High School, Huntington, Indiana
 August 1, 1983 - St. Mary Parish, Huntington, Indiana; principal,

Huntington Catholic High School
 July 9, 1984 - St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana
 June 1985 - American College Louvain, Belgium
 July 1, 1986 - St. Louis, Besancon Parish, New Haven, Indiana
 July 28, 1997 - St. Joseph Parish, Garrett, Indiana
 July 6, 2006 - St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 November 11, 2009 - Chaplain, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Robert Mahoney

Date of Ordination: May 27, 1967
Resigned from Ministry as a Priest: June 15, 1993
Dismissed from Clerical State: July 25, 2006
Number of Credible Allegations: 4
Places Served: July 1, 1967 - St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 August 31, 1968 - St. Bavo Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana
 July 7, 1980 - Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 February 28, 1984 - St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester, Indiana
 August 1988 - Chaplain, Ancilla Domini Convent, Donaldson, Indiana

Eldon Miller

Date of Ordination: May 8, 1954
Retired: 7/15/2003
Removed from Public Ministry: December 18, 2006
Number of Credible Allegations: 2
Deceased: 7/26/2008
Places Served: June 11, 1954 - St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana

July 1, 1971 - St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke, Indiana; St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish, Nix Settlement, Columbia City, Indiana
 July 1, 1974 - St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 July 9, 1984 - Immaculate Conception Parish, Kendallville, Indiana
 February 10, 1988 - Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana

Edward O. Paquette

Date of Ordination: February 2, 1957
Faculties for Ministry Removed from Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: July 14, 1978
Dismissed from Clerical State: January 31, 2009
Number of Credible Allegations: 7
Places Served: April 15, 1964 - St. Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 September 1, 1964 - St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, Indiana
 September 1, 1965 - St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur, Indiana
 August 13, 1969 - Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 June 5, 1971 - St. Anthony Hospital, Michigan City, Indiana
 June 19, 1972 - Christ the King Parish, Rutland, Vermont

Cornelius Ryan, CSC

Date of Ordination: June 9, 1966
Faculties for Ministry Removed from Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: June 10, 2013
Number of Credible Allegations: 1
 Allegation made outside the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Places Served:

Uganda & Kenya until 2002
 September 19, 2002 to July 1, 2007 - Associate pastor at St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, South Bend
 July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2011 - Pastor at St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, South Bend
 December 13, 2011 - June 10, 2013 - St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel Parish, Fort Wayne

James Seculoff

Date of Ordination: May 26, 1962
Removed from Public Ministry During Investigation of Allegation: January 8, 2014
Removal from Public Ministry: October 13, 2015
Number of Credible Allegations: 5
Places Served: June 15, 1962 - St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana
 August 16, 1963 - St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana; teacher, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 September 1, 1964 - Teacher, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 June 15, 1965 - SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Huntington, Indiana; principal, Huntington Catholic High School, Huntington, Indiana
 July 1, 1970 - Superintendent of Catholic Schools; principal of Huntington Catholic School, Huntington, Indiana; Chaplain for St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 July 1, 1974 - Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 February 14, 1978 - St. John Bosco Parish, Churubusco, Indiana; Immaculate Conception Parish, Ege, Indiana; continuing as superintendent of Catholic Schools
 July 6, 1978 - St. Mary Parish, Huntington, Indiana
 June 18, 1979 - SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Huntington, Indiana; continuing at St. Mary Parish, Huntington, Indiana

August 1, 1983 - St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester, Indiana; director of Campus Ministry, Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana
 February 28, 1984 - Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 May 21, 1987 - Sacred Heart Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 July 8, 1992 - St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Avilla, Indiana
 June 21, 1994 - St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish, Bristol, Indiana
 August 3, 2004 - St. John the Baptist Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 July 17, 2007 - St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, Indiana
 June 5, 2013 - St. Patrick Parish, Walkerton, Indiana

Richard Stieglitz

Date of Ordination: May 26, 1973
Decree of Suspension from all Acts of Ministry: December 7, 1993
Dismissal from the Clerical State: July 7, 2007
Number of Credible Allegations: 5
Places Served: July 2, 1973 - Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 July 11, 1973 - Chaplain, Anthony Wayne Council of Catholic Boy Scouts
 February 4, 1974 - Chaplain, Fort Wayne Serra Club
 July 1, 1976 - Holy Family Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 February 19, 1977 - Holy Family Parish, South Bend, Indiana (weekends); Sacred Heart Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana (weekdays)
 September 1, 1977 - St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 July 6, 1978 - Chaplain, Catholic Committee on Scouting, Fort Wayne area; continuing at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 July 9, 1979 - Faculty, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana
 August 1, 1983 - Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, Indiana
 August 1, 1988 - Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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High Efficiency Windows



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Richard Thompson

Date of Ordination: June 17, 1978
Resigned from Active Ministry as a Priest: October 24, 1989
Loss of Clerical State: July 25, 2006
Deceased: 2015
Number of Credible Allegations: 1
Places Served:
 July 6, 1978 – St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven, Indiana
 February 15, 1982 – Covenant House, New York (Home for Runaway Children)
 April 14, 1983 – St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, Indiana
 July 11, 1983 – St. Mary of the Presentation Parish, Geneva, Indiana

James Trepanier, CSC

Date of Ordination: June 8, 1955
Faculties for Ministry Removed from Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: October 18, 2002
Number of Credible Allegations: 1 in Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
Places Served:
 University of Portland, Portland, Oregon
 Holy Cross Mission House (Fatima) July 1, 1981 – June 30, 1987 - Holy Cross Parish, South Bend, Indiana
 July 1, 1987 – June 4, 1991 - St. Pius X Parish, Granger, Indiana
 1994 - St. Mary's Convent, Notre Dame, Indiana

After meeting pope, cardinal says he's hopeful about addressing crisis

BY GREG ERLANDSON

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston struck a determinedly hopeful tone after his long-awaited meeting with Pope Francis to discuss the growing sexual abuse crisis in the United States.

"I myself am filled with hope," he said, "but I also realize all these things might take purpose and time."

The cardinal spoke following a noon meeting Sept. 13 at the Vatican. Cardinal DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was joined in his meeting with the pope by: Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston, president of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors; Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, vice president of the USCCB; and Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield, general secretary of the conference.

"The Holy Father is the important figure for us in this," Cardinal DiNardo said. "He sees the problem all over the Church and throughout the world."

While the cardinal did not want to discuss the specifics of the private meeting beyond a statement released by the U.S. bishops, he did describe the encounter as "very, very fruitful."

"It was lengthy, and we shared a lot of thoughts and ideas together," the cardinal told Catholic News Service, "so I found the meeting very good from that point of view."
 "The pope is well-informed," the cardinal said, "and he's also very, very attentive to what has happened to abuse victims in the Church in the United States."

It had been a whirlwind week for the cardinal. He arrived in Rome on Sept. 12 following a meeting with the U.S. bishops' Administrative Committee, which consists of conference officers, regional representatives and the chairs of all the conference committees. Its task was to set the agenda for the November general assembly in Baltimore of all of the country's bishops.

Cardinal DiNardo described the Administrative Committee meeting as "sober."

"I thought there was a good deal of unity of the bishops on where we need to go" and on the fact that "we have to move into



CNS photo/Bob Roller

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, concelebrates Mass at the Convocation of Catholic Leaders in 2017 in Orlando, Fla.

action" in terms of addressing the abuse crisis, he said. The cardinal said the bishops must be "united in purpose on solutions."

Cardinal DiNardo originally announced Aug. 16 that he was requesting a meeting with Pope Francis. The request followed the release of the Pennsylvania grand jury report on sexual abuse cases in six Pennsylvania dioceses and the announcement of credible allegations of child sexual abuse committed by Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, the former cardinal-archbishop of Washington.

In his statement Aug. 16, Cardinal DiNardo said the USCCB Executive Committee had established three goals: "an investigation into the questions surrounding Archbishop McCarrick; an opening of new and confidential channels for reporting complaints against bishops; and advocacy for more effective resolution of future complaints."

When asked about the three priorities after the meeting with the pope, the cardinal said: "I think we can make movement on those things. I think we have

to do it step by step."

Since Aug. 1, Cardinal DiNardo has issued five statements responding to various aspects of the sexual abuse crisis and has called for greater transparency and accountability in the Church, particularly on the part of the bishops.

When asked what role there could be for Catholic media, he said they "have to tell the truth, and they have to tell the truth in a way that is very balanced." Acknowledging the anger and even "rage" among some commentators, he said the task of Catholic media is "speaking the truth, but never forgetting the role of charity."

When asked where he finds hope during the current wave of scandals and controversy, he said, "Our trust is in the Lord."

"Even the pope today mentioned the cross, that you need to ... be crucified with the Lord — that's the only way you can deal with this, go through it. You have to listen to other people, and you hope that in that shared vision of mission, of cooperating together, you grow in hope."

Catholic Charities distributes disaster relief to areas hit by Florence

RALEIGH, N.C. (CNS) — The Carolinas were hard hit with record rainfall and flooding rivers from tropical storm Florence since it made landfall Sept. 14. And although the storm was downgraded from a hurricane to a Category 1 tropical storm, it still caused extensive water damage.

At least 24 people died in storm-related incidents, tens of thousands of homes were damaged and about 500,000 homes and businesses were still without power Sept. 17.

Prior to the storm, Catholic Charities of South Carolina was preparing to help those in need. Kelly Kaminski, director of disaster services for Catholic Charities, said the agency activated its Emergency Operations Center and disaster services team Sept. 10 and had been coordinating with county emergency management teams, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Catholic Charities USA.

It has been working with local partners to have water, cleaning supplies, baby items and other needed supplies readily available in areas along the coast.

Catholic Charities USA has set up its website donation page and text-to-give platform to help individuals and families impacted by Hurricane Florence. As it did in response to last year's hurricanes, the agency forwards 100 percent of funds raised to the local Catholic Charities agencies that serve the affected communities.

Those wishing to donate can text CCUSADISASTER to 71777 or call (800) 919-9338.

"We are praying for those affected by the storm," said Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA.

"Unfortunately, those most impacted by natural disasters are the individuals and families who are already struggling to make ends meet.

"But thanks to the generosity of our donors, the most vulnerable have their immediate needs met and the long-term recovery support they need to rebuild their lives," she said in a statement.

Catholic Charities USA said its staff members are prepared to deploy to local agencies that may need additional support. Its mobile response unit also is standing by to be sent to the region. The vehicle can be packed with nonperishable food items, health and hygiene kits and bottled water, all of which are ready for distribution. A trailer connected to the vehicle contains a washer and dryer that will allow survivors to clean their clothes. The mobile response unit also can be used as a field office.

Two charity organizations, Food for the Poor and Matthew 25, had teamed up and coordinated efforts with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh to distribute disaster relief supplies to the hardest hit areas.

Food for the Poor received three tractor-trailer loads of goods from Matthew 25: Ministries for the relief effort with water, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, paper towels and toilet paper to be distributed by Catholic Charities.

Daniel Altenau, director of communications and disaster services for Catholic Charities in Raleigh, said a disaster can be one of the most traumatic things a family can experience.

"We are working with local partner agencies to address the immediate needs of families across central and eastern North Carolina," he said.

Altenau said Catholic Charities was grateful for the support from Food for the Poor, noting: "We know that no one can recover from a disaster this big alone, and no single agency can meet all the needs of survivors. But, as a community, we can care for our neighbors in need."



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NEWS BRIEFS

Down to earth: Vatican brings together world's meteorite curators

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Rocks, mineral debris and even dust from space are kept in special collections, museums and laboratories all over the world, and the Vatican Observatory took the first small step to help curators make a giant leap in coordinating their efforts globally. Staffed by a team of Jesuit scientists, the Vatican Observatory held the first-ever workshop on the curation and conservation of meteorites and extraterrestrial samples — that is, specimens gathered during missions in space, like the Apollo moon rocks or stardust captured from a comet's tail. The event, hosted Sept. 10-13 at the observatory headquarters in the gardens of the papal summer residence, brought together 30 curators and collections' managers representing 27 different institutions from all over the world. The gathering also had the support of the Meteoritical Society. "For many years, each meteorite collection was curated more or less independently, with the individual curators working out their own practices for the care and preservation of the specimens, mostly under policies of their particular institutions that were very different from that of other institutions," Jesuit Brother Robert Macke, curator of the Vatican Meteorite Collection, told Catholic News Service.

Algerian martyrs to be beatified Dec. 8 in Algeria

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The beatification of 19 martyrs of Algeria, including the seven Trappist monks of Tibhirine, will be celebrated Dec. 8 in Oran, Algeria, the country's bishops announced. Cardinal Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, will preside over the Mass and beatification rite for the six women and 13 men who gave their lives "for the least, the sick and the men, women and young people of Algeria," said a statement published by the bishops Sept. 13. The martyrs "are given to us as intercessors and models of Christian life, friendship and fraternity, encounter and dialogue," the bishops said. "May their example help us in our life today. From Algeria, their beatification will be an impetus and a call for the Church and for the world to build together a world of peace and fraternity." The 19 martyrs were killed between 1993 and 1996 while Algeria was locked in a 10-year-long armed conflict between government forces and extremist Islamic rebel groups; the conflict left tens of thousands of people dead.

Hurricane Florence recovery



CNS photo/Jonathan Drake, Reuters

A statue of an angel is partially submerged by floodwaters Sept. 16 in the cemetery of a church where residents took shelter in Leland, N.C., and later evacuated following Hurricane Florence. The storm, which became a tropical depression over the weekend, as of Monday was poised to affect more than 10 million throughout the week of Sept. 17. At least 17 people died as a result of the storm.

Kurtz: U.S. society 'much richer' when Church, government work together

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty told a Washington audience Sept. 12 he is concerned about a "steady movement" in the U.S. away from religious institutions and an erosion in the view that religious liberty must be valued. The public-private partnership of the government and the Church is necessary to serve all people's needs, said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky. He reviewed a number of current challenges to religious liberty, including an effort to exclude Catholic agencies from providing adoption and foster care services over the issue of same-sex couples. Before his main address at the Catholic Information Center, Archbishop Kurtz commented on the current abuse scandal in the Church, in particular the credible allegations of child sexual abuse commit-

ted by Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, the former cardinal-archbishop of Washington. He also has been accused of sexual misconduct with seminarians. "I felt angry, I felt hurt, and I felt embarrassed" over the revelations about Archbishop McCarrick, he said. "We've worked hard in trying to make sure young people ... would be safe."

Catholics join other Christians in calling for admitting more refugees

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Christians in the U.S. have taken the Trump administration to task for a dramatic drop in the numbers of persecuted Christian and other refugees being admitted into the country, even though administration officials promised last year to help. While administration officials vowed on several occasions to help Christians in the Middle East facing what Vice President Mike Pence last year called an "exodus" from their

ancestral lands, U.S. Christian groups trying to help them condemned the dramatic drop of refugees the Trump administration allowed into the United States last year and this year. The Refugees Council USA said in a statement that policies "clearly aimed at Muslim refugees, ensure that Christians and other religious minorities from many of the countries on Trump's list of suspect travel ban nations are also kept out. It suggests that the president has no real interest in religious persecution or the tenets of religious freedom." The U.S. Department of State recently released figures showing that 14,289 Christian refugees were admitted in 2018, compared to 25,162 the previous year.

Book tells about behind-the-scenes search for St. Peter's bones

HOUSTON (CNS) — Two Houston men shared a journey through centuries of history and a

decadeslong archaeological dig under the Vatican to unveil a story reminiscent of adventurer archaeologist Indiana Jones, complete with German Nazis in Rome. For legendary oilman George Strake and *New York Times* best-selling author John O'Neill, the buried treasure was based on Matthew 16:18, when Jesus said: "You are Peter, and upon this rock, I will build my church." O'Neill's recently released book "The Fisherman's Tomb: The True Story of the Vatican's Secret Search" highlights Strake's involvement in clandestinely funding the excavation to find the long-lost bones of St. Peter, traditionally known as the first pope. Because Christians still are being persecuted in the Middle East and other parts of the world, O'Neill said he is donating proceeds from his book to Catholic Relief Services to help those persecuted because of their faith. He and fellow book researcher Sarah Wynne are beginning work on a movie screenplay based on the secret excavation that began in 1939 when a workman helping to dig a grave and chapel for deceased Pope Pius XI fell through a floor that gave way. "We want the opening scene to be the workman falling through the floor and finding himself surrounded by statues and colorful artwork around tombs of mostly Roman pagans," Wynne said. The search works through multiple twists and turns and character personality clashes, finally succeeding in finding relics in 1942. Bones were pulled from a marble-lined niche wall of buried ancient graffiti inscribed with codes of "T" for the crucifixion, "R" for resurrection and the inscription "Peter is here."

U.S. bishops tell pope abuse scandal 'lacerated' the Church

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The leaders of the U.S. bishops' conference said they shared with Pope Francis how the Church in the United States has been "lacerated by the evil of sexual abuse. He listened very deeply from the heart," said a statement released after the meeting Sept. 13. Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, met the pope at the Vatican along with Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston, president of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors; Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, vice president of the USCCB; and Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield, general secretary of the conference. The USCCB statement described the encounter as "a lengthy, fruitful and a good exchange," but did not enter into details about what was discussed or whether any concrete measures were taken or promised. "We look forward to actively continuing our discernment together, identifying the most effective next steps," the statement said.

World Apostolate of Fatima Mass and breakfast

FORT WAYNE — The World Apostolate of Fatima, Fort Wayne-South Bend Division, will host its annual Mass and breakfast Saturday, Oct. 6, beginning at 7:30 a.m. with confession, rosary and a First Saturday meditation at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1122 S. Clinton St. Mass will begin at 9 a.m. Concelebrants for the Mass will be Father Glenn Kohrman and Father Robert Garrow.

After Mass, a Marian procession will take place from the cathedral to the Grand Wayne Center, 120 W. Jefferson Blvd., where breakfast will be served. Guest speaker at the breakfast will be Father Joseph Mary Wolfe, MFVA, chaplain of Eternal Word Television Network.

Father Joseph initially came to work at EWTN in 1985 as an engineer. Two years later, he became one of the founding members of the men's community that Mother Angelica founded in 1987: the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word. The motto of the friars is: "The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back." The brothers realized their mission by utilizing modern means of communication, reaching millions of souls throughout the world.

Father Joseph was ordained to the priesthood in 1993 and often celebrates the daily televised Mass. He also has produced a pro-life rosary that airs on Saturdays, and a television

AROUND THE DIOCESE

New school year safety



Provided by Jill Hamblin

Students at St. Joseph School in Garrett participated in an evacuation drill in the event of a school bus emergency. Bob Blotkamp, bus driver, conducted the drill. St. Joseph School owns a standard-size bus that transports students in the Garrett, Auburn, Waterloo and Angola areas to the school.

series on the faith of farmers in his homeland of Eastern Iowa, titled "Faith in the Heartland." He hosts an ongoing EWTN television series on lay movements in the Church, titled "The Church Universal."

For breakfast reservations contact Theresa Schortgen at 260-494-6444 or ctschorngen1980@frontier.com.

Bishop Luers announces Distinguished Knight Award recipients

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School announced the 2018 recipients of the Distinguished Knight Award and the Honorary Distinguished Knight Award after a Mass opening homecoming festivities on Sept. 14.

Bruce Keller, a graduate of the Class of 1966, was the recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Knight Award. Keller spent many years working for a city government in Illinois, helping improve the community for people he served.

Robert Heiny is the 2018 Honorary Distinguished Knight Award recipient. Heiny, 96, remembers when Bishop Luers High School opened its doors in 1958 and welcomed the very first class of students.

In May, the University of Saint Francis' board of trustees and USF's president, Sister Elise Kriss, awarded Heiny an honorary doctor of humane letters at commencement for his lifetime accomplishments and service to God and his community.

Bishop Dwenger High School selected to help lead March for Life

FORT WAYNE — Catholic dioceses, colleges, universities and high schools, including Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, have traveled to Washington, D.C., each January to stand up for life through a prayerful protest known as the national March for Life.

Each year, one college is selected to lead the March for Life by carrying the March for Life banner at the front of the march, in front of hundreds of thousands of praying protesters. One high school is also selected to carry the March for Life flags. Carl Loesch, Secretary for Education for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, announced to the Bishop Dwenger community Tuesday, Sept. 18, that in recognition of its steadfast commitment to life, the honor and responsibility of being this year's flag bearers has been given to Bishop Dwenger High School.

In Fort Wayne, since its earliest days, Bishop Dwenger High School students have lived out their Catholic faith by standing for life. Years ago, the Saints for Life Club was founded, and for decades Bishop Dwenger students prayed in front of the former abortion clinic in Fort Wayne every Thursday morning

at 7 a.m. Thanks to their prayers and those of many others, consistent witness for life and the work of the pro-life community in Fort Wayne, that abortion clinic closed. At the present time, there is not an abortion clinic anywhere in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Recently, the Fort Wayne Planned Parenthood office also closed.

In addressing the school community to share the news, Loesch noted: "While we are certainly appreciative of this recognition, we accept this responsibility with heavy hearts and great humility. We are mindful of the millions of babies who have died. We are mindful of the millions of women who have been hurt by abortion. We pray that someday soon our nation will be freed from the evil of abortion, and we will not need a national March for Life. We pray for a greater respect for life from conception to natural death."

The next March for Life will take place on Friday, Jan. 18. Students and chaperones wishing to participate can register at www.fwsbym.com/march-for-life.



CNS photo/Jim Scalzo, EPA

High school youth and chaperones from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will attend the National March for Life in January. This year, Bishop Dwenger High School has been selected to carry the March for Life flags at the front of the parade.

Taking the faith from high school to college

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

Andy is 18 and a high school graduate. He spent his entire adolescence in a private Catholic school, including preschool, and is now off to a public college setting. How does he move into adulthood and college life while still living a life of faith?

"The most important thing college students can do is go to Mass," said Tami Goy, pastoral minister at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend. "Participating in the Mass and receiving Communion is key for all of us to stay connected to God and His grace in our lives."

College students face challenges to their faith, but also opportunities. As young people leave the nest for the first time, they learn to define their own faith, instead of following the path taken by their family.

"I think one among many challenges is discovering the personal relevancy of their faith — the 'why' for their beliefs. During college and young adulthood, faith demands a much deeper personal commitment beyond just a habit carried over from childhood. I think growing into a deep friendship with Jesus and a strong community of faith are the keys to building a foundation where the 'personal why' of faith can unfold and take root," noted TheaMarie Burns, Campus Ministry assistant for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Jason Garrett, campus minister at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, noted that most secular colleges and universities have a Cardinal Newman Center on or close to campus. Newman Centers are generally run through a local parish and connect college stu-

dents to a church for attending Mass, as well as other possibilities for staying involved with the Church. Joining will provide students with a group of other young Catholics to help support them as they live out their faith in their college years.

"At IUSB, we have been focusing on two areas, outreach on campus and deeper formation for Catholic students who are already committed disciples. For outreach, we have roundtable discussions, social events like game nights, opportunities for service projects, the Awakening Retreat and right now a four-part series on prayer. For our Core Team, we are starting a discipleship group to provide a place to discuss some of the challenges of faith they experience and provide tools for outreach to their peers," said Burns.

The World Wide Web can also be a helpful guide in one's spiritual journey.

According to Goy, there are a vast number of websites and apps to help young people. Newmanconnection.com helps students find Newman Centers and local parishes near their university campus. She noted that the mobile apps Laudate and The Better Part are helpful tools as well.

Garrett said he has found the website www.mycatholic.com helpful, along with the apps Catholic Confession, the Lives of the Saints and The Holy Catholic Bible.

"There is also a book I like to give to students who are going off to college. It's called 'God has Great Plans for You,' by Michael Tabors. It has short chapters, with great reflections and action plans to help see God's plan for their life," noted Goy.



Facebook

At Purdue Fort Wayne, a vibrant Catholic student group called Mastodon Catholic celebrated its first "Mass on the Grass" of the 2018-19 school year on Sept. 14. Groups like Mastodon Catholic and the national network of Newman Centers work to nourish the faith of new and returning college students and help them develop their personal practice of the faith.

Esther Terry to head Hispanic Ministry, special projects for diocese

FORT WAYNE — In the Secretariat for Evangelization & Discipleship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Hispanic Ministry has been energized by the addition of new Director for Hispanic Ministry and Special Projects Esther Terry.

Deacon Frederick Everett, head of the secretariat, said Terry is a "great addition" to the diocesan evangelization team because of her wealth of energy, insight and enthusiasm.

Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, Terry's vibrant, evangelical Protestant family instilled in her a love for Scripture and a sense of mission, and a desire to serve God and others. She attended Hillsdale College, graduating in 2008, after which she began working at the University of Notre Dame. She found a home in the Catholic Church and was confirmed in 2010.



ESTHER TERRY

At Notre Dame, she worked coordinating events, special projects and publications in the Kellogg Institute for International Studies from 2008 to 2011. She completed a Master of

Theological Studies degree, with a concentration in moral theology, in 2013.

Terry worked in 2013-14 with Notre Dame's Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights, as project director for the online database of Catholic Social Teaching and Human Rights documents now known as "Convocate." She was also director of the highly successful Camino program at Notre Dame's McGrath Institute for Church Life, and worked with dioceses across the country to offer online theology courses in Spanish for adult faith formation from 2013 to 2018.

In her new role, Terry will not only help with special projects within the Secretariat for Evangelization & Discipleship, "but she will oversee our outreach efforts with our Hispanic brothers and sisters — especially young adults, engaged and

married couples," said Deacon Everett.

As Director of Hispanic Ministry, she will support adults and young adults within the Hispanic/Latino community as they encounter Jesus Christ, and share that encounter with others. That may include, for example, working on a retreat for marriage preparation or meeting with recently ordained Hispanic deacons, giving an Education for Ministry talk in Spanish, or working with the Office of Worship Director Brian MacMichael to plan workshops for Spanish-speaking liturgical ministers.

During her first year, Terry said she also plans to do a lot of listening. "I want to learn the needs of our communities through conversations with our priests, parishioners, deacons, lay ministers and young

adults, and then set priorities for next steps based on what emerges from that dialogue."

She's looking forward to "supporting the work of parishes, finding ways to help them grow in their capacity to carry out the mission of evangelization," she added.

"I also look forward to serving as a liaison with other diocesan secretariats and offices, promoting collaboration and sharing resources, both to serve the Hispanic community as well as to help the Hispanic community share the richness of their faith and culture with the wider Church," she said. "Since I've spent the last 10 years working at Notre Dame, I also know of many resources the university offers, and I hope we can find ways to partner with them."

Diocesan confirmation retreat gathers hundreds

BY DEB WAGNER

A confirmation retreat for eighth-grade students took place Saturday, Sept. 15, at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne. Nearly 400 students participated in the daylong retreat, which focused on prayer, reconciliation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are received in the sacrament of confirmation.

Students belonged to one of three groups for the day, differentiated by color of T-shirt. This differentiation facilitated the movement of groups for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and reconciliation, lunch and games.

John Pratt, director of Youth Ministry for the diocese, said: "The purpose of the diocesan confirmation retreat is to allow youth to have a day to encounter the joy of our faith, as a diocese. It's a day of catechesis on prayer, confirmation and the Holy Spirit's gifts. Ultimately, we hope our young people vibrantly encounter the love of God."

The day began with praise and worship songs. Third-year theology student, seminarian David Pellican of the Archdiocese of Detroit, explained how fortunate people in the United States are to be able to practice the Catholic faith publicly. When he was in China recently, he learned that practicing his Catholic faith openly was forbidden, so he and others participated in Mass secretly on the top floor of a steel factory whose owner was Catholic.



Deb Wagner

Candidates celebrated Mass at the beginning of a confirmation retreat Sept. 15 at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne.

It was with this sense of privilege that the bilingual Mass began in the school's gym, with celebrant Father Mark Gurtner.

Father Gurtner's homily spoke to the day being the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows, and how the feast day relates to confirmation. He said the feast day recalls Mary suffering at the foot of her Son's cross, and that this remembrance goes beyond the levels of normal grief because God allowed Mary to witness a mystical event. Recalling the account of the Roman soldier who pierced Jesus' side, students were reminded that Mary was spiritually pierced, so that she shared in the suffering of

Jesus in order to save the world. Mary is a partner with Jesus and wants us to be partners with Him by following in the footsteps of Mary in receiving of the gift of confirmation, he said.

After Mass, Father Royce Gregerson gave a presentation on prayer. He said that prayer was awkward for many, including him at times. He cited the Gospel of Luke, where the Apostles ask Jesus to teach them how to pray. The method to prayer is The Lord's Prayer, he said, and proceeded to explain exactly how each part of The Lord's Prayer teaches us to pray.

For example, Father Gregerson said, "Our Father, Who art in

heaven, hallowed be Thy name" means, "holy is the Lord."

"In prayer, God comes first. It's not about me, me, me. Praise God for all things given, first. 'Thy kingdom come' means that there is no more suffering in heaven, which is to come and in which we find hope." "Thy will be done" asks that the Lord change our hearts to accept God's will for our lives, rather than changing His will to accommodate our desires, he continued.

This session on prayer was a favorite part of the day for the students from Corpus Christi Parish, South Bend; St. Patrick Parish, Ligonier; St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven; and

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, among several others.

Bella Gerardot, from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, perhaps summed up the day best when she commented, "We're preparing for confirmation based on events that have already occurred in Church history."

Each of the three groups then participated in adoration and reconciliation, lunch and games. The students could also learn how to make their own rosaries from colored, cotton cord. Praise and worship songs brought the large group together again for an afternoon presentation by Father Jay Horning.

Father Horning told them that confirmation is the last of three sacraments that bring a person into full communion with the Catholic Church; baptism and Holy Communion are the other two.

"Confirmation is the sealing of the gifts we received in baptism, and to show the world we are children of God," he said. He then asked for a few students to tell which confirmation name they had chosen. St. Paul of the Cross, St. Michael the Archangel, and St. Joan of Arc were named.

Father Horning said he chose St. Gabriel as his confirmation name, and he prays to St. Gabriel to intercede for him on a regular basis. Confirmation names are important, he told the candidates, because they "embody something we want to emulate; and the saint gives you the zeal to listen to the Holy Spirit for the rest of your lives."

White Masses celebrate health care professionals' faith, career calling

BY KEVIN KILBANE

Medical care for unborn and newly born children will be the topic for the White Mass dinner Oct. 18 in Fort Wayne, while the White Mass on Sept. 26 in South Bend will unite health care workers in prayer.

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, will celebrate both White Masses.

The White Mass brings together health care personnel to celebrate their calling to care for the mind, body and spirit of individuals, said Sister Lauren M. Painter, vice president of mission integration, ministry formation, ethics and spiritual care at Saint Joseph Health System in the South Bend area.

Healing also comes to health care workers when people come together to pray with them and for them, said Sister Lauren, who helped organize the South Bend-area White Mass and dinner.

The South Bend-area White Mass will take place at 6 p.m. Sept. 26 at St. Pius X Church,



Provided by Indiana University School of Medicine

Dr. Brandon P. Brown is a founding member of the Fetal Center at Riley Children's Health hospital in Indianapolis. He will speak at a dinner that follows the Fort Wayne White Mass, slated for Oct. 18 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. A White Mass also will be celebrated at St. Pius X in Granger on Sept. 26.

52553 Fir Road in Granger. It will be followed by a dinner at St. Pius X, sponsored by Saint Joseph Health System. There is no speaker this year.

The Mass is open to all people, but the dinner is for physicians, clinicians and other health care professionals, Sister Lauren said. Dinner reservations are due by Sept. 19 by emailing Karen.King@sjrmc.com.

"We are very much appreciative of St. Pius X, which has

worked with us every year," Sister Lauren said. Along with an easily accessible location, the parish's choir and instrumentalists are outstanding, she said.

The Fort Wayne White Mass will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 18 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1122 S. Clinton St. Dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m. at nearby St. Mary, Mother of God Church, 1101 S. Lafayette St.

Dinner reservations are \$15

per person and can be made by calling 260-222-6978 or by going to fortwayne.cathmed.org. Dinner is free for students and those in religious life. The event is organized by the Dr. Jerome Lejeune Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana.

The speaker for the Fort Wayne White Mass dinner will be Dr. Brandon P. Brown, who will discuss fetal medicine and "Caring for the Least Among Us."

An assistant professor of radiology and imaging sciences at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, Brown also teaches bioethics at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and is a founding member of the Fetal Center at Riley Children's Health hospital in Indianapolis. His work as a fetal and pediatric radiologist focuses on the perinatal period, which includes the time before and just after birth — a topic about which he spoke in May on the "Faith in Action" program on Catholic Radio Indy, 89.1 and 90.0-FM in Indianapolis. To listen to a podcast of the program, go to <http://podcast.catholicra->

diindy.org/ and enter "Brandon Brown" in the search box.

Ultrasound and MRI imaging technology now allows doctors to better assess a baby's health while the child is in the mother's uterus, Brown said on the radio show. Medical teams also prepare in advance to do surgery, if needed, immediately after a baby's birth, he said. Some surgeries also can be done while the child still is in the womb.

By investing their time and effort to save a baby in the womb, medical specialists and staff "are giving a validity to that developing life and we are saying this is a life worthy of our care," Brown said.

He also believes fetal medicine supports the child's parents and caregivers, who may need to make major sacrifices to care for a disabled child after birth, he told Catholic Radio Indy.

"I see our task as not just advocating for generic human life everywhere but to really support those who are on the frontline caring for the weakest and most vulnerable among us," he stated.

Christ the King student is Riley Champion

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

Eighth-grade student Connor Schuelke doesn't see himself as a hero. An A student at Christ the King School, South Bend, he has favorite teachers, but not a favorite subject. He likes to play video games and build with Legos. He also swims, plays the violin and the piano. He's not allowed to play contact sports, but he was eager to get out on the playground with his friends recently, as soon as his doctors at Riley Hospital for Children let him return to school. He came back with a smile, and his classmates vied for the privilege of pushing his wheelchair when necessary.

That positive attitude is one reason principal Stephen Hoffman nominated Connor to be a 2019 Riley Champion. From 70 nominees, a committee then chose Connor and seven other Indiana young people ranging in age from 9 to 17, for recognition on the basis of their courage and philanthropy, and the inspiration they have provided to their communities.

Connor found out about the honor in August; so he was surprised at all the attention he received during a school assembly on Sept. 13, when the news was shared with his teachers and classmates.

In front of 465 students from pre-K to eighth grade, Riley Foundation representative Susan Miles unfurled a banner for the school to display. Connor can strike up a conversation with anyone, even with a stranger waiting in line with him, but representatives from local TV stations thrusting microphones in his face was a new experience. "How do you feel?" they inquired. He replied, "Nervous."

In the coming months, Riley champions will have a chance

to tell their stories to donors and parents, beginning at a "Be the Hope Now" luncheon in Indianapolis on Nov. 28. They'll also be welcomed at an upcoming Indianapolis Colts game.

In the past, Christ the King School has raised money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The students, teachers and administrators also have collected over 3 million pop can tabs for Riley's Ronald McDonald House, for families of hospitalized children.

Connor's Riley story began in third grade, the same year he began attending Christ the King. In October he began experiencing pain in his left femur and vomiting, but doctors were mystified. Suspecting juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, they finally sent Connor to a specialist at Riley. In February 2014 she diagnosed Ewing sarcoma, a cancer that attacks bone and the soft tissue around it. By the time a biopsy confirmed that, it had metastasized to his lungs.

Treatment involved chemotherapy, which ruined his appetite and led to stomach infections. Radiation was also part of the regimen. A few months later he had a total hip replacement.

It's a little ironic that Connor has been named a Riley ambassador, said his mother, Rachel Trinh, because his face fell every time they had to check into the hospital for a week of chemotherapy — with only a week off in between each round. Connor's teachers were very understanding, providing work he could do at home to keep up with his class.

That same year, Connor was preparing for the sacraments of initiation. But because he was so sick, he was unable to be baptized, confirmed and receive first Communion at the Easter Vigil. Instead, his pastor, Father Neil Wack, CSC, came to his house on his birthday. "My faith certainly

grew during that time," said Connor. "It was very helpful." Religion teacher Cindy Esch was especially supportive.

"He has such a good attitude," Trinh testified. "I would have thrown in the towel. He had to miss so much of his childhood!" But Connor is thankful for what he has today and compassionate toward those who have less.

He loves to give back to others, welcoming opportunities to serve the homeless. He comes home excited from his time relating to the residents at Healthwin Specialized Care nursing home. He does whatever the other patients and residents want, from pushing a wheelchair to helping a blind resident play bingo.

Connor's younger siblings, Isabella and Julian, are in first grade and kindergarten at Christ the King, so they joined him at the school assembly, as did his grandmother; his mother, a nurse; and his father, Jason Schuelke, a firefighter.

With the cooperation and sponsorship of Kroger, Riley has been honoring champions for 11 years. One of the first honorees overcame osteosarcoma and now works as a trauma nurse.

Connor would like to become a pilot. His medical limitations will prevent his serving in the military, but he could fly commercially. He already has become the youngest person his flying instructor has ever taught. Even though he doesn't like math, he loves navigating by lining up the instruments in the cockpit.

It's been 3 1/2 years since there's been any evidence of Connor's cancer. That's too soon to say that he is "in remission," however. He will need frequent medical checkups for the rest of his life. However, Trinh said, "I truly believe the power of prayer healed him."



Jennifer Kedik

Riley Champion Connor Schuelke appears with his family and representatives of Christ the King School, South Bend, Riley Hospital for Children and Kroger after a recognition ceremony Sept. 13.

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Lumen Christi Award finalists called examples of 'how to change world'

CHICAGO (CNS) — Catholic Extension's finalists for its Lumen Christi Award show "what can happen when we build up and strengthen Catholic faith communities in the poorest parts of the United States," said Father Jack Wall, president of Catholic Extension.

"If we all follow their examples, we can change our world," the priest said.

Lumen Christi is Latin for "Light of Christ." The award honors an individual or group who demonstrates how the power of faith can transform lives and communities.

The finalists, announced Sept. 12, include three "Dreamers," young people who are beneficiaries of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program; two women religious and an order of religious sisters; the lay coordinator of an immigrant parish in Puerto Rico; the principal of the only Catholic school in the 25-county Diocese of Lubbock, Texas; and a priest who was orphaned when his police officer father was killed in the line of duty.

Another finalist is not an individual but a diocesan ministry — the Office of Hispanic Ministry of the Diocese of Jackson, Mississippi.

The Lumen Christi Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Chicago-based national organization, which raises and distributes funds to support U.S. mission dioceses, many of which are rural, cover a large geographic area and have limited personnel and pastoral resources. Among other things, funds help build churches and assist with seminarians' education and training for other Church workers.

The dioceses served by Catholic Extension nominate individuals and programs for the award.

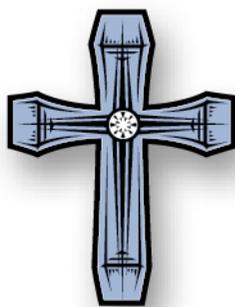
The list of the finalists for the 2018-2019 Lumen Christi Award follows:

— Randy Tejada, Diocese of Caguas, Puerto Rico. At age 21, Tejada has been serving as pastoral coordinator at his parish, in an immigrant community facing many challenges, for five years. He has helped lead the chapel's restoration with scarce resources, coordinates youth ministry for the diocese and, since the devastation of Hurricane Maria, he is helping in recovery efforts. Known as the "soul of the community," he wants to engage laypeople to serve migrants, children and other marginalized sectors of society.

— "Dreamers" Efen, Mariana and Sebastian, Diocese of El Paso, Texas. They "exemplify service, action and the perseverance of all Dreamers," said Catholic Extension. Efen is a parishioner of Sacred Heart

Church, just yards from the border, where he coordinates religious education for youth. Mariana, 16, is a youth minister and catechist at a local parish. Sebastian works with Hope Border Institute's Leadership Academy to inspire young immigrants through faith. "They represent a young, active and engaged Church who are changing the face of faith communities, in El Paso and beyond."

— Hispanic Ministry of the Diocese of Jackson, Mississippi, which covers more than 37,000



LUMEN CHRISTI AWARD

square miles and is home to about 54,000 Hispanics. Currently, about 5,000 of them are connected to the Catholic faith and the diocesan ministry wants to reach more. Assisted by two Guadalupan Missionary Sisters of the Holy Spirit, Christian Brother Theodore Dausch has been involved with Hispanics for 20 years and coordinates the Office of Hispanic Ministry. Masses in Spanish have tripled in the past 25 years and are now being offered by 27 parishes.

— Sister Marie-Paule Willem, Diocese of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Sister Willem has been a Franciscan Missionary of Mary for more than 60 years, serving in South America and in the Southwest region of the United States. Her focus is on social justice issues for the poor, particularly with immigrants, bringing them comfort, tutoring them and helping prepare them for citizenship in this country. The diocese, which shares a border with Mexico, is more than 65 percent Hispanic. As parish administrator at San Jose Mission Church on the Rio Grande, she serves 200 families and works with Hispanics at Holy Cross Parish in Las Cruces, whose Spanish Mass is standing-room only. She also launched a ministry for women incarcerated at a detention center that now serves 60 women

weekly.

— Father Jack Harris, Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas. Since his ordination in 1974, Father Harris has been a teacher, coach and pastor, but his biggest outreach is prison ministry. "This seed was planted early," said Catholic Extension, when his father, a Little Rock police officer, was killed in the line of duty before he was born. His appreciation for the victim's viewpoint has helped him to forge bridges between the incarcerated, their victims and their families. He has spent the last 14 years as chaplain to death-row inmates at a Supermax prison. Twice a week, Father Harris drives 250 miles to visit nearly 500 men who are locked down for 23 hours a day in one-man cells. He talks and prays with them and offers Mass and confession.

— Christine Wanjura, Diocese of Lubbock, Texas. A former teacher, Wanjura is the principal at the only Catholic school in the 25-county diocese. She never turns away a child who wants a Catholic education. She also wants the school to reflect the demographics of the primarily Hispanic diocese. Students come from as far as 70 miles away and even with a modest tuition, most receive financial aid. During her tenure, enrollment has grown by 20 percent. In her other role as superintendent of Catholic schools in the diocese, she works with parishes to create after-school programs.

— Franciscan Sister Phyllis Wilhelm, Diocese of Superior, Wisconsin. For more than 40 years, Sister Wilhelm has served Ojibwe Native Americans in the farthest reaches of north Wisconsin. Since 2008 she has been pastoral associate of historic St. Mary Parish in Odanah, which is part of the Bad River Band of Ojibwe. Sister Wilhelm has worked to build community, incorporating Ojibwe traditions into the liturgy, fostering a group of Native women who are reclaiming the traditional beading craft, and increasing participation and lay involvement in all aspects of parish life.

— The Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George, Diocese of Tulsa, Oklahoma. For 32 years, the sisters have served the school and church of St. Catherine on Tulsa's west side, which is surrounded by low-income neighborhoods and poor families, some of whom are refugees. They are elementary and middle school teachers at St. Catherine School, assist the parish and work in the community, run a Catholic girls club, serve meals to the residents and promote religious vocations throughout the diocese.

New PHJC Associate Community members

DONALDSON — Wherever Associate Community and Fiat Spiritus Community members of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sisters are found, one finds women and men of faith and commitment willing to listen to the voice of God. Joining this group of dedicated people are seven faith-filled women who share another common thread: healing.

Heeding the call to be a member of the spiritual family of Blessed Catherine Kasper are two physicians, Cherie Bennett and Marsha King; two nurses, Deborah Foster and Patricia Williams; a spiritual director and Reiki Master, Elisa Jenkins; a music therapist, Kathy Christie; and an aide for abused children, Jadwiga Cias, who also has her own healing story through the intercessions of Blessed Catherine Kasper, known in religious life as Mother Mary. Each of these women already lives

out the charism of Mother Mary by serving the needs of those around them every day.

Cias, Williams, and King professed their first commitment during a ceremony Aug. 11 at Holy Spirit Church in Crown Point. Jenkins, Bennett, Christie and Foster followed with a ceremony on Aug. 25 at Ancilla Domini Chapel in Donaldson.

The spiritual family of Blessed Catherine Kasper is comprised of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sisters, the Associate Community and Fiat Spiritus Community members. All three expressions of the spiritual family of Blessed Catherine Kasper are devoted to sharing the charism of Mother Mary, who founded the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ religious congregation in Germany in 1851. This charism is lived out through the core values of simplicity, community, openness to the spirit and dignity and respect for all.



MARSHA KING



CHERIE BENNETT



DEBORAH FOSTER



PATRICIA WILLIAMS



ELISA JENKINS



KATHY CHRISTIE



JADWIGA CIAS

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Good and bad ideas on Church reform

The ongoing discussion of clergy sex abuse has moved to proposals for Church reform.

The immediate need is for transparency and accountability. Charges against former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, and those who allegedly covered up his abuses and advanced him to an advisory role at the Vatican, must be investigated and proved or disproved.

The U.S. bishops' 2002 protocols that nearly eliminated new instances of abuse should apply to bishops, requiring the Holy Father's cooperation. And these reforms must involve laypeople with appropriate expertise, to break through the wall of clericalism that protects predators.

Other proposals include improved screening and formation for seminarians, and a reformed process for selecting bishops.

These are good ideas. There are also bad ideas, coming from Church factions seen as being on the "right" and "left" — though partisan loyalties have no place in the body of Christ.

One bad idea is what Father James Martin calls a "witch hunt" designed to eject men with same-sex attractions from the priesthood. He says some traditionalists favor this.

To be sure, about 80 percent of the victims of clergy sex abuse are male. But in the general population, sex abuse is widespread, and about 80 percent of the juvenile victims are female. We cannot blame this on the existence of men attracted to women.

A man with homosexual

tendencies may be drawn to an all-male environment and find it easier to give up married life. But if he strives to live the Gospel and remain chaste despite temptation, he could be a role model of virtue for others. This is the situation Pope Francis seemed to be referring to in his famous comment, "Who am I to judge?" In the same interview, he said there should be no "gay lobby" in the Vatican.

The old proverb is to hate the sin but love the sinner. Actually, we must love the sinner and hate sin because it prevents him or her from flourishing as God intended. In working to stop abuse and protect the innocent, we must act from love of all our neighbors, whatever the nature of their temptations, or we are far from the Gospel.

A bad idea from the "left" is to end priestly celibacy or the all-male priesthood. Celibacy is a discipline of many centuries, while male ordination is a constant teaching based on the practice of Jesus himself. But whatever the theological arguments, this proposal is irrelevant to our problem.

As the #MeToo movement illustrates, sexual exploitation has many victims of both genders. Some perpetrators are female, as when schoolteachers (many of them married women) seduce teenage students. The crime of pedophilia is almost exclusively perpetrated by males -- but "about 44 percent of convicted pedophiles either are or have been married, and a vast majority of pedophiles have sexual relationships with



A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

RICHARD DOERFLINGER

adults," according to *The Week* magazine's article "Pedophilia: A guide to the disorder."

A recent column in my local secular newspaper actually said clergy sex abuse would end if priests could marry and have "healthy sexual relationships." The last thing we need is a message that women can "cure" men's same-sex activities through marriage.

And it is naive to think we can end the "old boys' network" of clericalism by making it an "old boys' and girls' network." That only reinforces the idea of a clerical caste that can ignore accountability to the laity.

If we can't blame sex abuse on the existence of homosexual men, unmarried men or men in general, we may have to settle for arming ourselves against sin and infidelity to the Gospel. Nobody said the real solution would be easy.

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

Breaking up with your phone

I've been emailing my friend Becky, a newspaper editor in South Dakota, about our growing desire to unplug. We used to compare notes on "Dancing with the Stars," but lately we're both watching less TV.

"My eyes have started to reject going from screen to screen," she emailed me. Instead, she said, she's been reading, cooking and walking her dog, which led to the discovery of downtown trails and encounters with bison, deer and bighorn sheep.

"I notice a difference," she wrote. "It has gotten to the point where my phone is strictly for texting and calling people on Sundays. I can't keep up with it all, and I'm not sure it's worth trying."

I told her about my weeklong hiatus from social media, which retrained my thumb from tapping on Instagram feeds. I used that free time online to enjoy personality profiles and read substantive articles on mental illness, gender identity and child development. I found myself looking up the definition of words like ersatz, which means artificial or synthetic, an inferior substitute used to replace something natural or genuine.

Just as soon as I had landed on this snazzy new word — a word that says so much in six letters and has that novel "z" ending — I uncovered an application for it, one that got to the root of my iPhone addiction. Our screen time provides



TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

stimulation that is ersatz to real human connection.

Social media apps purport to connect us with others but actually impair and isolate us, turning us into the kind of people who don't answer a phone call but text the caller shortly later, only to enter into a rapid-fire exchange that feels urgent but not fulfilling.

It was time to turn to Catherine Price's 2018 bestseller "How to Break Up with your Phone: The 30-Day Plan to Take Back your Life." Reading this book was like eating broccoli: I knew I was doing something good for myself. It offers an eye-opening assessment of the mental, social and physical effects of extended phone use — the way it fractures our attention spans, hinders our ability to form new memories and undercuts our sleep.

The biggest takeaway, for me, was the fact that we do not think critically about the impact of our phones. How do certain apps make us feel? Why is it hard to put down our phones? What are

CAPECCI, page 13

'If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all'



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 9:30-37

Protestants, accustomed to reading the King James, or Authorized Version, of the Bible, often ask why Catholic versions of the Scriptures include the Book of Wisdom. The King James Version omits it, because Wisdom was one of several Old Testament books discounted by the biblical scholars who prepared the version commissioned by King James I of England and presented in 1611.

The Roman Catholic Church, long before 1611 and certainly since, has taught that Wisdom indeed is the word of God. This book provides this weekend's

first reading.

Wisdom was written amid cultural warfare in which the Jews fought for their identity. Many had left the Holy Land to find better conditions elsewhere. Living elsewhere meant that they were in the midst of pagans.

These pagans had all the advantages, and they were firmly in control. Ignoring all these advantages was not easy. Especially, Jewish parents had to inspire their children, understandably impressed by the dazzle of the pagan world, to hold fast to the seemingly rigid demands of the religion of their forebears. The Wisdom Literature, including the Book of Wisdom, developed as part of this effort to defend, explain and perpetuate the ancient beliefs of the Chosen People.

More directly about this weekend's reading, Wisdom very clearly illustrates the struggle between good, which is from God, and human evil. This conflict causes a situation not best described as two ships passing silently in the night. Rather, there is no place for evil in the

presence of God, and vice versa.

The Epistle of James offers us the second reading. This clear and frank message speaks of those human activities that are at root and in expression evil. The epistle warns that hardness of heart, and wicked intentions, lead humans to unholy but also destructive behavior.

St. Mark's Gospel supplies the last reading. Jesus predicts the crucifixion. He forecasts being seized and delivered to evil persons. He also declares that after the crucifixion, in three days will come the resurrection. He will prevail.

It is important to note that in this reading, as so often in all the four Gospels, Jesus gathers together the Apostles as special students, especially called, and personally commissioned to build the Church.

They still are humans, however, vulnerable to human pettiness and sin. Reminding them to be servants to all, Jesus calls them to humility and to live in the model that the Lord has set.

In this model will be their security.

Reflection

The Church has called us, through the biblical readings at Mass these weeks, to discipleship. It has not led us down any primrose path. Last weekend, it called us to ponder, to celebrate and to connect with the cross, bluntly saying that truly to follow Christ, we must walk the path through a hostile world to our own Calvary.

In this weekend's first reading, from Wisdom, the Church again says that discipleship is not easy. The world stands utterly opposite Jesus. We cannot stand midway between Christ and evil. We must choose one or the other.

If we choose evil, as the epistle recalls, we invite our destruction.

Jesus never forsakes us. He is with us in the teachings of the Apostles, whom the Lord commissioned to continue the work of salvation. In their teachings, applied even now in the visible, institutional Church, we hear Jesus. He is with us in the sacraments, also conveyed to us

through the Twelve.

Jesus does not thunder into our hearts and homes. We must welcome the merciful, life-giving, crucified Savior. The first step in this process is to acquire the humility to know who we are and what we need. We are humans, with all the dignity and also the limitations involved. We need God, always. We cannot save ourselves alone.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20 Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 Jas 3:16—4:3 Mk 9:30-37

Monday: 3:27-34 Ps 15:2-5 Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34-35, 44 Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9 Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163 Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11 Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17 Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Eccl 3:1-11 Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4 Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 138:1-5 Jn 1:47-51

Sacraments, not social events

A common pastoral problem today is that many people have reduced the liturgy and the sacraments to ceremonies. To be sure, they have ceremonial aspects, but they are not mere ceremonies. Sacraments change reality; they affect us and effect a change in us that is necessary, real, and glorious. Too often the effects of the sacraments are forgotten in favor of the externals. The sacraments most affected by this mentality are baptism, holy matrimony, and the Mass itself.

As an illustration, consider a man who is about to be ordained a priest. He receives a letter from the bishop calling him to this order; it indicates the date of the ordination Mass approximately two months in the future. What if the man said to himself, "It's just a ceremony," and began presenting himself as a priest, even going so far as to hear confessions and celebrate Mass in local parishes? This of course would be an egregious violation and sacrilege because he is not, in fact, an ordained priest. Something far more than a ceremony takes place on the day of his ordination. A sacrament takes place that actually changes him and configures him to Christ. He is changed such that he is now able to act in the person of Christ and confect the sacraments.

It is similar with holy matrimony. In it, God effects a miraculous change in the bride and groom: The two become one. Genesis says that in marriage a man clings to his wife and the two of them become one. Jesus says, "They are no longer two, but one. And what God has joined together, let no one divide." Thus, a new reality comes to be for both of them. This is also what makes their sexual union true and holy. Prior to the wedding they were two, not one, and thus sexual intercourse would be a sinful lie. After the wedding, the two are one and their sexual union is an expression of the truth, a holy sign of what they really are. The wedding is no mere ceremony, it is a sacrament that changes the couple.

The sacrament of baptism was once thought so essential and

urgent that mothers seldom attended the baptism of their children. Within a day or two after birth the godparents (often accompanied by the father) whisked the child off to church for the baptism while the mother was still recovering.

This is because something essential and necessary is provided by baptism: the child, fraught with original sin, needs the healing power of Jesus to wash away that sin and make him a child of God, a temple of the Holy Spirit, and transfer him from kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Light. While this urgency was primarily driven by high levels of infant mortality, there was still the sense that the sacrament of baptism did something so essential that it could not be delayed, even by the absence of the mother, who was usually welcomed back after her convalescence, 40 days later, through a liturgical rite known as the "Churching of Women."

Today, baptisms are too often delayed until a large cast of characters can be assembled. It seems that everyone just has to be there! I have seen families delay baptisms for years because certain extended family members "can't make it." Everyone seems to matter more than the child. How can the family gathering go well if Aunt Ethel can't be there? The party seems more the point than the baptism.

Holy baptism is a sacrament not a ceremony or an excuse for a party, a family gathering, or photographs. St. Paul says that prior to baptism we are dead in our sins (see Ephesians 2:1). That seems pretty serious! St. Peter says, "Baptism now saves you" (1 Peter 3:21). That seems pretty glorious! Something essential is needed and it happens in holy baptism. The party, the pictures, and the other ceremonials are secondary. Baptism is a glorious sacrament that should be celebrated without delay. Canon law states that parents should provide for holy baptism within the first weeks after birth.

St. Cyprian expressed surprise when someone wrote to him wondering if baptism should be delayed to the eighth day after birth since it replaces circumcision. He said, "But in respect of



COMMUNITY IN MISSION

MSGR. CHARLES POPE

the case of the infants, which you say ought not to be baptized within the second or third day after their birth, and that the law of ancient circumcision should be regarded, so that you think that one who is just born should not be baptized and sanctified within the eighth day, we all thought very differently in our council. For in this course which you thought was to be taken, no one agreed; but we all rather judge that the mercy and grace of God is not to be refused to any one born of man (Epistle 58.2, to Fidus).

Too many people today don't just wait eight days, they wait eight months. I often ask them why. They usually respond by saying that so-and-so can't make it until June. "Then send pictures," I counter. They look at me, dejected. This kind of attitude attempts to reduce holy baptism to a ceremony and a social event.

Allow these few examples to illustrate that the sacraments are not merely ceremonies. They are not merely opportunities for a party, family gathering, or group photograph; they are transformative encounters with Christ. When we receive a sacrament, something happens to us; we are changed. Permit this small reminder of the reality of the Sacraments. Some might say that the point made here is obvious, but in my experience, it is unfortunately not so obvious to many people.

CAPECCHI, from page 12

they doing to our brains? Who benefits from our addiction? I was disappointed in myself for being lulled, like an unblinking toddler, into all the scrolling and swiping.

Heeding Price's advice and cutting back on phone time has made me feel more in control, more engaged with my life. It empowers me to tackle other off-balance areas as I head into fall, which will be a season of change. I'm setting better sleep habits and healthier snacking,

replacing Dove milk chocolates with peanuts and pecans. One positive change begets another.

I recently read about a priest who hits the gym several times a week and weight lifts 350 pounds. "It gets you used to doing hard things," he said. "And when you're doing hard things in this controlled environment, it's way easier to do hard things elsewhere in your life."

When praying is hard, I focus on the simple prayers that ground me, beginning and ending my day. But I'm also

realizing that being disciplined can turn the day into one continuous prayer: an act of appreciation for life, for God's gifts, a love for something greater than self. And that's a good reason to set aside the phone.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for September 23, 2018

Mark 9:30-37

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: a lesson about how Jesus came to serve. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

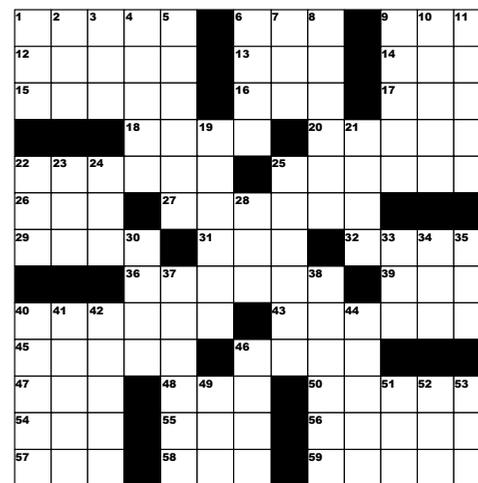
GALILEE	TEACHING	SON OF MAN
KILL	THREE DAYS	RISE
CAME TO	HOUSE	THE WAY
SILENT	GREATEST	DOWN
THE TWELVE	FIRST	SERVANT
CHILD	MIDST	HIS ARMS
RECEIVES	MY NAME	SENT ME

LIKE A CHILD

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

The Cross Word

September 23 and 30, 2018



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Readings: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ja 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37 and Nm 11:25-29; Ja 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

ACROSS

- 1 Tendon
- 6 'You fight & wage ___'
- 9 Brake system
- 12 Iranian's neighbor
- 13 Bull fight cheer
- 14 Millstone & cast into ___
- 15 Puzzle
- 16 Uncooked
- 17 'Do not cause little ones to ___'
- 18 Eve's husband
- 20 Proverb
- 22 'He does not ___ us'
- 25 Petition to God

26 'A ___ of water'

- 27 Illness
- 29 Am not
- 31 Cardinal color
- 32 Slant
- 36 The seventy ___
- 39 Before (prefix)
- 40 Researched essays
- 43 Engraved
- 45 Leases
- 46 Afloat
- 47 Cease
- 48 Sister for short
- 50 Freedom of the ___
- 54 Compass point
- 55 'End of season' acronym
- 56 Polish folk dance

- 57 Unhappy
- 58 Joshua's father
- 59 Mischievous

DOWN

- 1 Mr.
- 2 Wrath
- 3 Capture
- 4 Same as
- 5 The perfection of knowledge
- 6 Lives in Gehenna
- 7 Wing
- 8 A cup of water earns a ___
- 9 Test a metal ore
- 10 Light brown
- 11 Less crazy
- 19 Gives recognition
- 21 'Three ___ after his death'
- 22 Farm credit administration (abbr.)
- 23 French 'yes'
- 24 Licensed practical nurse
- 25 Priests' titles (Spanish)
- 28 Downwind
- 30 'Put the Just One to the ___'
- 33 Rate of speed
- 34 Before, poetically
- 35 Mary
- 37 Decrease
- 38 Dry grassy land
- 40 Two special ones stood in Eden
- 41 Reddish dye
- 42 Ceased
- 44 Christmas song
- 46 Association (abbr.)
- 49 Promissory note
- 51 Santa helper
- 52 Slide on snow
- 53 ___ Francisco

Packers fan sees game with aid from hospice, diocese

BY SAM LUCERO

ALLOUEZ, Wis. (CNS) — When David Marosek, who had been battling stage 4 rectal cancer since July 2016, got the news in April his cancer had returned and spread into his lungs and spine, it was a depressing time.

"I was told that it was terminal, and they gave me like six months to a year" to live, he told *The Compass*, newspaper of the Diocese of Green Bay, in a telephone interview from his Oshkosh apartment. Rather than begin new treatments, Marosek chose to enter hospice.

"I've been in hospice now for a few months," he said. With the assistance of Aurora at Home Hospice, Marosek receives medical care and home visits from hospice staff, including Jayne Syrjamaki, Aurora at Home volunteer coordinator.

When hospice staff met Marosek in July, they asked him, "If you had one wish, what would it be?" It's part of the hospice program's "Drop in the Bucket" initiative to grant small wishes to patients. The wish was then turned over to Syrjamaki. "He said he had always wanted to go to a Packer game," she said.

"I've been a Packer fan all my life," Marosek, 52, told *The*



CNS photo/Sam Lucero, The Compass

David Marosek of Oshkosh, Wis., is pictured with Jayne Syrjamaki and Shelly Sedo outside of Lambeau Field on Sept. 9 in Green Bay. Marosek, who has terminal cancer, was granted a wish to attend a Packers game.

Compass. "I can remember, back when I was 5 or 6, watching Packer games on TV with my father — or listening to the game on the car radio after church on Sunday, waiting for Mom to get groceries."

The chance to watch a Green Bay Packers game live at Lambeau Field would be a dream come true, Marosek told Syrjamaki. She set out to make it happen, but got no replies after sending messages to Oshkosh-area businesses.

"I wasn't about to give up because I had the exact same diagnosis," Syrjamaki said. "I went through colon cancer treatment four years ago. I'm a survivor, but I knew David wasn't going to have the tomorrows

that I have. That's why it was a little more important to me."

Syrjamaki decided to contact the Diocese of Green Bay.

"I grew up at St. Joseph Parish in Kellnersville and I remember reading things in the bulletin about how the diocese helped people," she said. Her email request was given to Ted Phernetton, executive director of Catholic Charities in Green Bay. "Within a day, I heard back from Ted and that he was going to put out a request. About two days later he had tickets."

In her email to the diocese, Syrjamaki explained that she wanted to grant the final wish of a hospice patient. "I am hoping you can help this gentleman or lead me in the right direction," she wrote.

For Phernetton, the request — like it had for Syrjamaki — struck a personal chord.

"For some reason this touched my heart immediately," he told *The Compass*. "Maybe, in part, because I was lucky. I am a cancer survivor and he will not be."

With terminal cancer, Marosek "has no real control over what comes next," said Phernetton. "His wish is a way for him to pursue just a little bit of power and influence over what remains of his life."

Phernetton's first step was to email members of the diocesan staff, explaining the request and seeking help with tickets. "Within minutes, I began receiving responses from folks wanting to help or pointing me in specific directions," he said.

Employees of the diocese contributed donations and procured two tickets for the Sept. 9 season opener between the Packers and the Chicago Bears. Their financial donations — along with a few cash donations from Syrjamaki's friends — also provided funds for a Packers Pro Shop gift card and concessions.

In a surprise visit Aug. 30, Syrjamaki informed Marosek that he would be attending the game.

"I said I was there to do a volunteer supervisory visit," she said. "We started talking about all the Packers posters on his

walls and then he said, 'I love the Packers.' So I pulled out a fleece Packer blanket and said to David, 'I would like you take this blanket and use it to cover up your legs when go to the Packers-Bears game.' He cried, I cried. All tears of joy."

"Health-wise, I know I'm dying. I understand that," said Marosek. "I have some problems getting around. That's why I got a wheelchair to go to the game. Otherwise, I'm in pretty good spirits, I guess, considering all of this," noting he had been given the sacrament of anointing of the sick from a visiting priest in early September.

His spirits were raised as he entered Lambeau Field to witness the Packers roar back from a 20-0, third-quarter deficit to defeat the Bears, 24-23. After posing for a photo before the game, Marosek said another set of tickets was donated to him by the diocese for the Oct. 15 Packers-San Francisco 49ers game, but he declined.

"I told them my dream was just to go to one Packer game," he said. "I wasn't going to be greedy. I am hoping somebody else (in hospice) will enjoy them and get to have the same experience I am having tonight."

Lucero is news and information manager for The Compass, newspaper of the Diocese of Green Bay.

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	Wednesday September 19	Thursday September 20	Friday September 21	Wednesday September 26	Thursday September 27
8:00 am	Women's Care Center	Father Solanus Casey Vocation Society	Sacred Heart Fort Wayne	Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration	
9:00 am	Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne	University of Saint Francis	Franciscan Center	St. Matthew Cathedral South Bend	Christ Child Society of South Bend
10:00 am	Our Sunday Visitor	Double Your Dollar Tippmann Hour	St. Jude Fort Wayne	Christ the King South Bend	St. Vincent Elkhart
11:00 am	Most Precious Blood Fort Wayne	St. Joseph—Hessen Cassel Fort Wayne	Our Lady of Good Hope Fort Wayne	St. Thérèse, Little Flower South Bend	
Noon	St. Vincent de Paul Fort Wayne	St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne	Bishop Luers High School	Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades	Holy Family & St. John the Baptist South Bend
1:00 pm	St. John the Baptist New Haven	St. Mary of the Assumption Decatur	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Fort Wayne	Sacred Heart Warsaw	St. Anthony Mishawaka
2:00 pm	Queen of Angels Fort Wayne	St. Aloysius Yoder	St. Therese Fort Wayne		St. John the Evangelist Goshen
3:00 pm	St. Louis New Haven	Bishop Dwenger High School	Allen County Right to Life	St. Pius X Granger	Serra Club
4:00 pm	Saint Anne Communities	St. Robert Bellarmine North Manchester	Huntington Catholic	Marian High School	St. Thomas Elkhart
5:00 pm	St. John the Baptist Fort Wayne	St. Henry Fort Wayne	St. Anthony Angola	Corpus Christi South Bend	St. Adalbert South Bend
8:00 pm	St. Paul of the Cross Columbia City	106.3 FM Sports Hour	Rekindle the Fire	St. Monica Mishawaka	95.7 FM Sports Hour

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. View more Catholic events and submit new ones at www.todayscatholic.org/event. For additional listings of that event, please call the advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

Fall festival planned at Hessen - Cassel
FORT WAYNE — St. Joseph Hessen - Cassel will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the school. Many activities for young and old alike. Contact Andy Litchfield at 260-450-6730 for information.

Knights to host breakfast at Most Precious Blood Parish
FORT WAYNE — The St. Gaspar del Bufalo Knights of Columbus Council No. 11043 will be serving breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at Most Precious Blood, 1500 Barthold St. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12, and \$20 per family. \$5 carryout packs will be available. Proceeds will benefit the parish athletics association.

Friends of the Poor Walk supports St. Vincent de Paul Society of Fort Wayne
FORT WAYNE — The Friends of the Poor Walk is a national special event to raise awareness and funds for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Join the walk on Sunday, Sept. 23, at Parkview Field, 1301 Ewing St., with registration at 1 p.m. and the walk starting at 2 p.m. Participants are asked to make a donation and/or get sponsors for their efforts. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/2v2dwsx>.

40 Days for Life set to begin
FORT WAYNE — 40 Days for Life will run from Sept. 26 to Nov. 4. It is a community-based campaign that takes a determined, peaceful approach to showing

local communities the consequences of abortion in their own neighborhoods and for their own friends and families. This year's campaign will take place across from the former abortion clinic at 2210 Inwood Dr. Contact Allison Maluchnik at 260-471-1849 for details and how to participate or visit www.ichooselife.org.

'Polish Palooza' to help St. Vincent de Paul
SOUTH BEND — The St. Vincent de Paul Society is holding a 'Polish Palooza' at the St. Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St., on Friday, Sept. 28, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 each and include an all-you-can-eat Polish dinner, beer, wine and pop. There will also be music, games and raffles. All proceeds help the society to continue serving those in need.

St. Francis pet blessing
MISHAWAKA — The Secular Franciscan Order — Third Order of St. Francis — is sponsoring a "St. Francis Pet Blessing" from 1-3 p.m. in the south parking lot of Marian High School. All pets may be brought for a blessing in honor of St. Francis, patron saint of animals. Displays will include the Pet Refuge of Michiana, pet food samples from Well Pet, animal health advice from a local veterinarian, the Canine Unit from the South Bend Police Department and a dog groomer. Students from Marian High School will be available for giving dogs a bath and grooming. Bring a lawn chair, your favorite pet and enjoy time with God's creatures. Contact Sister Agnes

Marie Regan, OSF, at 574- 259-5427.

The 177 Project — adoration around the nation
FORT WAYNE — The 177 Project is partnering with 22 different Catholic artists to bring an evening of eucharistic adoration and music to every single diocese in the U.S. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 10700 Aboite Ctr. Rd., will host this event on Sunday, Sept. 30, from 6:45-8:30 p.m. Tickets to the evening are completely free. The evening includes praying the rosary, eucharistic exposition and a praise and worship concert. Visit www.the177project.com.

REST IN PEACE

<p>Fort Wayne Maurice Lombardo, 74, St. Vincent de Paul</p> <p>Donna J. Wagner, 81, Our Lady of Good Hope</p> <p>Marcella E. Ostman, St. Jude</p> <p>Mishawaka Elsie Leitner, 84, Queen of Peace</p>	<p>Ralph S. Petersen, 88, Queen of Peace</p> <p>South Bend James R. Snodgrass, Jr, 61, St. Anthony de Padua</p> <p>Betty J. Geiger, 85, St. Casimir</p> <p>Warsaw Paula B. Gervais, 90, Sacred Heart</p>	<p>Richard Edwin Sullivan, 87, Sacred Heart</p> <p>Waterloo Edward B. Anderson, Jr., 59, St. Michael the Archangel</p>
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Transitus of St. Francis
FORT WAYNE — Deacon Jose Arroyo, the Poor Sisters of Saint Clare and the Confraternity of Penitents will celebrate the Transitus of St. Francis with a prayer service to commemorate his death on Wednesday, Oct. 3, from 8-9 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church, 2610 New Haven Ave. Evening prayer will be prayed as part of the Transitus. A potluck supper and sacred music will precede the Transitus and begins at 6 p.m., sacred music at 7:30 p.m. and the Transitus at 8 p.m.

The Crossword

September 22 and 30 2018

S	I	N	E	W	W	A	R	A	B	S	
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Parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul

SSND, from page 1

Auditorium for the reception, held on a steamy Sunday afternoon. "But I want to assure you that you will not be forgotten. We will continue to serve you through our daily prayer and suffering as we age and move on to the everlasting home of heaven."

The parish, likewise, won't forget the sisters, said Father Tony Steinacker, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul.

"Your physical presence will always be here," he said. "As we enter into this driveway that goes between our school and our church, it is now going to be named the School Sisters of Notre Dame."

"How do you summarize 150 years of our presence in this wonderful community?" asked Sister Phyllis Marie, who spoke on behalf of the sisters. The anniversary, she said, is "a time for gratitude and appreciation to all that has transpired in 150 years.

Also representing the order at the celebration were Sister Miriam Therese and Sister Loretta, who are currently serving the parish; Sister Margaret Ann Murawski and Sister Jan Gregorich, who previously taught at the parish school; Sister Colleen Bauer, who grew up in Huntington; Sister Miriam Thomas Kessens; and Patricia Tocco, SSND associate.

"As I looked at the list of sisters who were missioned here through the years, I counted the names and there were 174 unique women who, with God's help and your unending support, lived out their vocation call here at SS. Peter and Paul in Huntington," Sister Phyllis Marie said.

The reception followed a Mass celebrated by Father Steinacker. He was assisted by Father Perry McDonald, who served as pastor of SS. Peter and Paul from 1979 to 1984.

At the end of Mass, the sisters — seated in a place of honor at the front of the congregation — were asked to turn and face the congregation as its members sang a blessing for them: "May God bless you with His love, always fill you with His love; may He hold you in the hollow of His hand."

The blessings began when the first trio of sisters arrived in Huntington on Aug. 18, 1868, at the request of the parish priest, providing spiritual and academic instruction to 136 students that first year in a two-room school-house.

"It took many pains to teach the children to bend the knee, to pray and to walk in ranks," reads an 1869 entry in the sisters' chronicle, a record of their day-to-day activities that began with their arrival and continues to this day.

Many of the chronicle entries over the years center on the weather, trips to meetings and retreats, the comings and goings of sisters, and visits from friends



Provided by Cindy Klepper

Members of the School Sisters of Notre Dame and lay teachers at SS. Peter and Paul Grade School and Huntington Catholic High School gathered for this photo in the spring of 1965. They are, in the front row from left, Mrs. Kramer, Sister Lucinia Zender, Sister Raymond Schulte, Sister Theodora Stromberg, Sister Clara Foldenauer, Sister Francis Louise Krapp and Susan Marie Wittke; and in the back row, Rose Vebert, Sister Patricia Ann Mehling, Sister Denis Marie Kuehn, Sister Francis Regis Arens, Sister Ara Celi Stoll, Sister Susan Marie Curtin and Sister Louis Marie Kozminski.

and family members; but occasional entries reveal more personal observations.

After Bishop John Henry Luers visited in 1870 to administer the sacrament of confirmation, the chronicle notes, "The bishop is no friend of unbecoming clothing. He doesn't like low-necked dresses and will not tolerate them." The chronicle gives no indication of which unfortunate girl provoked the bishop's displeasure.

In 1873, the parish started construction of a three-story building that would serve both as a school and a convent. The log building that had previously served as church and then convent was dismantled, with the lumber used to build a house north of Huntington.

The sisters moved out of the convent/school building, which was demolished to make way for a new school building, in 1921. They purchased a home a block away from the school.

The chronicle records the day, almost a year after the sisters moved in, when their new home was heavily damaged by fire.

Flames broke out on Aug. 30, 1922, while they were at Mass. The same day, three more sisters were on their way to their new assignments in Huntington.

"The day had been very warm and traveling was not exactly a pleasure," the chronicle notes. "They were met by five weary sisters, who greeted them with a 'Welcome sisters, our house burned this morning.'"

The sisters made their home in two temporary dwellings until their convent was once again made habitable, returning there on Oct. 23, 1922. The new school opened in February 1923.

"With sighs of relief and a fervent 'Deo Gratias' the sisters once again resumed their ordinary routine of living in their own home and teaching in a classroom that permitted them to breathe God's air freely," the chronicle notes.



Cindy Klepper

Members of the School Sisters of Notre Dame face the congregation at SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington as parishioners sing a blessing for them during a Mass on Sunday, Sept. 16, celebrating the religious order's 150 years of service to the parish.

When the two Catholic parishes in Huntington joined forces in 1936-37 to open Huntington Catholic High School, SSND sisters helped staff it. They moved into a new convent adjacent to the school in 1951. It initially provided a home for nine sisters who taught at the local parish school, and also served as a regional meeting place.

"We were the biggest convent in the area," recalls Sister Phyllis Marie. "We would host most of the community meetings."

The convent was filled with sisters in residence. "We had 10 or 12 in the house at the time," she says. "We had a full house."

Sister Phyllis Marie, just 20 and not even out of college when she was sent to Huntington, was charged with teaching fourth-grade reading and math in the mornings and starting a music program in the high school in the afternoons.

"We were still in the traditional habit, so that helped me with discipline," she says with a

laugh.

But those were the days after Vatican II, which gave rise to changes within the sisters' religious order — including the modification of the traditional habit and full veil. A woman in town took the sisters' old habits and remade them into black skirts and blouses, Sister Phyllis Marie recalled.

And a student, she added, gave her a heads up on the black nylons she was still wearing with the shorter skirt.

"Apparently, black nylons had some kind of double meaning at that time," she said.

In addition to a new look, the sisters also adopted new names — new, at least, to their students. Sister Phyllis Marie had previously been known as Sister Marie Stefan; a co-worker, Sister Stanella, also resumed using her given name, Margaret Ann Murawski.

Sister Margaret Ann spent seven years in Huntington, leaving in 1972. She had been sent

to teach math in seventh and eighth grades, along with math and Spanish in the high school, but picked up a range of varied responsibilities. She taught art for a while, ran the mission program, helped with the school play, helped build floats and, unexpectedly, ran an athletic program for female students.

"They needed someone to take charge of the Girls' Athletic Association," she said. "I didn't know too much about sports."

Sister Phyllis Marie, too, expanded her abilities. With support from several other sisters, she helped the students put on several musicals, even though she had no idea how to block scenes.

"I bought a used book — it was all dog-eared — to learn how to block scenes."

Huntington Catholic High School closed its doors in 1985, the same year SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary parishes agreed to merge their grade schools.

Members of the School Sisters of Notre Dame continued to help staff the jointly operated grade school, known as Huntington Catholic School, until the close of the school year in 1989. The last resident of the convent, Sister Rose Helene Miller, moved out on June 21, 1989.

"The sisters have been loved here and they will be missed," the chronicle notes. "However, we leave Huntington knowing that the Lord's work for us here has been completed."

Two more sisters came after them, but they did not serve as teachers.

Sister Miriam Therese began serving SS. Peter and Paul Parish in 1990, and Sister Loretta joined her in 1999. Both live not in the convent, but in a small house across from the church.

"Most of the sisters who were here were connected with the school," Sister Loretta said. "We came for a different purpose."

Sister Miriam Therese served as director of religious education, while Sister Loretta filled the role of pastoral assistant.

Sister Miriam Therese, a Huntington native, was taught by her predecessors — she attended SS. Peter and Paul Grade School and, when Huntington Catholic High School opened the year she entered ninth grade, completed her education there. One of the last SSND sisters to serve SS. Peter and Paul, she has a connection to those first sisters — members of her family lived in the house that had been built of lumber from that first log church.

Sister Loretta, who grew up in Logansport, came to Huntington to close out a career that included 28 years at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she played double bass in a student folk music group — also to be closer to family.

Sister Miriam Therese and Sister Loretta have announced plans to retire in November of this year, leaving Huntington for the SSND retirement community in Elm Grove, Wisconsin.